Creative CSS Layout
& the Flexible Web

About me

- Senior Front End Developer at Ada Mode
- Writer for Smashing Magazine, Codrops and CSS Tricks
- CSS tinkerer

css-irl.info

Menu
/* CSS { In Real Life }
Tips, tricks and tutorials on the web's most beautiful language.
142 posts
Latest
My Browser Support Strategy
Thu Apr 28 2022
As I've written about recently, it's super exciting to see a bunch of new CSS features landing in browsers, and who can blame us for wanting to get started using them straight away?! It's great to see browsers working to support new CSS features...
Search by topic...
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custom properties
layout
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All topics

CSS Layout in 2022 and beyond

Multi-column

Custom properties

Flexbox

Container queries

aspect-ratio

Grid

min() / max() / clamp()

:has()

Logical properties

Viewport units

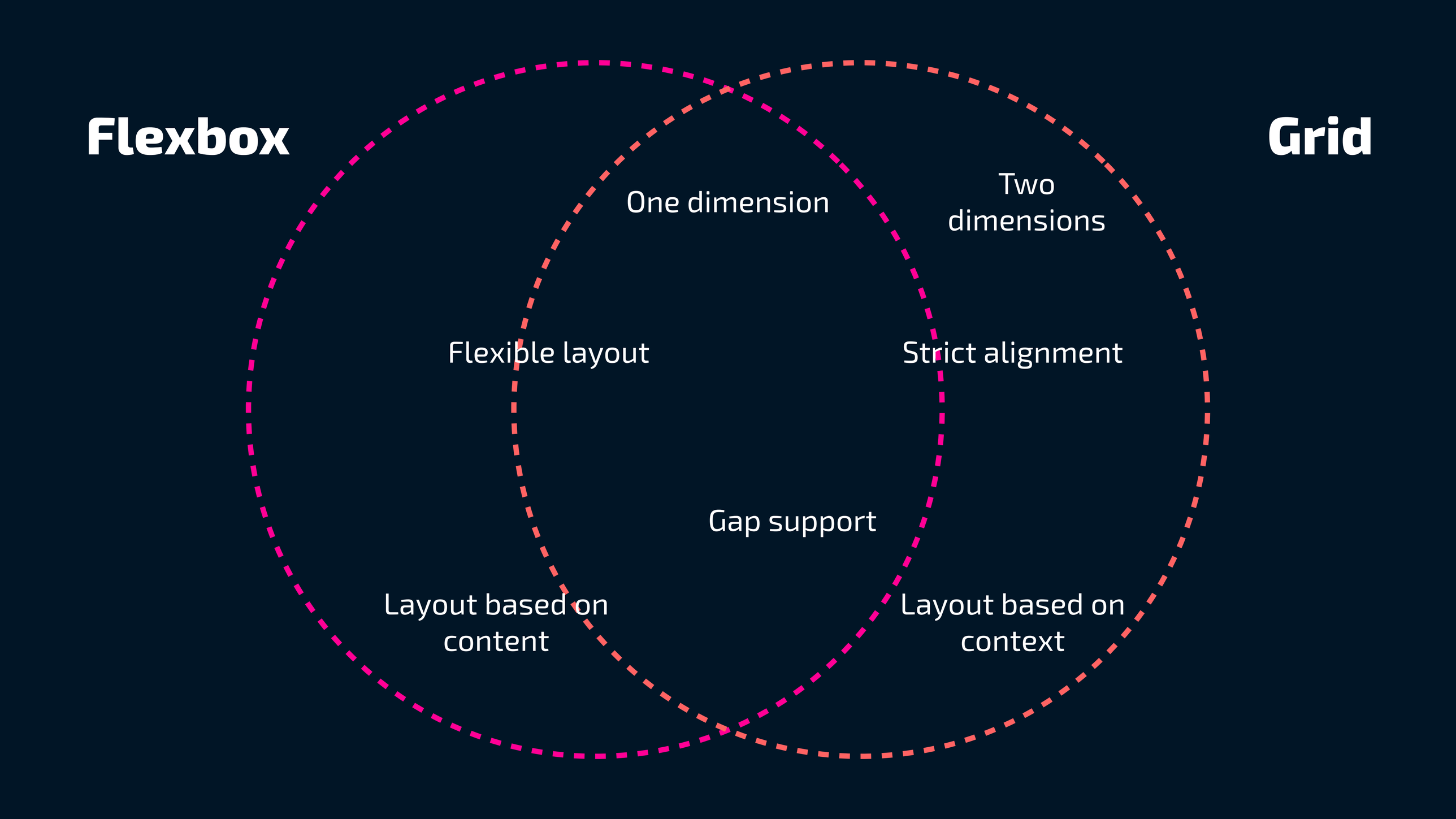
Subgrid

Writing modes

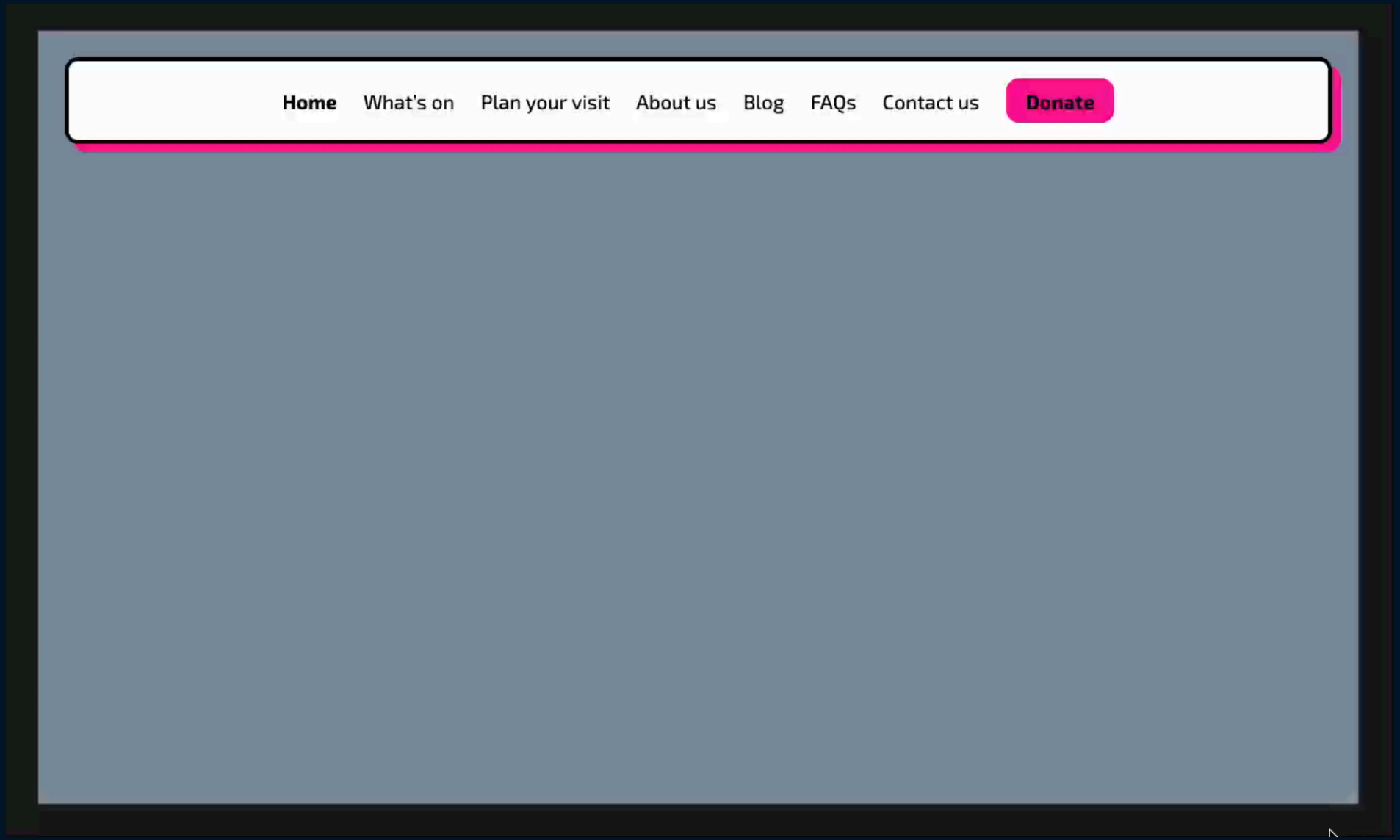
“ Intrinsic web design ”

Jen Simmons

Flex or Grid?


Flexbox
Grid
One dimension
Two dimensions
Flexible layout
Strict alignment
Gap support
Layout based on content
Layout based on context

Sign up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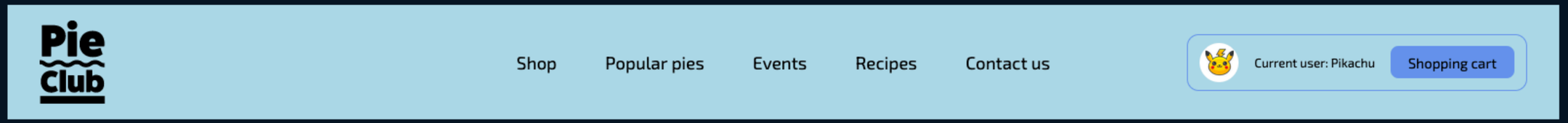
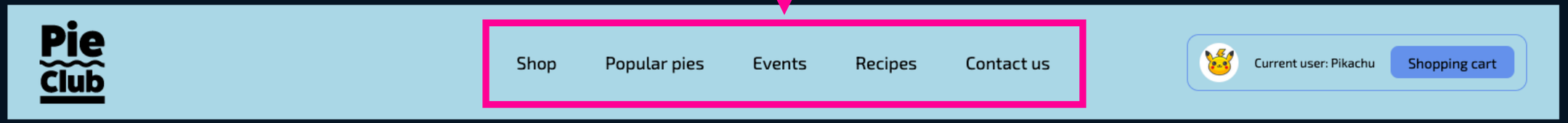

Pie
Club
Shop
Popular pies
Events
Recipes
Contact us
Current user: Pikachu
Shopping cart

centred


Pie Club
Shop
Popular pies
Events
Recipes
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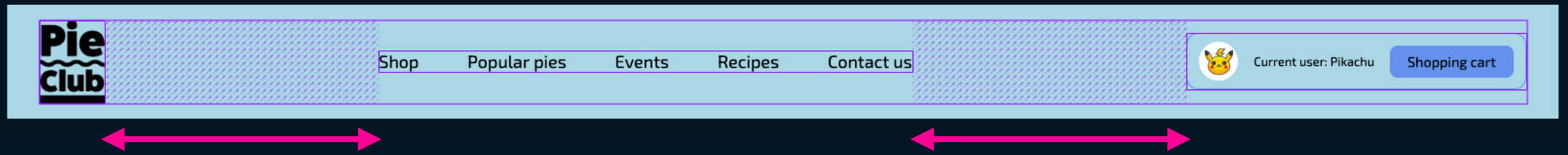
Current user: Pikachu
Shopping cart

Flexbox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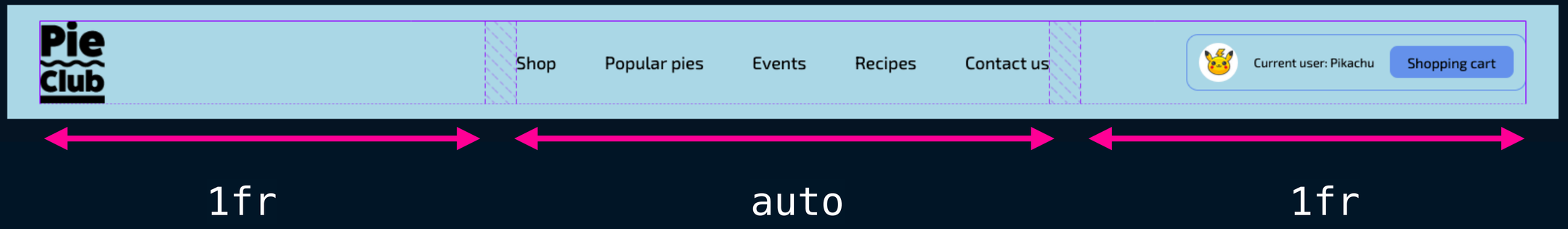
Current user: Pikachu
Shopping cart

Grid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Shop
Popular pies
Events
Recipes
Contact us
Current user: Pikachu
Shopping cart
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Shop
Popular pies
Events
Recipes
Contact us
Current user: Pikachu
Shopping cart
Flexbox

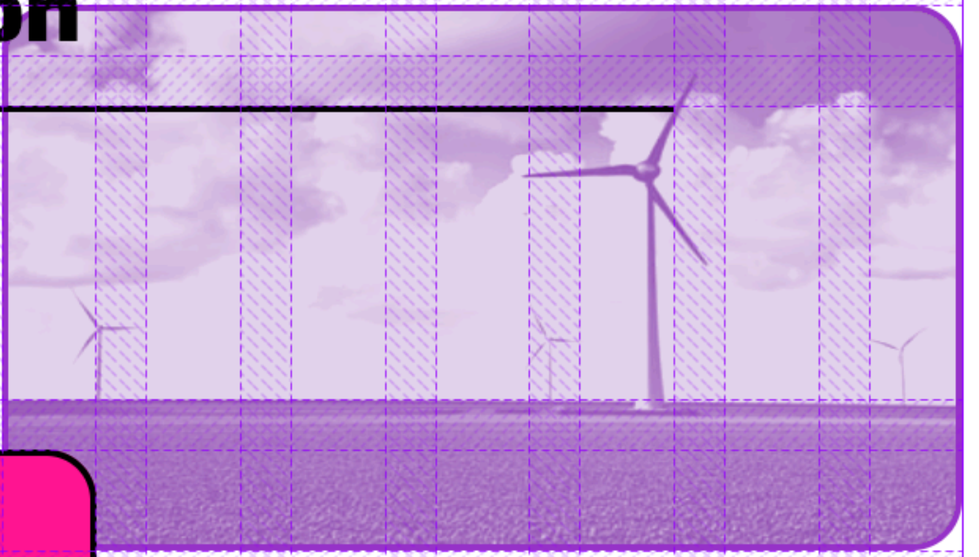
Powering the renewable energy revolution

> **A strong renewable energy industry is good for our environment and our economy.**

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur. Excepteur sint occaecat cupidatat non proident, sunt in culpa qui officia deserunt mollit anim id est laborum.

https://codepen.io/michellebarker/pen/mdXPYLo

Powering the renewable energy revolution



> **A strong renewable energy industry is good for our environment and our economy.**

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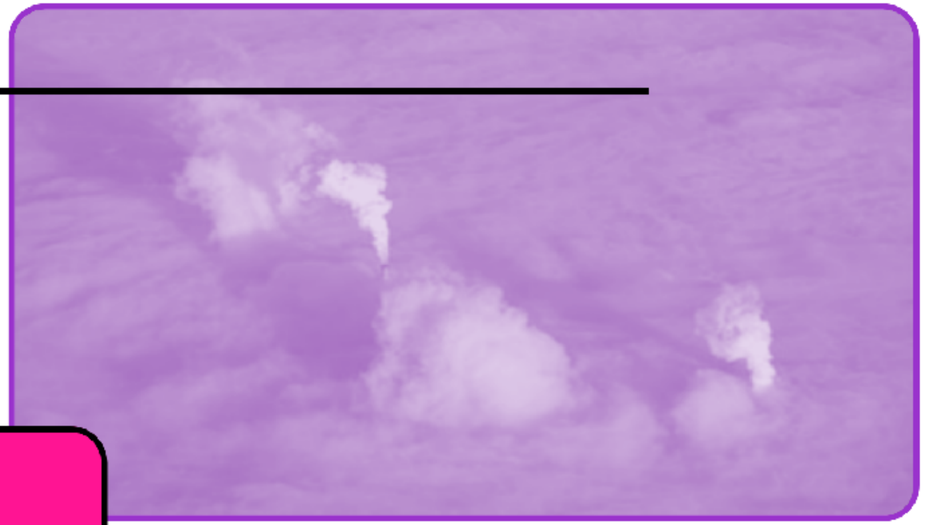
https://codepen.io/michellebarker/pen/mdXPYLo

How Tech Companies are Helping Big Oil Profit from Climate Destruction



> “
> **If Big Tech pushes Big Money to cut off Big Oil, we could see the shifts that have eluded us in the climate fight thus far, and that scientists insist we need to make. It could be a true turning point in the crisis.**

As the oil and gas industry confronts the end of the oil age and deteriorating earnings, major oil corporations such as Shell, BP, Chevron, ExxonMobil and others have turned to the cloud giants and their high powered computing capabilities to find and extract more oil and gas and reduce production costs. Despite the biggest cloud companies’ commitments to address climate change, Microsoft, Google, and Amazon all have connections to some of the world’s dirtiest oil companies for the explicit purpose of getting more oil and gas out of the ground and onto the market faster and cheaper.

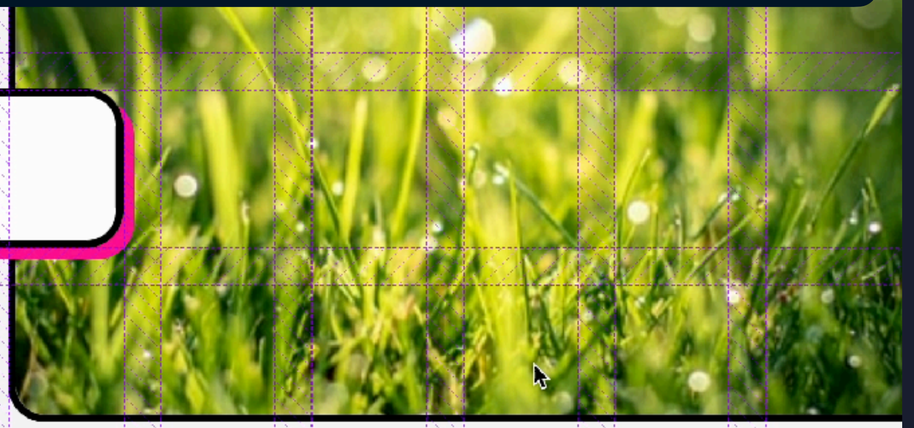
How Big Tech Companies Fund Fossil Fuels

> **Corporate sustainability is no longer enough. We urgently need tech companies to use their influence to help pass science-based climate policy.**

The Big Tech companies — Google/Alphabet, Apple, Microsoft, and Amazon being just a few — all emphasize sustainability and tout their efforts to reduce their carbon footprint. They insist on using renewable energy to operate their vast networks of servers. And yet, according to a new report, they may unwittingly be providing the money fossil fuel companies need to continue raping and pillaging the Earth to get at coal, oil, and methane deposits.

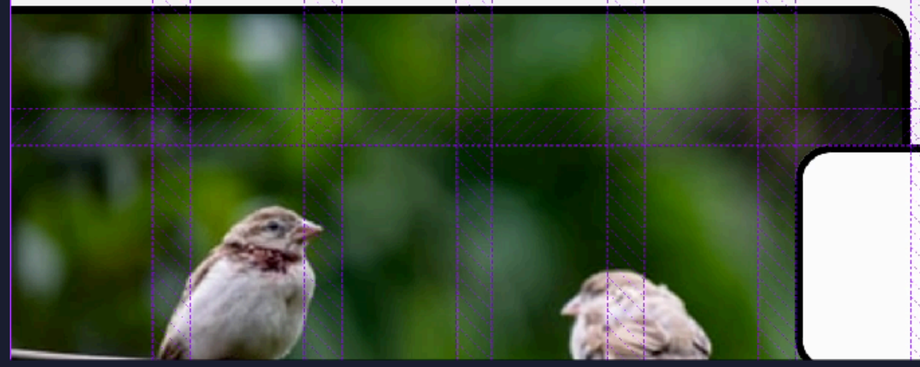
codepen.io/michellebarker/pen/qBxNWZP

```
grid-template-columns: 1fr repeat(10, minmax(0, 6rem)) 1fr;
```



Let the grass grow

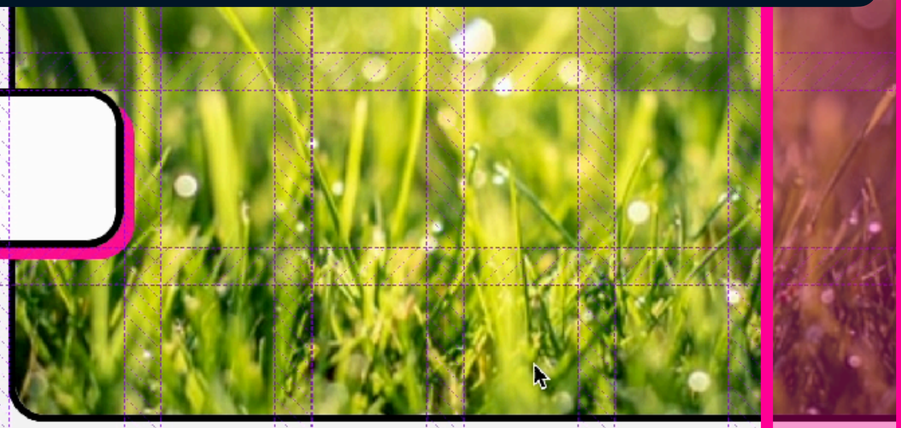
Leave your mower in the shed. Long grass is one of the rarest garden habitats. By letting some or all of your lawn grow you will make space for many plant and insect species, including butterflies and wildflowers. Mowing the lawn only once every four weeks gives 'short-grass' plants like daisies and white clover a chance to flower in profusion, boosting nectar production tenfold.



Add a bird box and feeders

codepen.io/michellebarker/pen/qBxNWZP

```
grid-template-columns: 1fr repeat(10, minmax(0, 6rem)) 1fr;
```



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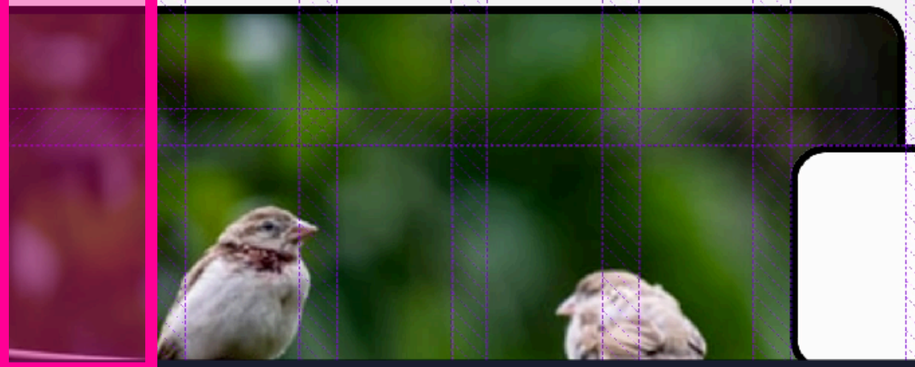
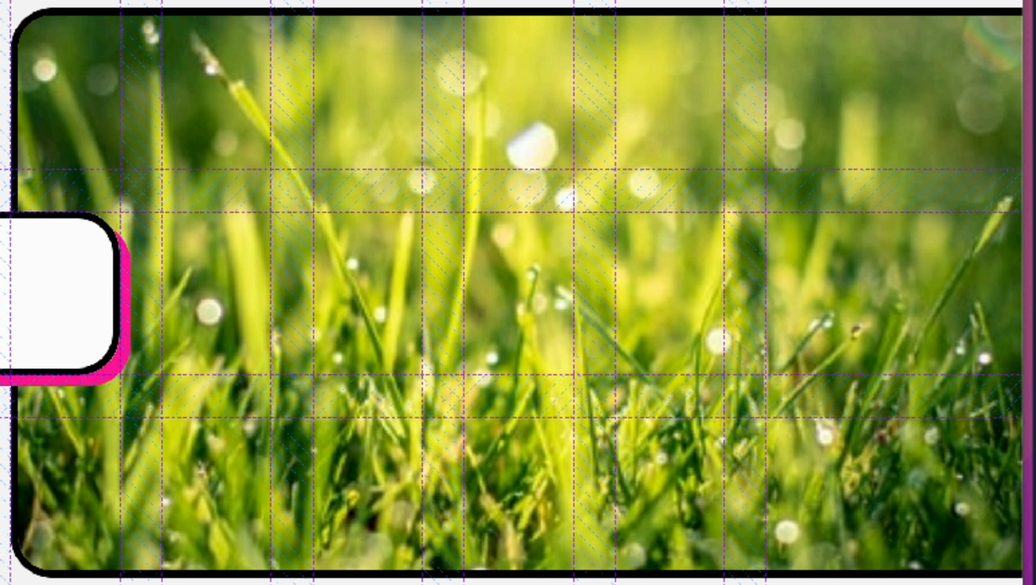


Add a bird box and feeders

codepen.io/michellebarker/pen/qBxNWZP



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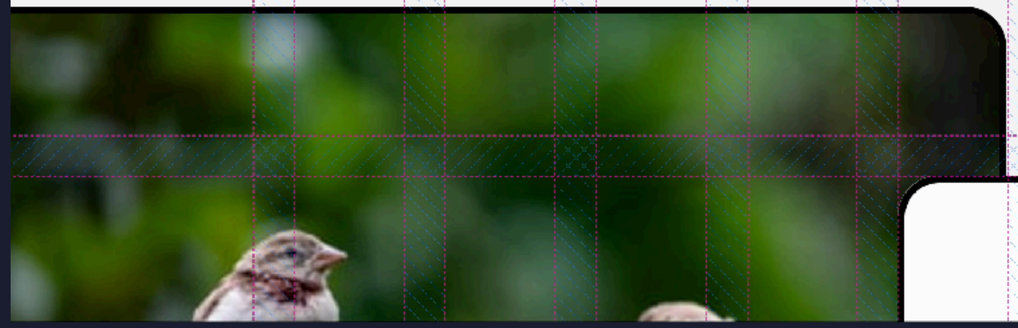


Add a bird box and

codepen.io/michellebarker/pen/qBxNWZP

Aspect-ratio

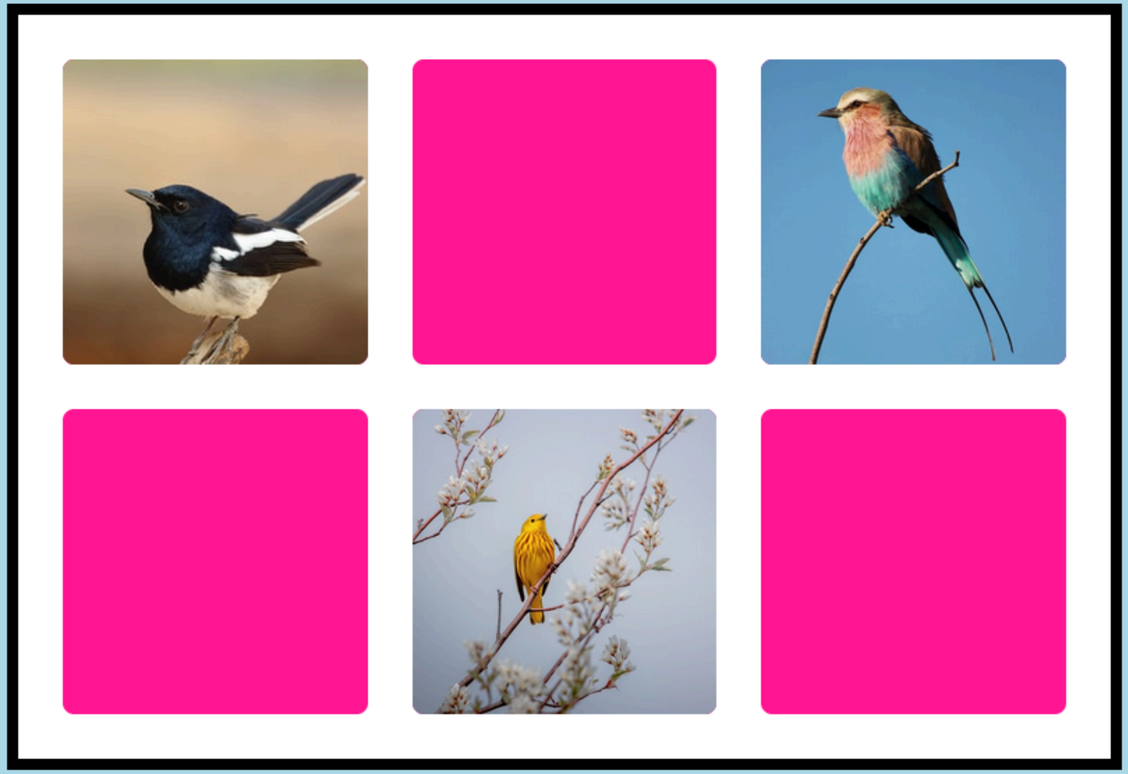
Before ☹️

```
.aspect-box {
  position: relative;
}

.aspect-box::before {
  display: block;
  content: '';
  width: 100%;
  padding-bottom: calc(100% /
   (var(--aspect-ratio, 3 / 2)));
}

.aspect-box > :first-child {
  position: absolute;
  top: 0;
  right: 0;
  bottom: 0;
  left: 0;
}
```

After ☺️

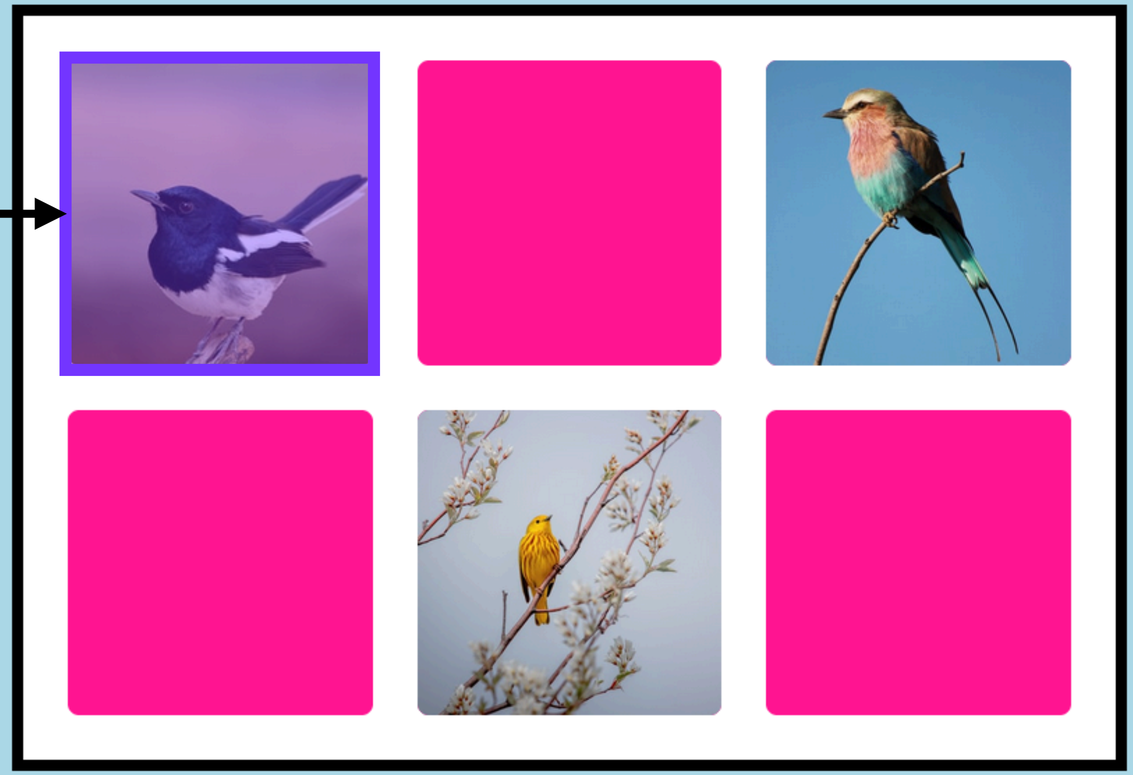
```
.aspect-box {
  aspect-ratio: 3 / 2;
}
```

```css
.item {
  aspect-ratio: 1;
}
```



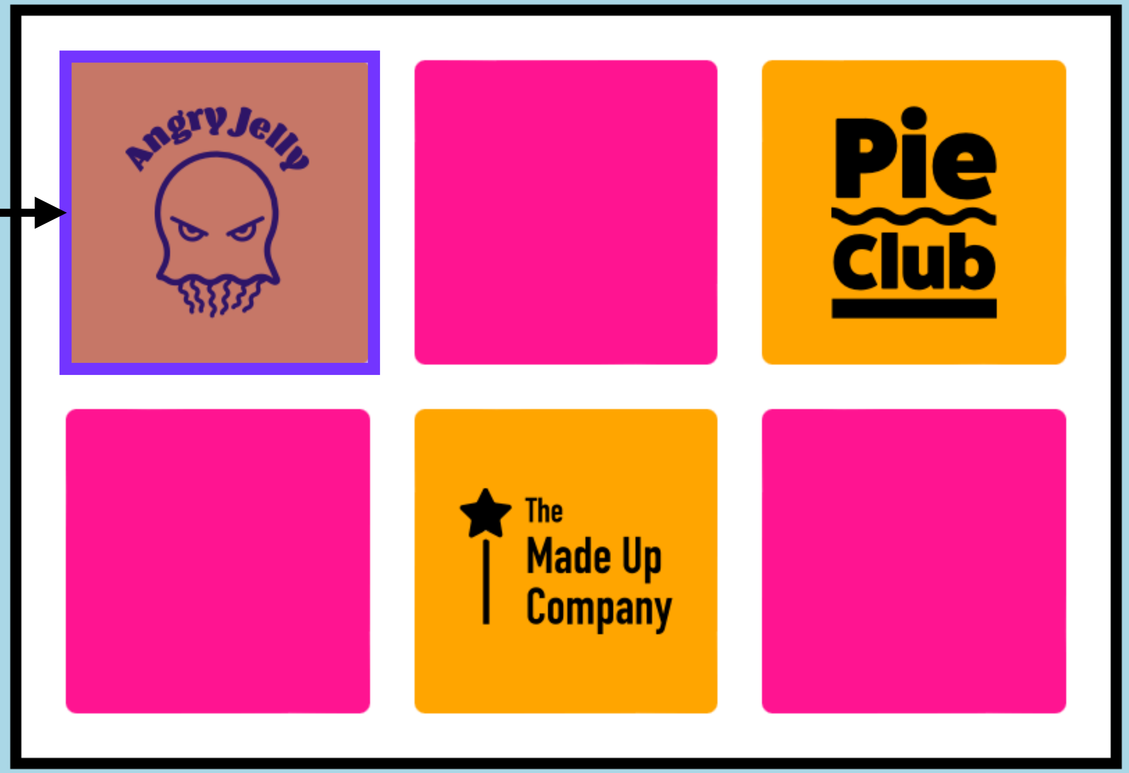
codepen.io/michellebarker/pen/bGLpOZz

```css
img {
  display: block;
  width: 100%;
  height: 100%;
  object-fit: cover;
}
```



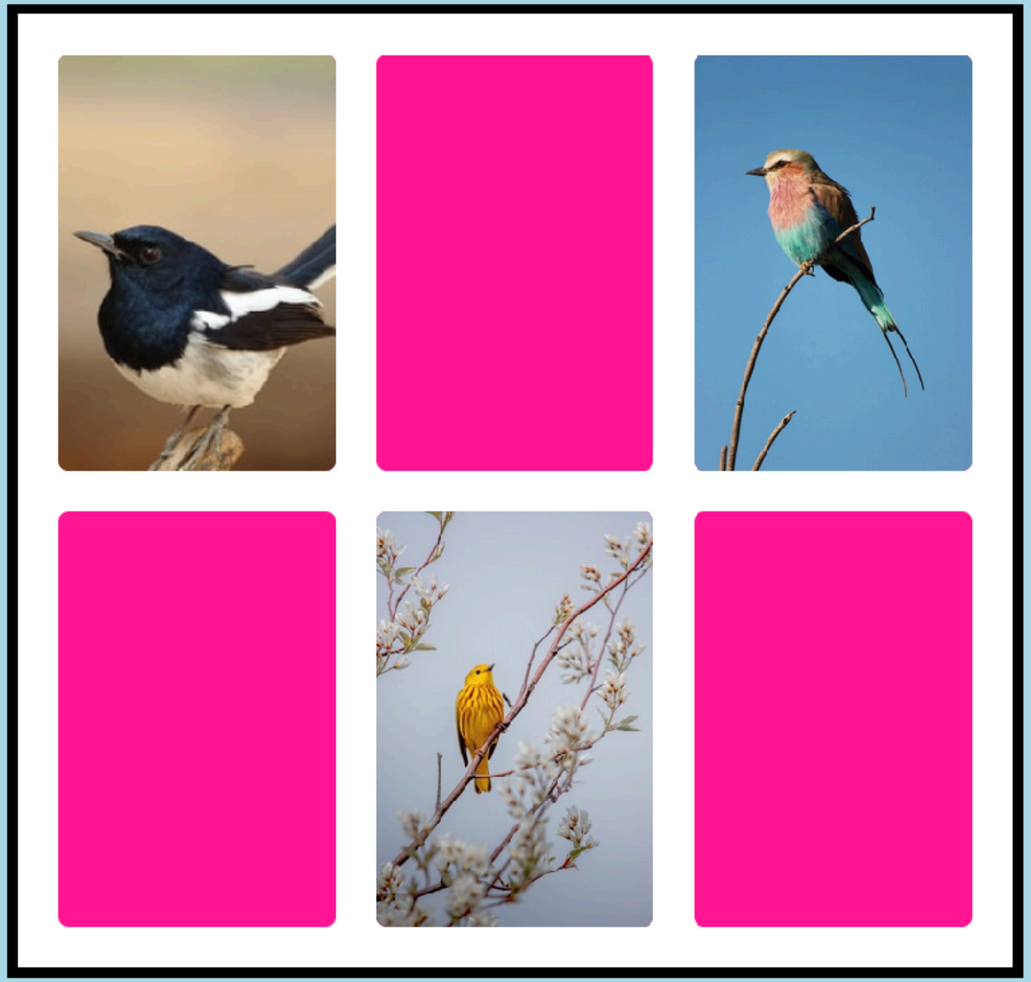
codepen.io/michellebarker/pen/bGLpOZz

```
img {
  display: block;
  width: 100%;
  height: 100%;
  object-fit: contain;
}
```



codepen.io/michellebarker/pen/QWQqggO

No aspect ratio?
No problem!



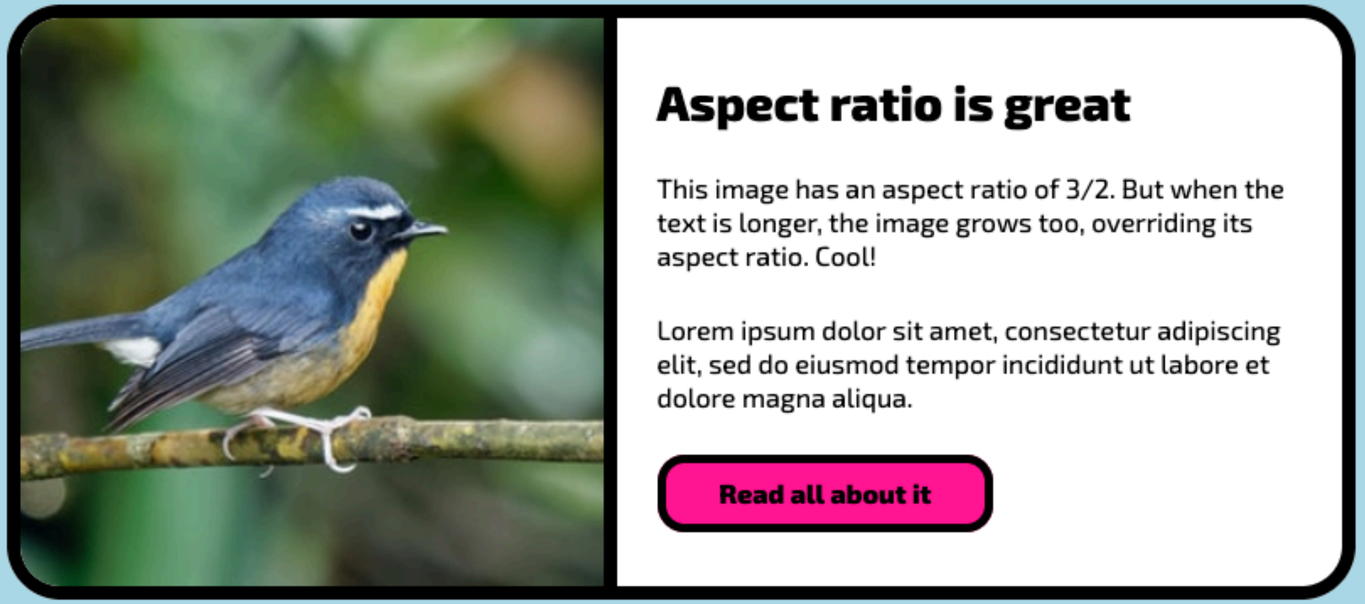
codepen.io/michellebarker/pen/bGLpOZz

Progressive Enhancement

```css
.item {
  max-height: 20rem;
}

@supports (aspect-ratio: 1) {
  .item {
    aspect-ratio: 1;
    max-height: none;
  }
}
```

NOT
Progressive Enhancement

codepen.io/michellebarker/pen/bGLpzjd



codepen.io/michellebarker/pen/bGLpzjd

codepen.io/michellebarker/pen/YzeqRrP

codepen.io/michellebarker/pen/YzeqRrP

Flex or Grid?

Solarpunk and Hope
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Shayna Robinson
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We Need a Fossil-Free Internet by 2030
Chris Adams
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Climate Misinformation
Carbon Footprint of Unwanted Data-Use by Smartphones
CE Delft
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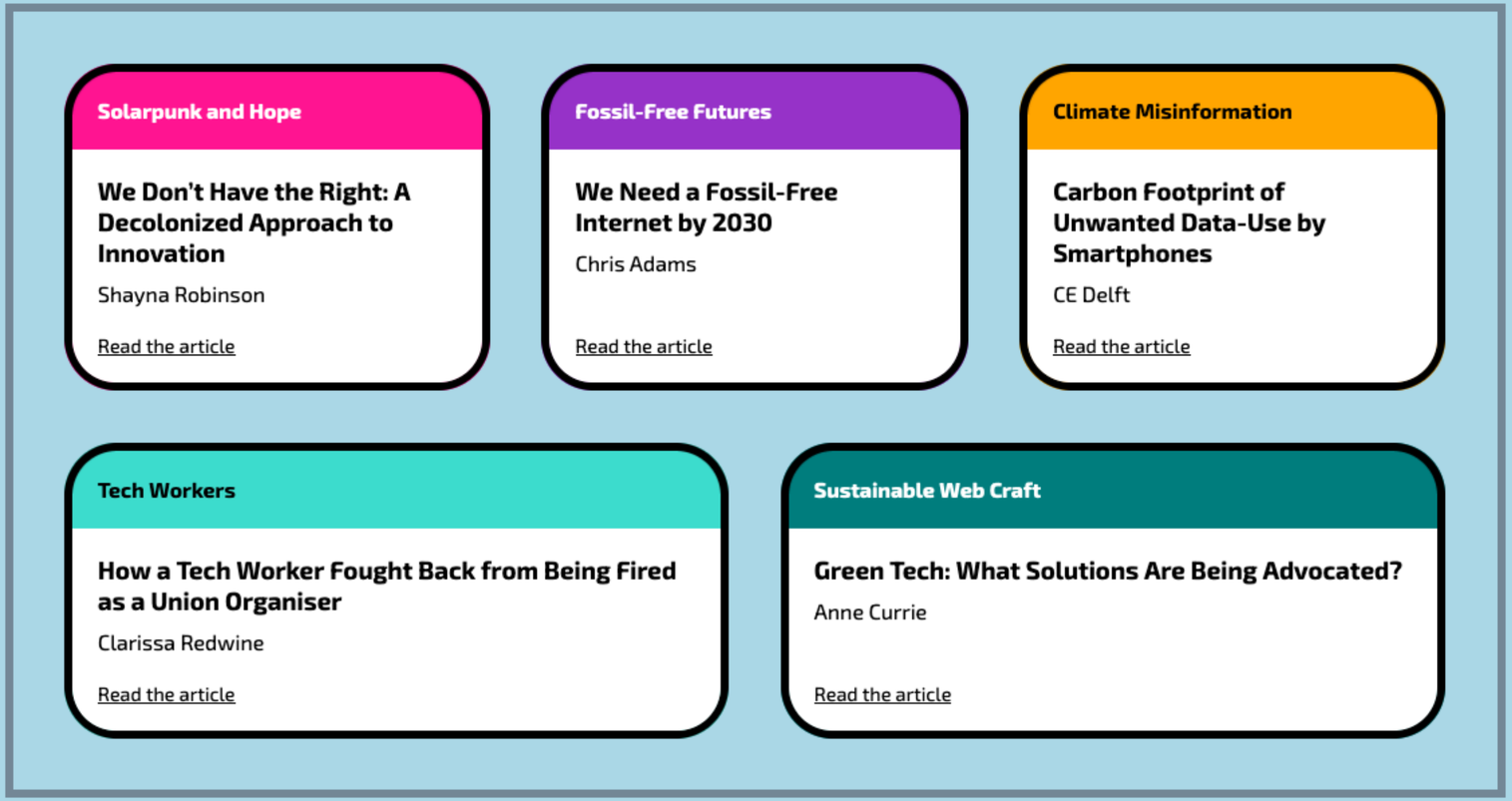
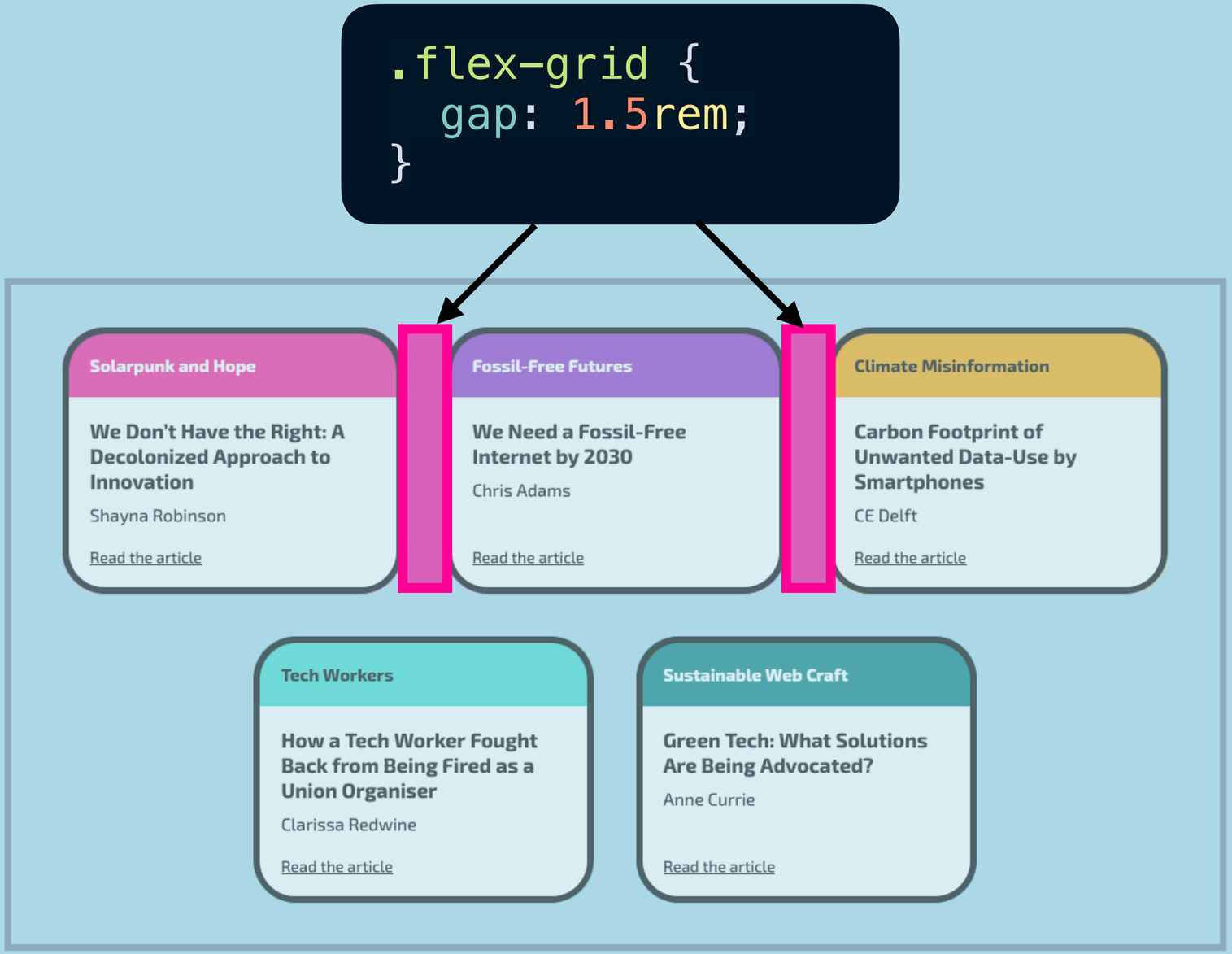
Tech Workers
How a Tech Worker Fought Back from Being Fired as a Union Organiser
Clarissa Redwine
Read the article
Sustainable Web Craft
Green Tech: What Solutions Are Being Advocated?
Anne Currie
Read the article
Fossil-Free Futures
Tech4Bad: When Do We Say No?
Ian Brooks MBCS, Minna Laurell Thorslund, Aksel Biørn-Hansen, Elena Somova
Read the article

```
.item {
  flex: 1 1 19rem;
}
```



```
.item {
  flex: 0 1 19rem;
}
```


.flex-grid {
gap: 1.5rem;
}
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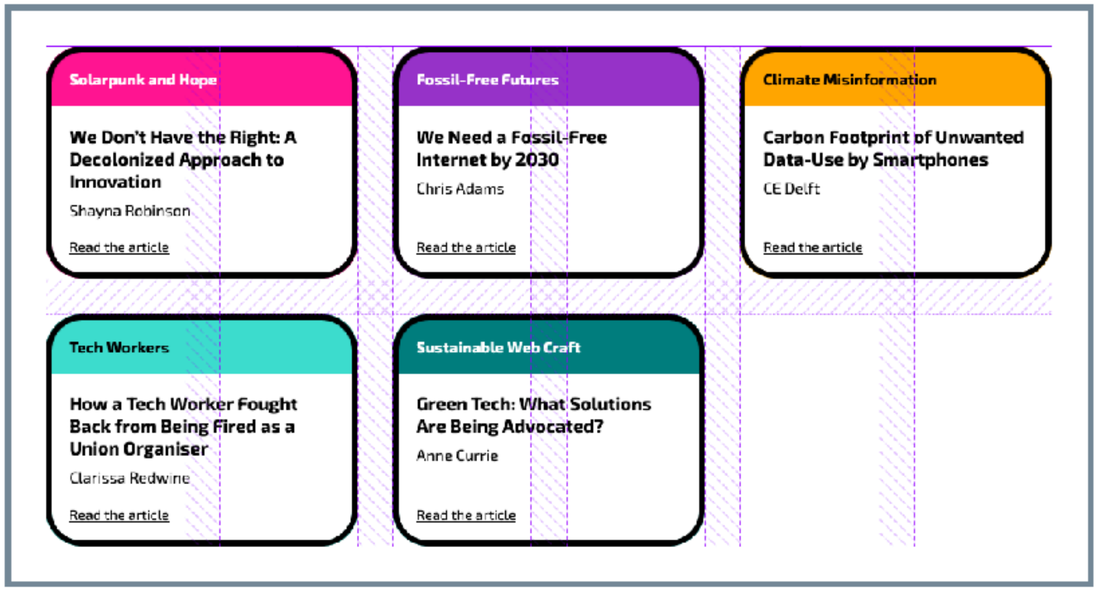
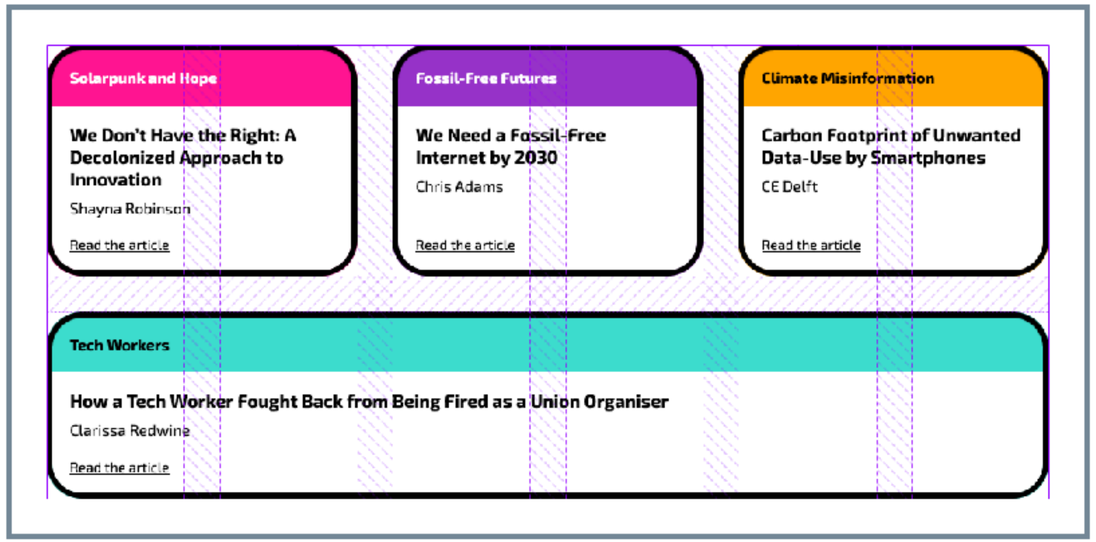
```css
.grid {
  grid-template-columns:
   repeat(6, minmax(0, 1fr));
}

.item {
  grid-column: span 2;
}
```

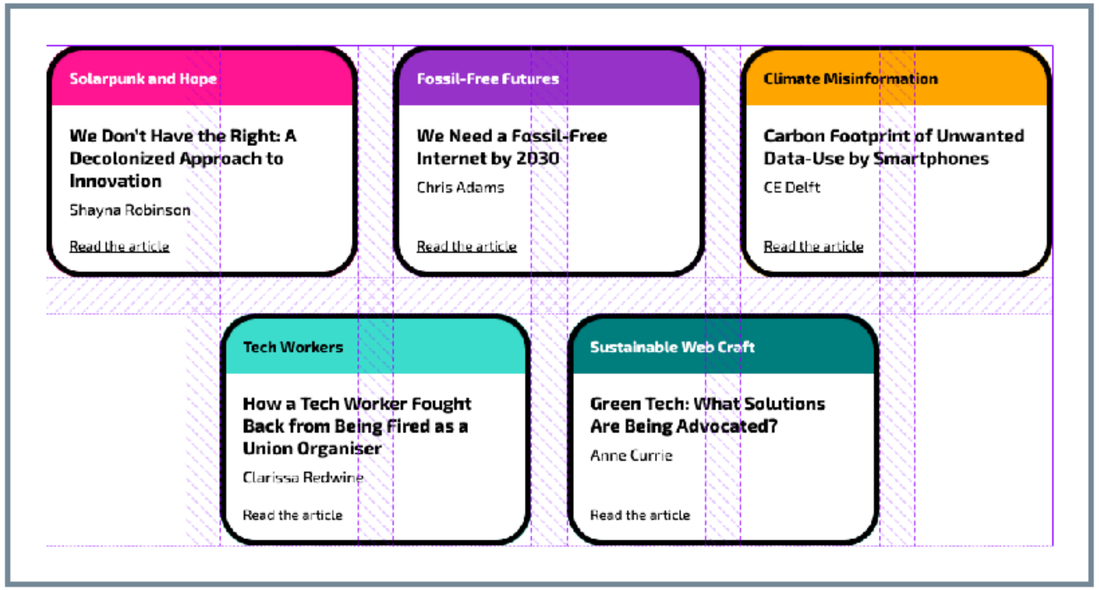


```css
.item:last-child:nth-child(3n + 1) {
  grid-column: span 6;
}
```



```css
.item:last-child:nth-child(3n + 2) {
  grid-column: 4 / span 2;
}

.item:nth-last-child(2):nth-child(3n + 1) {
  grid-column: 2 / span 2;
}
```



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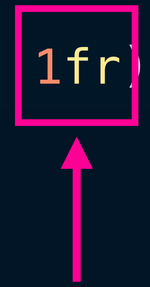
```css
.grid {
  display: grid;
  gap: var(--pad-sm);
  grid-template-columns: repeat(
    auto-fit,
    minmax(min(19rem, 100%), 1fr)
  );
}
```

```css
.grid {
  display: grid;
  gap: var(--pad-sm);
  grid-template-columns: repeat(
    auto-fit,
    minmax(19rem, 1fr)
  );
}
```

```
.grid {
  display: grid;
  gap: var(--pad-sm);
  grid-template-columns: repeat(
    auto-fit,
    minmax(min(19rem, 100%), 1fr)
  );
}
```

Minimum size

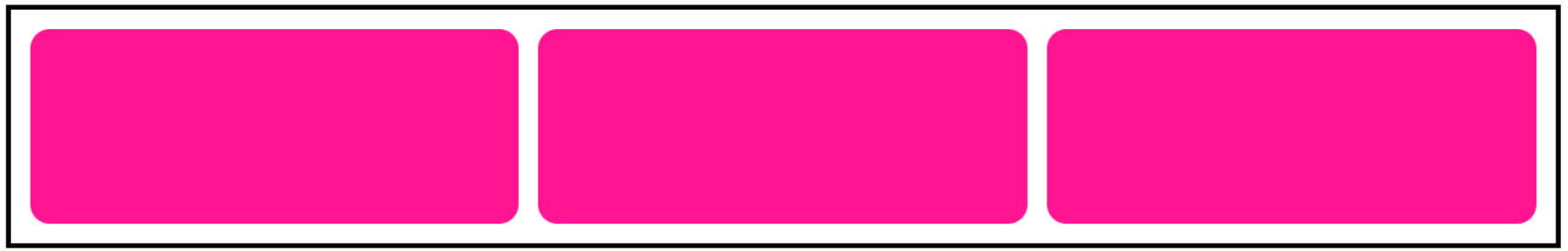
```css
.grid {
  display: grid;
  gap: var(--pad-sm);
  grid-template-columns: repeat(
    auto-fit,
    minmax(min(19rem, 100%), 1fr)
  );
}
```



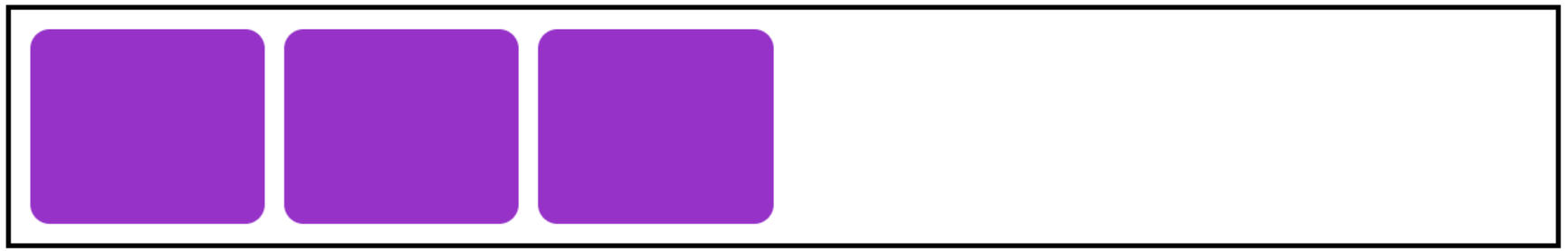
Maximum size

```css
.grid {
  display: grid;
  gap: var(--pad-sm);
  grid-template-columns: repeat(
    auto-fill,
    minmax(min(19rem, 100%), 1fr)
  );
}
```

auto-fit



auto-fill



```css
.grid {
  display: grid;
  gap: var(--pad-sm);
  grid-template-columns: repeat(
    auto-fit,
    minmax(min(19rem, 100%), 1fr)
  );
}
```

Container queries

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```css
main,
aside {
  container: inline-size / layout;
}

.grid {
  display: grid;
  gap: var(--pad);
}

@container layout (inline-size > 25em) {
  .grid {
    grid-template-columns: repeat(2, 1fr);
  }
}

@container layout (inline-size > 65em) {
  .grid {
    grid-template-columns: repeat(4, 1fr);
  }
}
```

```
main,
aside {
  container: inline-size / layout;
}

.grid {
  display: grid;
  gap: var(--pad);
}

@container layout (inline-size > 25em) {
  .grid {
    grid-template-columns: repeat(2, 1fr);
  }
}

@container layout (inline-size > 65em) {
  .grid {
    grid-template-columns: repeat(4, 1fr);
  }
}
```

```
main,
aside {
  container: inline-size / layout;
}

.grid {
  display: grid;
  gap: var(--pad);
}
```

```
@container layout (inline-size > 25em) {
  .grid {
    grid-template-columns: repeat(2, 1fr);
  }
}

@container layout (inline-size > 65em) {
  .grid {
    grid-template-columns: repeat(4, 1fr);
  }
}
```

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https://codepen.io/michellebarker/pen/OJQpVKE

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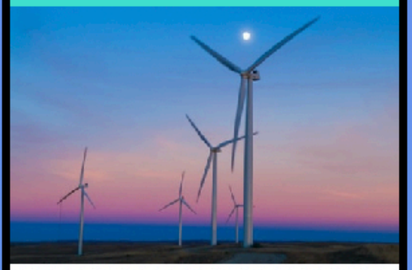

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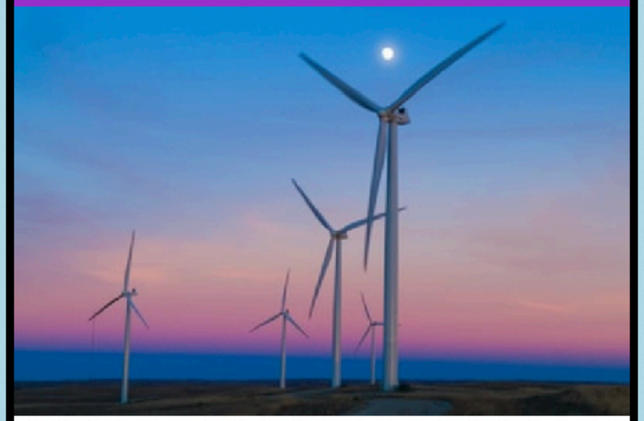

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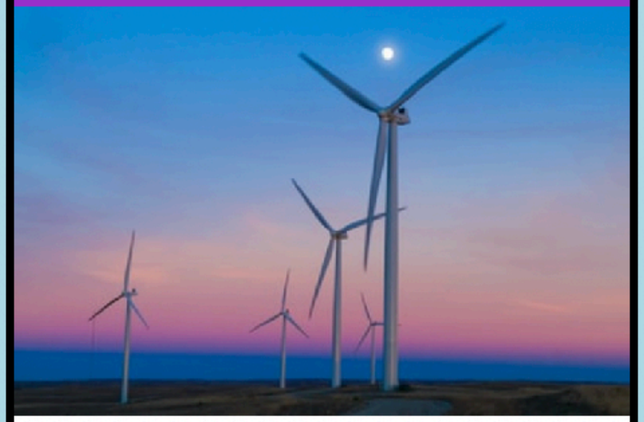

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```
container: inline-size / component;
```

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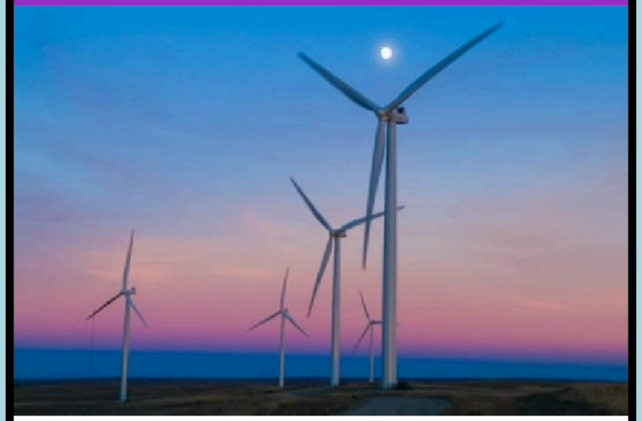

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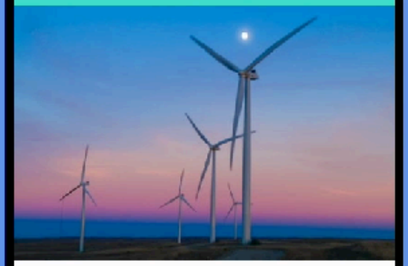

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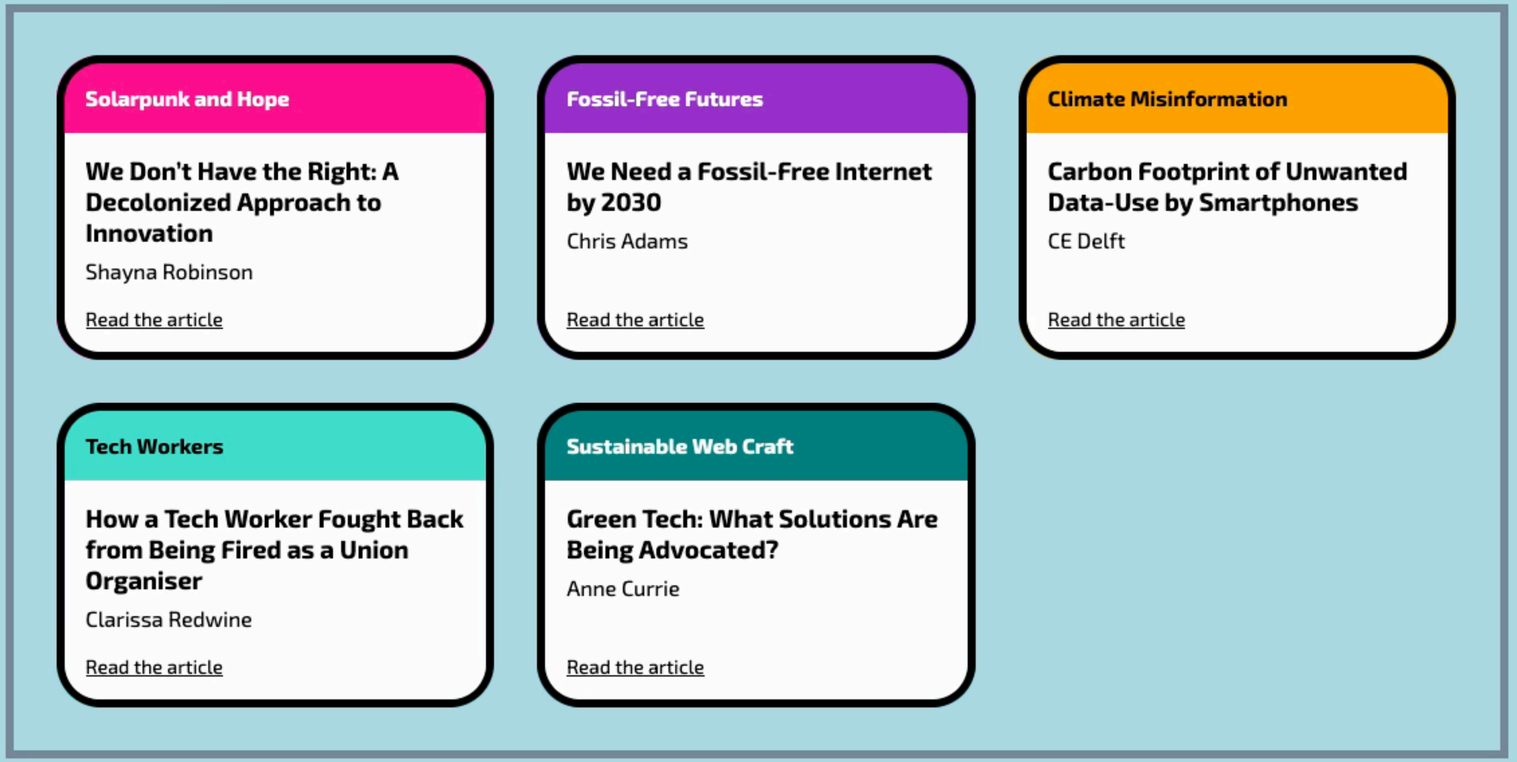


```
gap: max(1rem, 2vw);
```

min, max and clamp

```
min(1rem, 2vw)
```

min, max and clamp

```
clamp(1rem, 2vw, 3rem)
```

```css
:root {
  --pad: clamp(1rem, 2vw, 3rem);
  --pad-lg: calc(var(--pad) * 2);
  --pad-sm: calc(var(--pad) / 2);
  --pad-xs: calc(var(--pad) / 4);
}
```

```
.wrapper * + * {
  margin-top: var(--pad);
}
```

Heading 1

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```
.wrapper * + * {
  margin-block-start: var(--pad);
}
```

Heading 1

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```
.wrapper :is(h1, h2, h3) + * {
  margin-block-start: var(--pad-sm);
}
```

Heading 1

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```
--pad: clamp(1rem, 2vw, 3rem);
```

Heading 1

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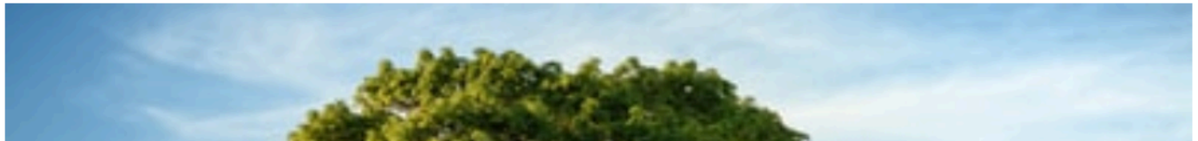
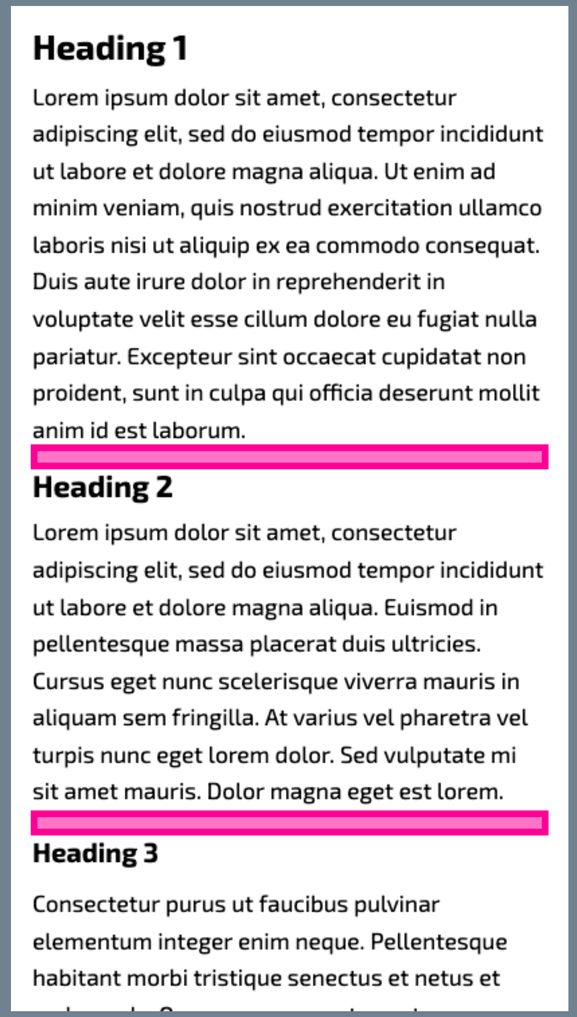


```
--pad: clamp(1rem, 2vw, 3rem);
```



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Heading 3

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```
--pad: clamp(1rem, 2vw, 3rem);
```

Heading 1

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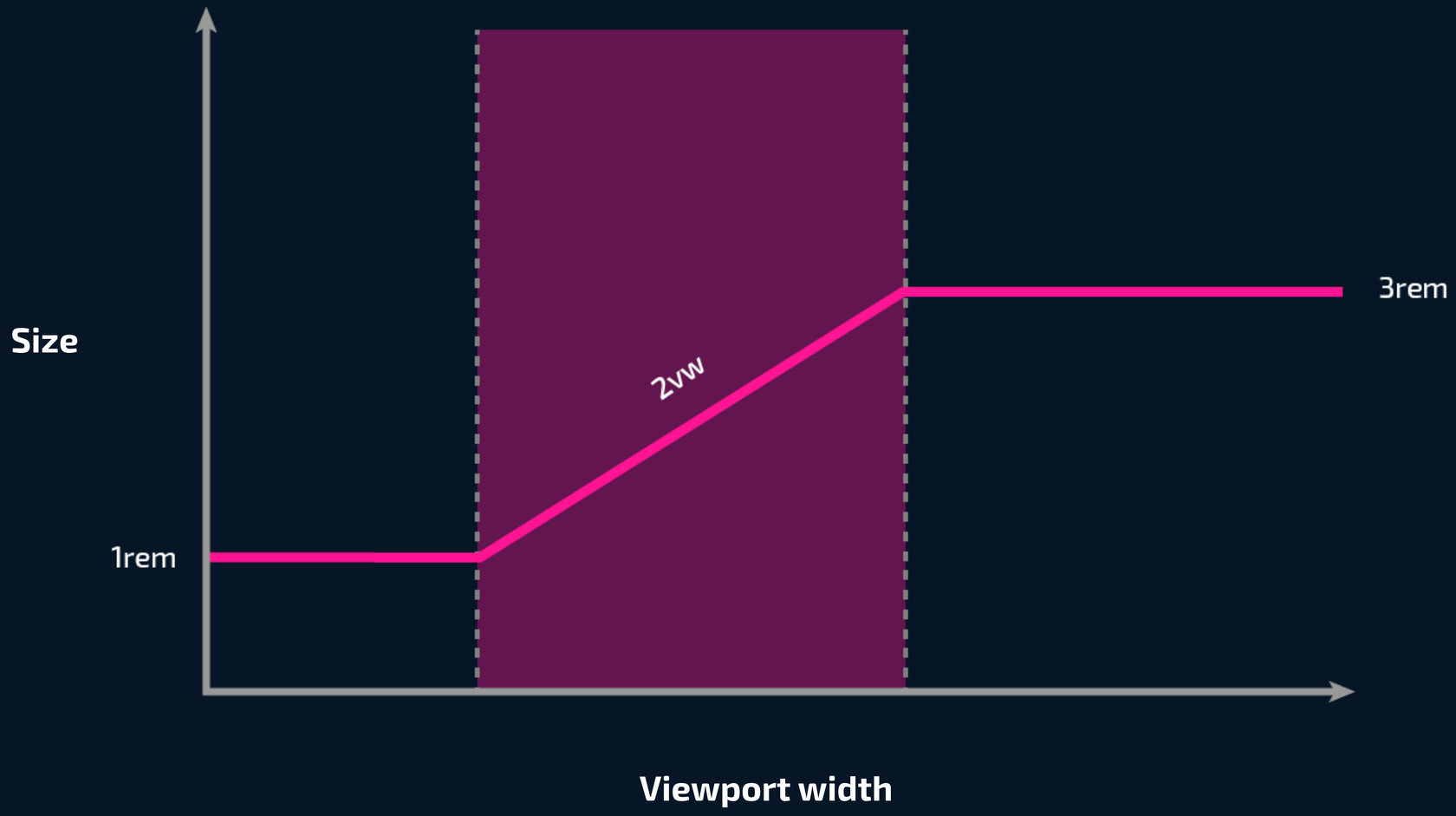
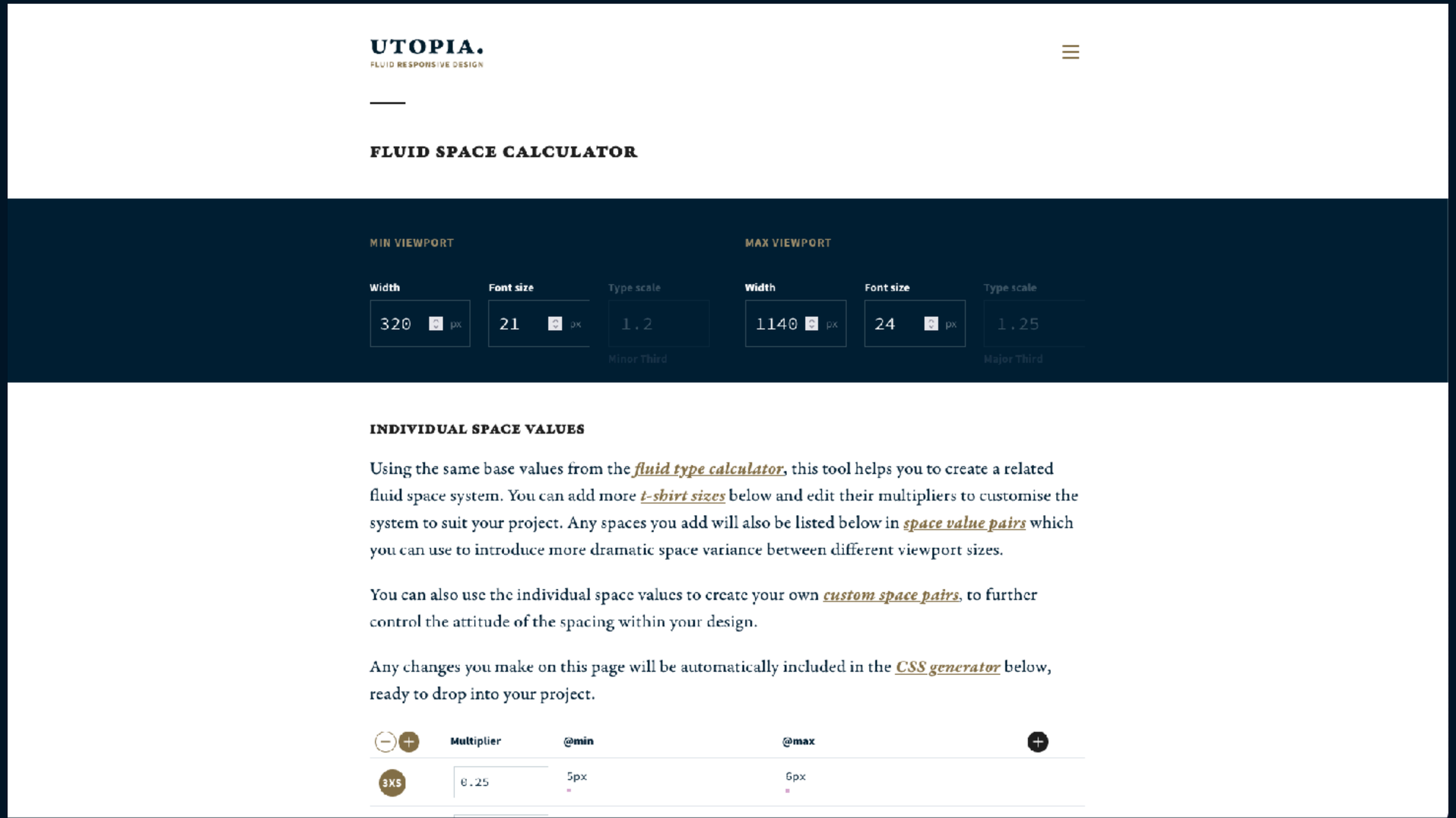

Size
1rem
2vw
3rem
Viewport width

utopia.fyi


UTOPIA.
FLUID RESPONSIVE DESIGN
FLUID SPACE CALCULATOR
MIN VIEWPORT
Width
320 px
Font size
21 px
Type scale
1.2
Minor Third
MAX VIEWPORT
Width
1140 px
Font size
24 px
Type scale
1.25
Major Third
INDIVIDUAL SPACE VALUES
Using the same base values from the fluid type calculator, this tool helps you to create a related fluid space system. You can add more t-shirt sizes below and edit their multipliers to customise the system to suit your project. Any spaces you add will also be listed below in space value pairs which you can use to introduce more dramatic space variance between different viewport sizes.
You can also use the individual space values to create your own custom space pairs, to further control the attitude of the spacing within your design.
Any changes you make on this page will be automatically included in the CSS generator below, ready to drop into your project.
Multiplier
@min
@max
3XS
0.25
5px
6px

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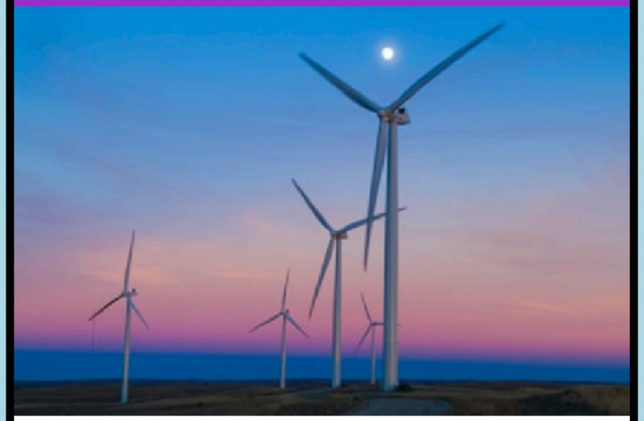

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Container-relative units

`cqw`	query container width
`cqh`	query container height
`cqi`	query container inline size
`cqb`	query container block size
`cqmin`	smallest of ‘cqi’ or ‘cqb’
`cqmax`	largest of ‘cqi’ or ‘cqb’

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```
.card h3 {
  font-size: clamp(1.2rem, 5cqi + 1rem, 3rem);
}
```

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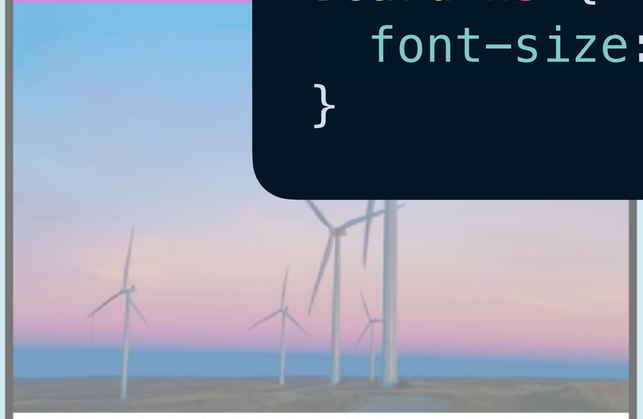

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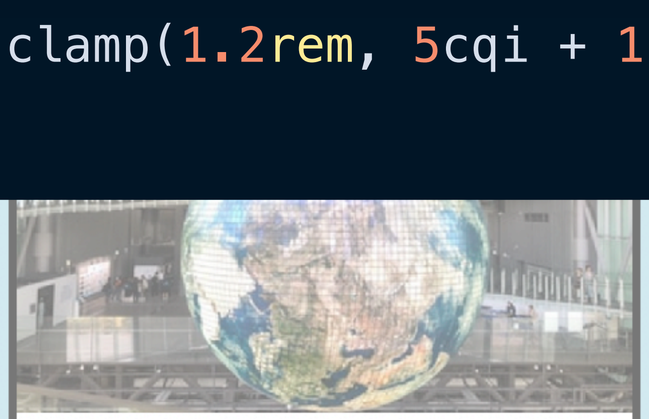

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Subgrid

Standard ticket €650

- 2-day conference pass
- Unlimited access to all the videos after the event
- Attendee party
- Goody bag
- Discounts from your favourite brands

"

Possibly the best conference on the planet! I've already booked my ticket for next year!

A person

Premium ticket €850

*Limited number available

Everything in the Standard package, plus:

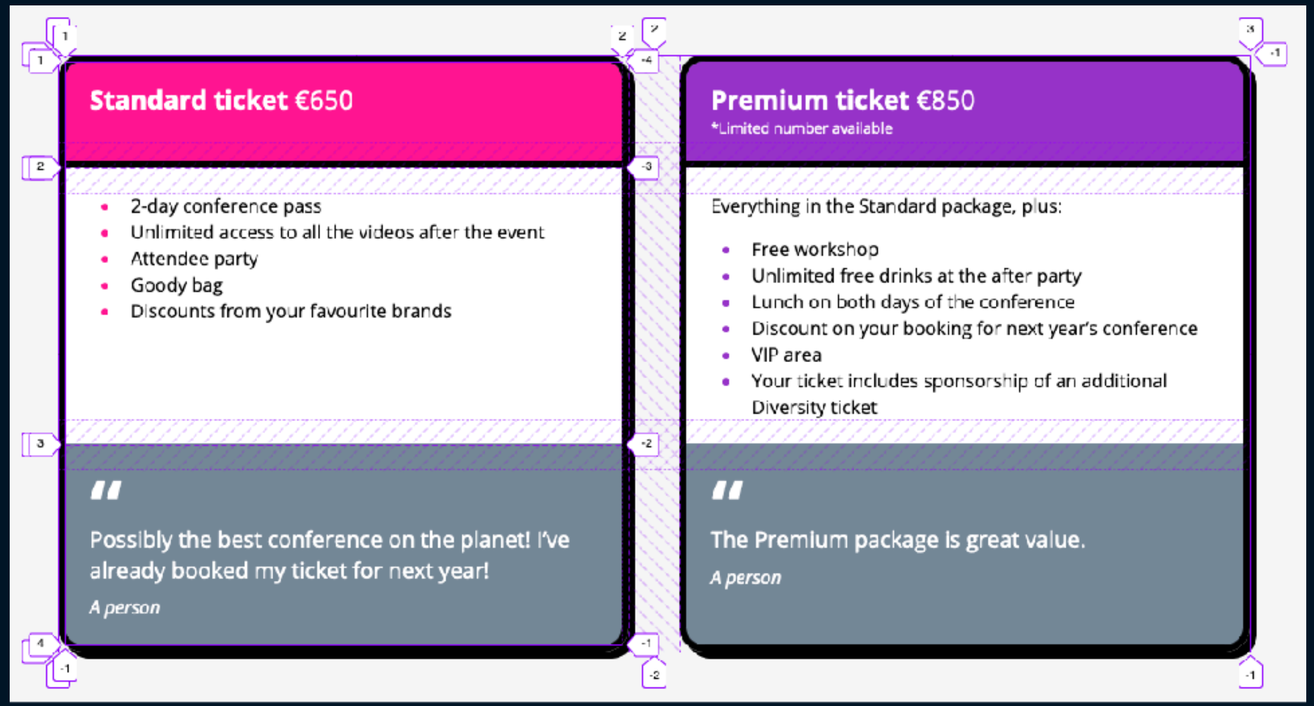
- Free workshop
- Unlimited free drinks at the after party
- Lunch on both days of the conference
- Discount on your booking for next year's conference
- VIP area
- Your ticket includes sponsorship of an additional Diversity ticket

"

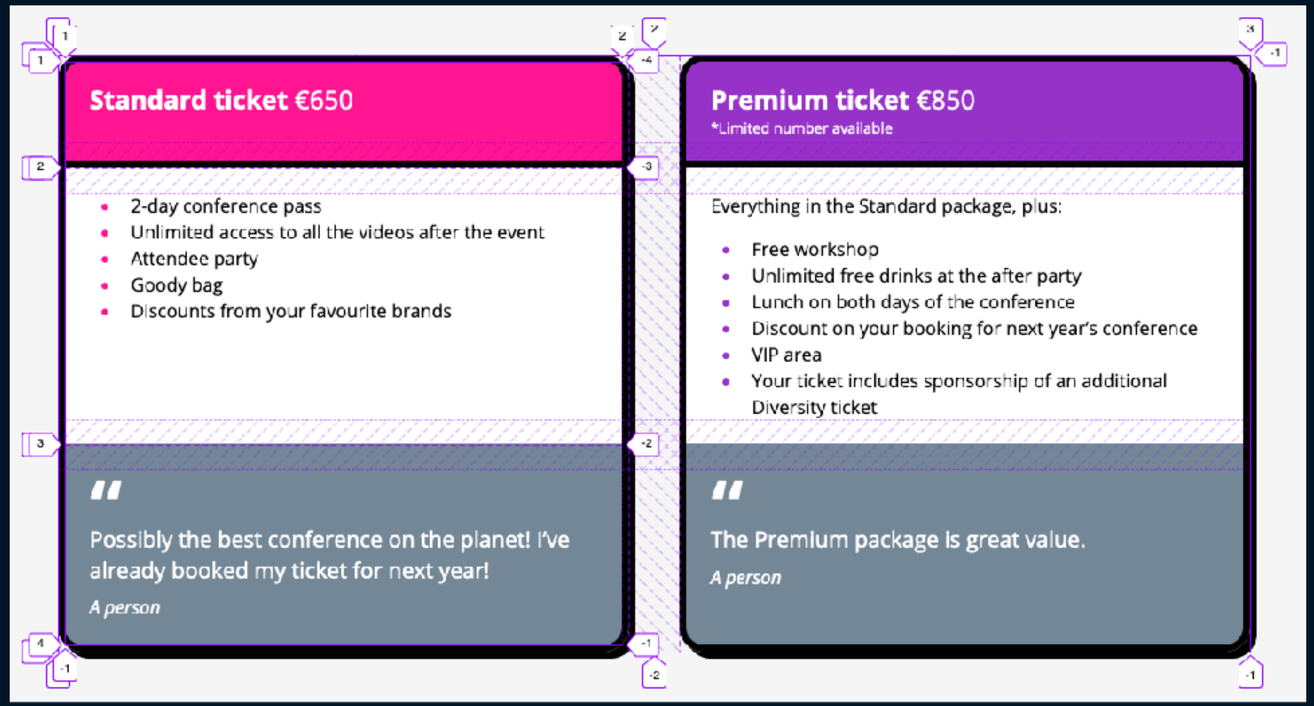
The Premium package is great value.

A person

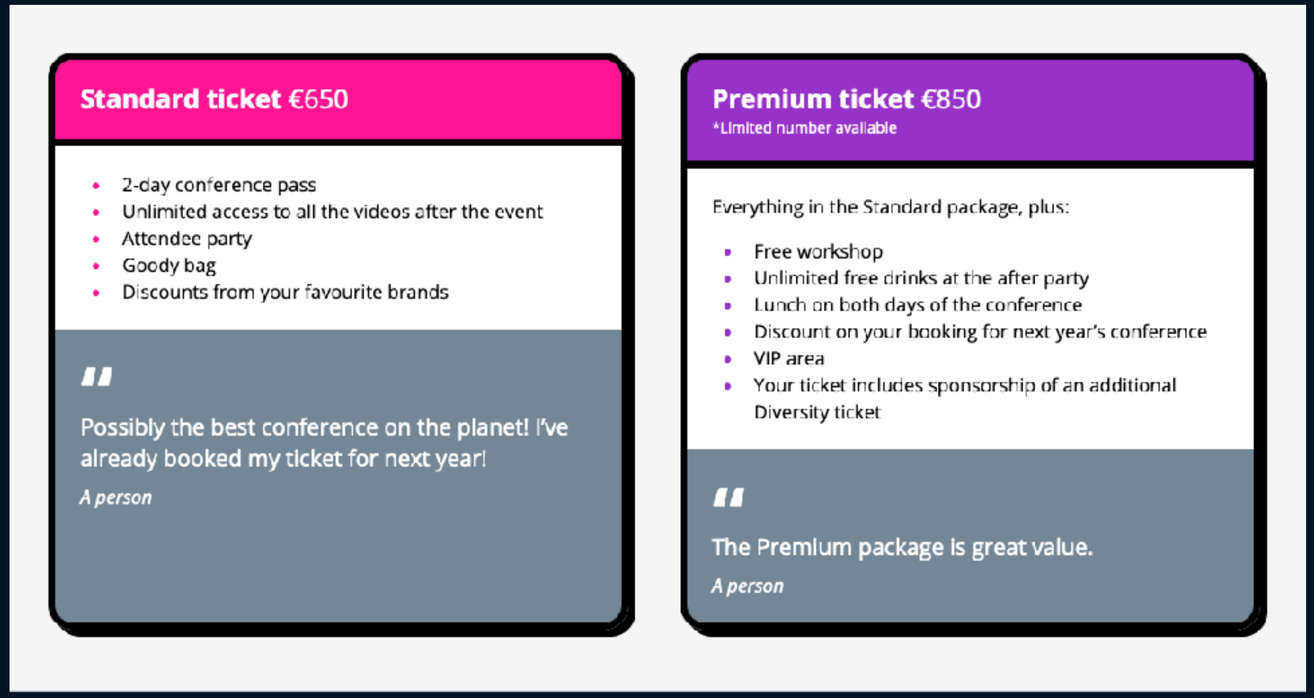
```css
.card {
  grid-row: span 3;
  display: grid;
  gap: 0;
  grid-template-rows: subgrid;
}
```



```css
.card {
  grid-row: span 3;
  display: grid;
  gap: 0;
  grid-template-rows: subgrid;
}
```



No subgrid?
No problem!



Progressive Enhancement

```
.card {
  /* Code for browsers without subgrid */
}

@supports (grid-template-columns: subgrid) {
  .card {
    grid-template-rows: subgrid;
    /* Code for browsers that support subgrid */
  }
}
```

Spring is here!

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Spring is here!

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Fig. 01 Laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur.

```
figure {
  display: grid;
  grid-template-columns: subgrid;
  grid-template-rows: subgrid;
}
```

```css
img {
  grid-row: 1 / span 3;
}
```

```
figcaption {
  grid-column: 4 / span 2;
  grid-row: 2;
}
```

:has()
(the parent selector)

```css
.grid blockquote {
  grid-column: 2 / span 4;
  grid-row: 2 / span 2;
  text-align: center;
}
```

```css
.grid:has(img) img {
  grid-row: 1 / span 2;
  grid-column: 1 / span 3;
}

.grid:has(img) blockquote {
  grid-row: 2 / span 2;
  grid-column: 3 / span 4;
  text-align: left;
}
```

> **Climate activists are sometimes depicted as dangerous radicals. But the truly dangerous radicals are the countries that are increasing the production of fossil fuels.**
>
> Antonio Guterres, UN Secretary General

```css
.grid {
  display: grid;
  grid-template: 1fr /
repeat(var(--cols, 3), 1fr);
  grid-auto-rows: 1fr;
}
```

```
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  display: grid;
  grid-template: 1fr /
repeat(var(--cols, 3), 1fr);
  grid-auto-rows: 1fr;
}
```

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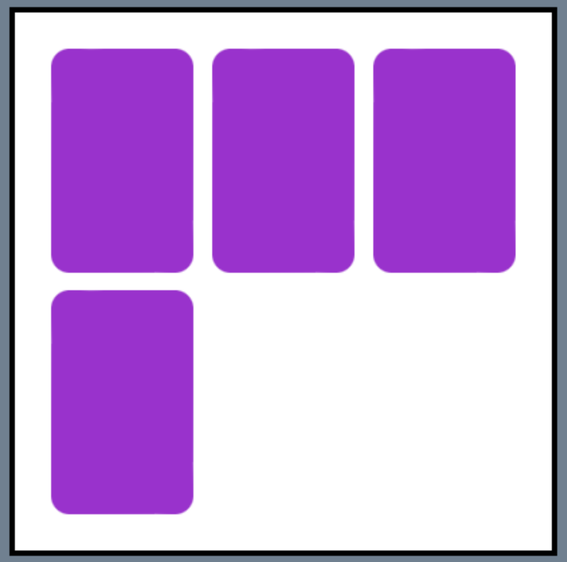
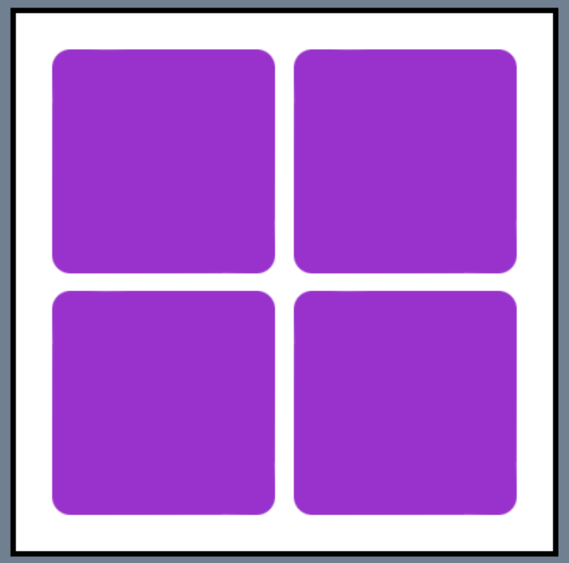
  display: grid;
  grid-template: 1fr /
repeat(var(--cols, 3), 1fr);
  grid-auto-rows: 1fr;
}
```

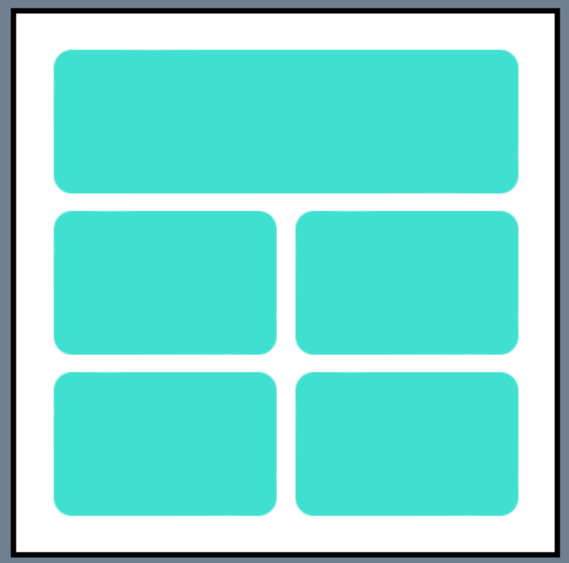


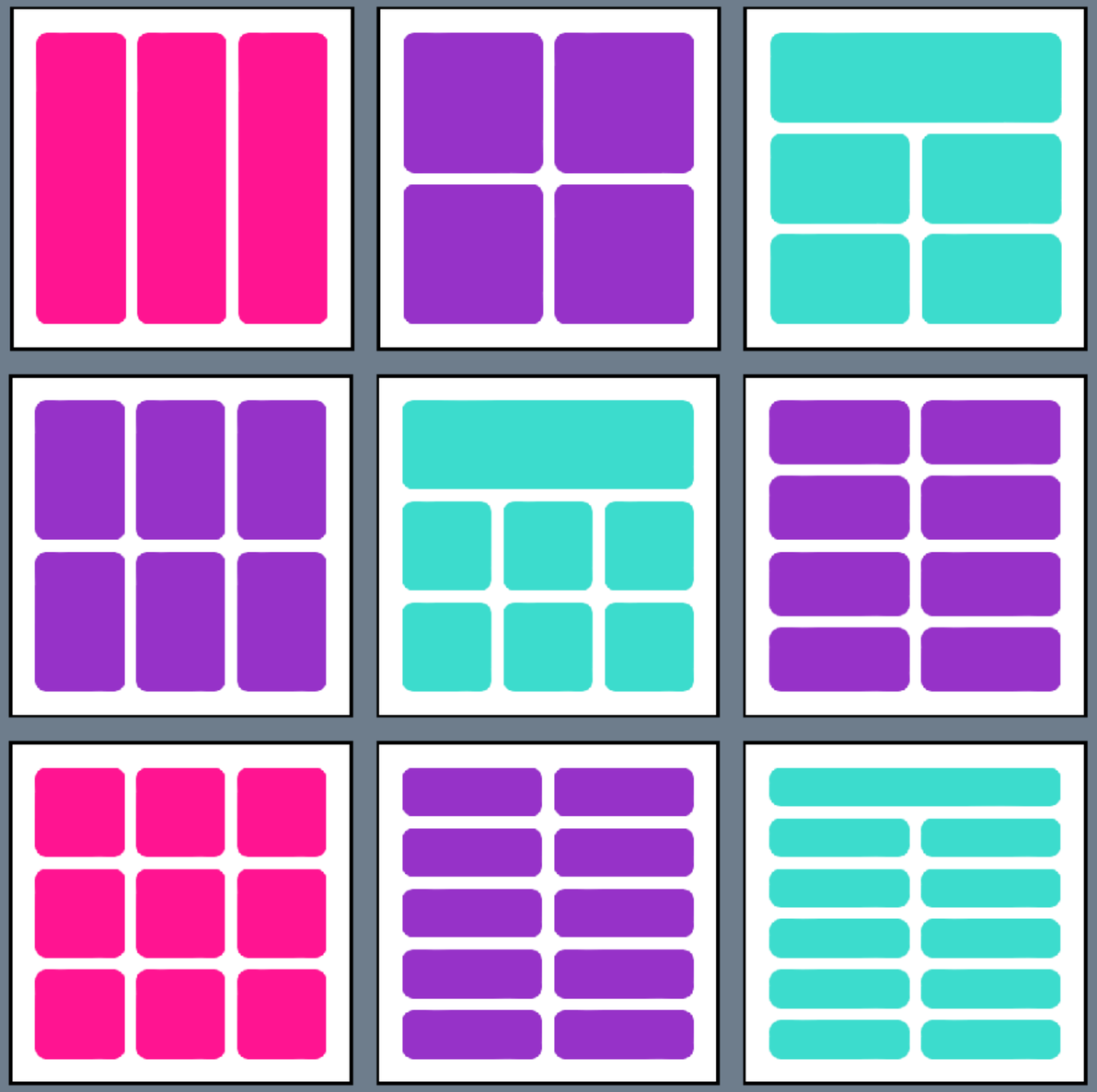
```css
.grid:has(:last-child:nth-child(even)) {
  --cols: 2;
}
```



```css
.grid:has(:last-child:nth-child(5)) {
  --cols: 2;
}

.grid:has(:last-child:nth-child(5))
.item:first-child {
  grid-column: span 2;
}
```





codepen.io/michellebarker/pen/xxYrWzZ

Diversity is strength

Thank you

@MicheBarks / @CSSInRealLife