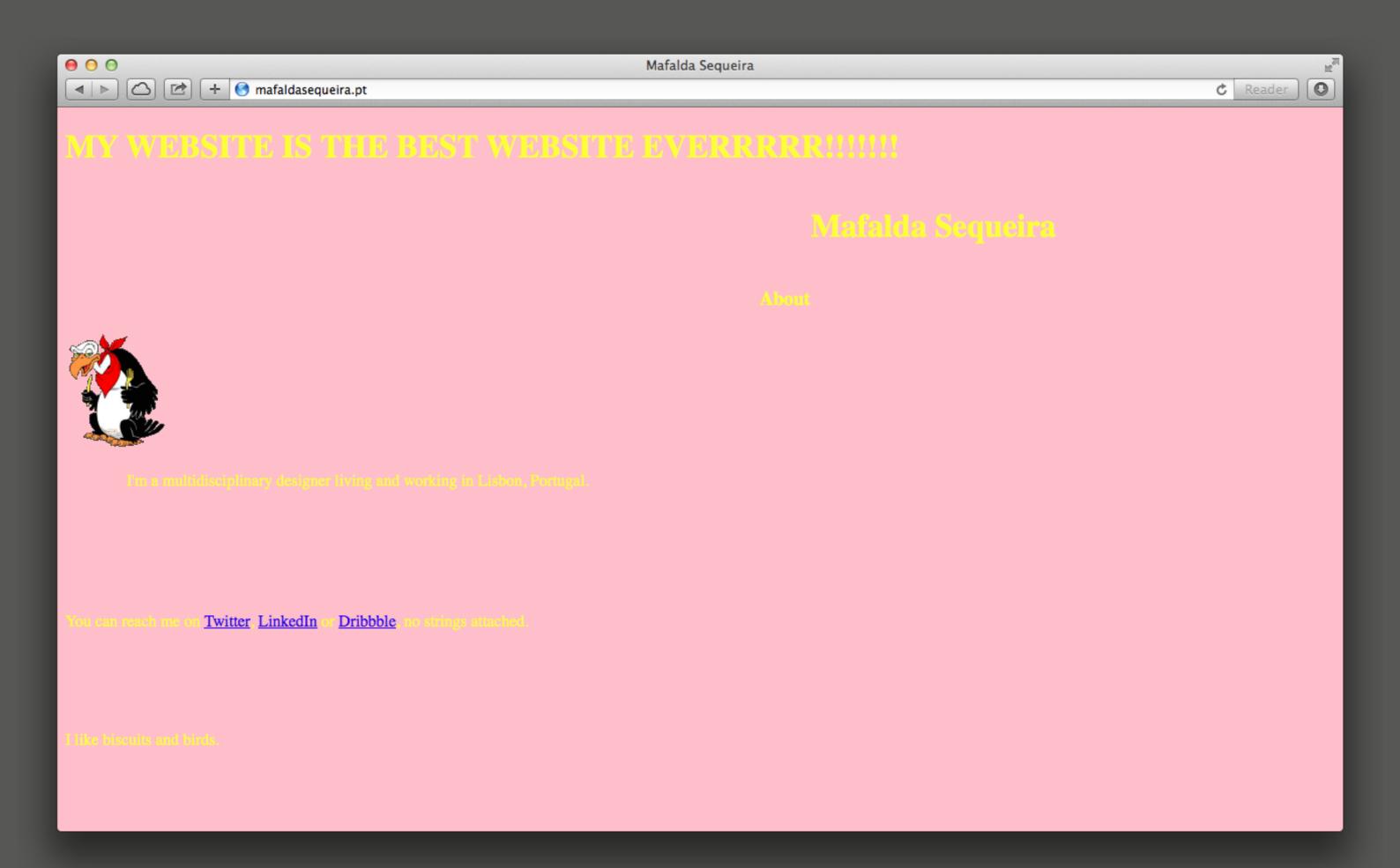
# Designing for Credibility Codebits 2014

Mafalda Sequeira @msssequeira mafaldasequeira.pt Tiago Machado
@playoutpt
tiagomachado.pt

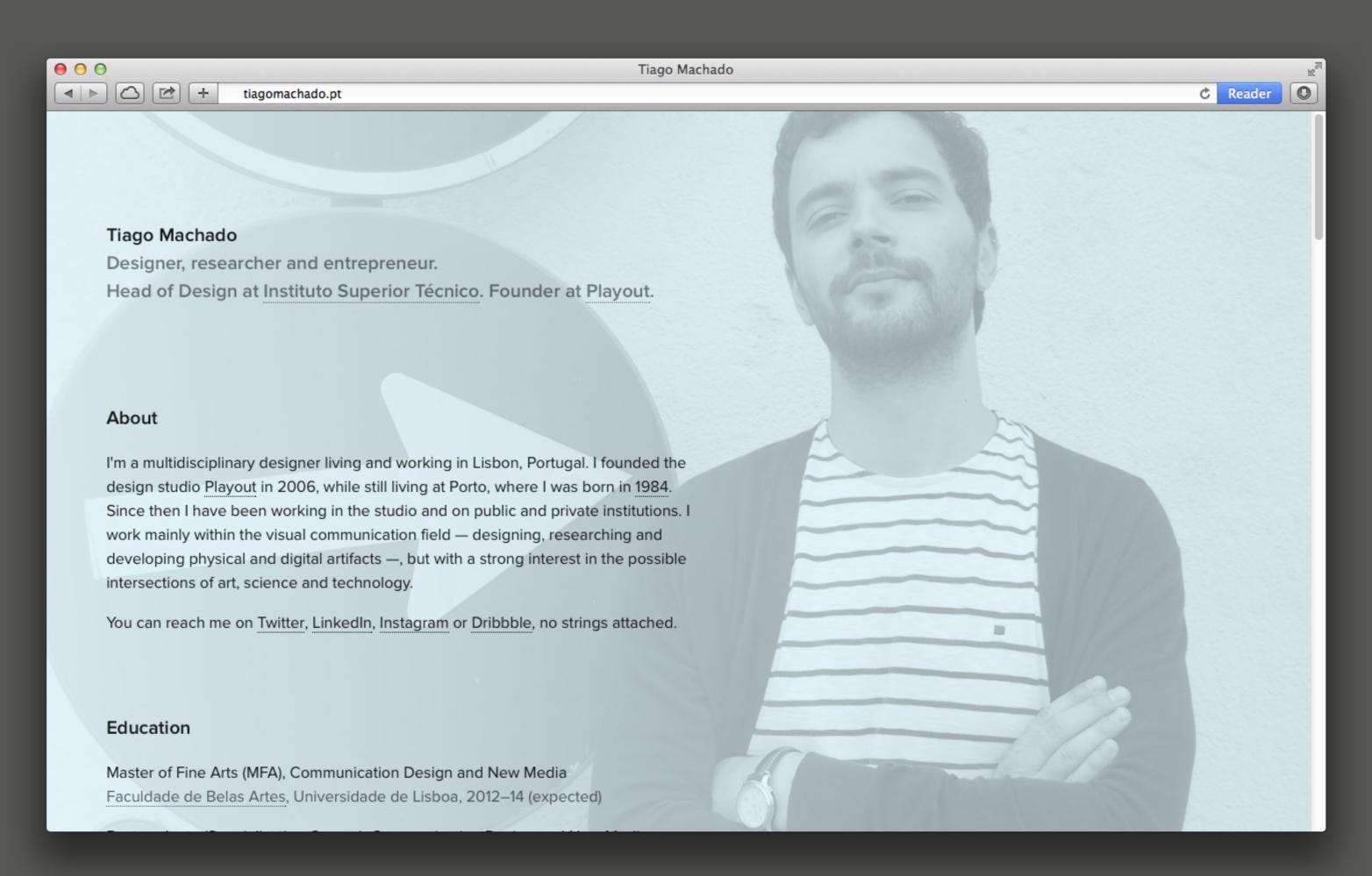
# Designer + Researcher Mafalda Sequeira

@msssequeira mafaldasequeira.pt



# Designer + Researcher Tiago Machado

@playoutpt
tiagomachado.pt



### Credibility

Credibility is a perceived quality; it doesn't reside in an object, a person, or a piece of information.

— BJ Fogg

Traditional models of credibility were based on the reputation of the author.

On the web, that no longer applies, since anybody can be an author.

#### **Trustworthiness**

(honesty, reputation)

+

#### Expertise

(academic titles, etc)

#### Credibility

### Online Credibility

[Users] expect to be in search mode, not processing mode. Users also expect to be disappointed, distracted, and delayed by false leads. — **Ellen Lupton** 

#### Why does it matter?

- web presence is vital for most companies
- web has least credible info of any medium
- web has **most** credible info of any medium
- web sites are first customer contact point
- the web is a growing medium
- web users can be naïve or lazy
- web users want to be autonomous

## Gives you power to change users attitudes and behaviors:

- to think positively about the site operator
- to feel comfortable interacting with the site
- to register information
- to complete e-commerce transactions

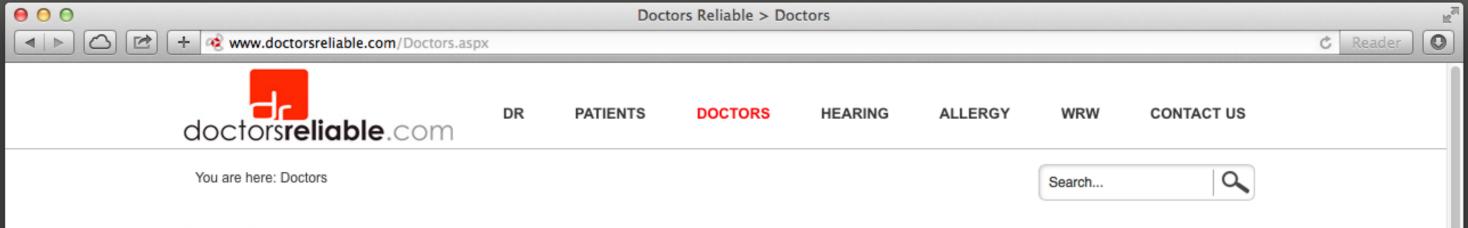
## 4 Types of Credibility

- Presumed
- Reputed
- Earned
- Surface

#### Presumed

Based on general assumptions and stereotypes

Ex: a doctor is a reliable source of medical information; a car seller doesn't always tell the truth.



#### **Doctor Portal**

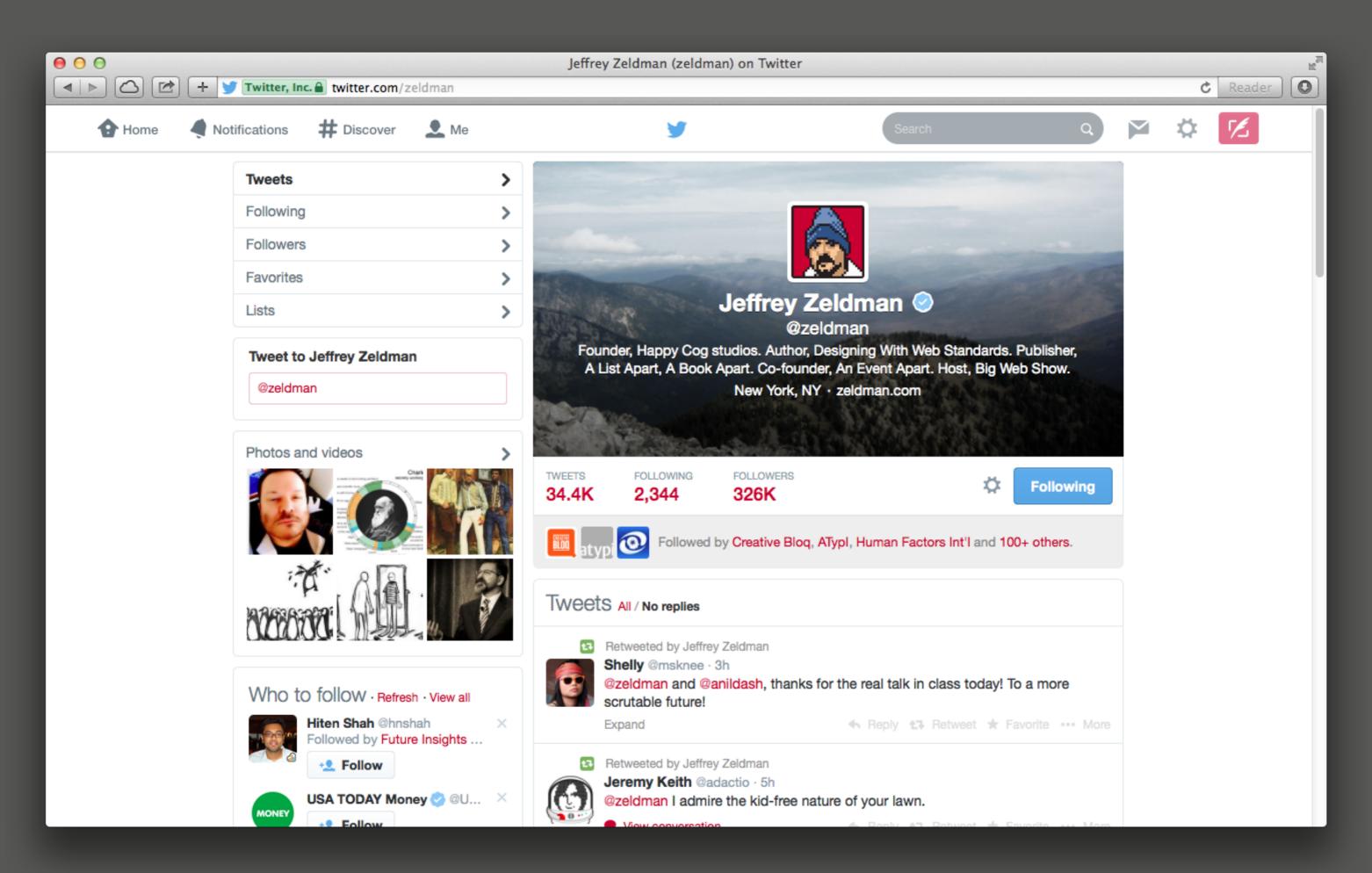


**INTERESTED DOCTORS:** If you are a licensed physician within a medical practice and a principal of the practice please go to our contact page and send in your contact information. Our managing partner will get back to you within 24 hours. We have practices in most states and we are growing. At present we are working with independent group practices. Thank you in advance for your interest in our service lines!

#### Reputed

Based on third party endorsements, reports, or referrals.

Ex: a website referred by a friend or an expert.



#### **Earned**

Based on firsthand experience that extends over time. This is perhaps the most powerful form of credibility.

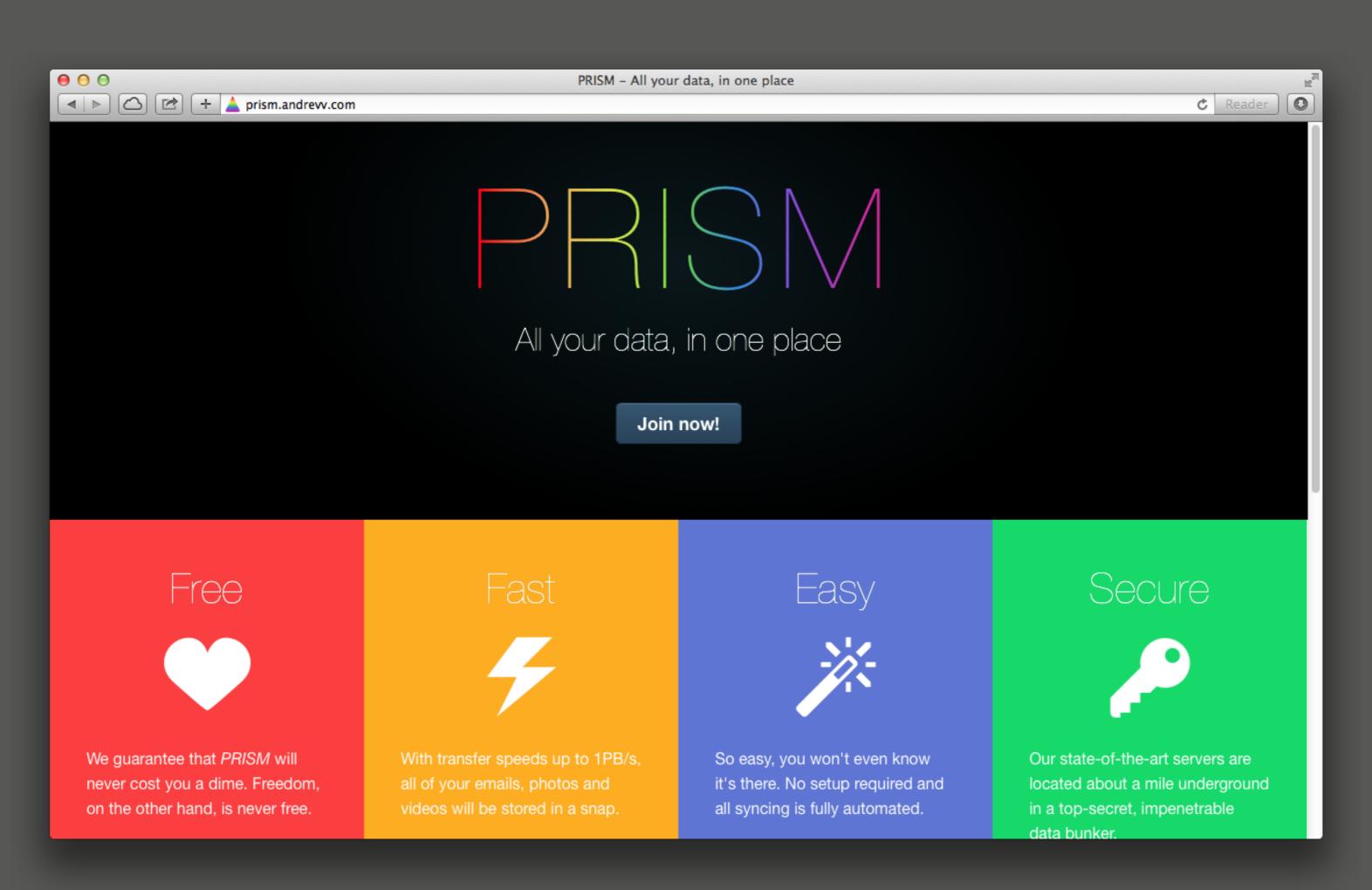
Ex: that restaurant is good because they've always served me well



#### Surface

Simple inspection or initial firsthand experience

Ex: the website looks old, so its information must be outdated



# The Importance of Surface Credibility

If people cannot move beyond the poor design then the quality of the content becomes irrelevant.

— Sillence et al.

In a democracy we like to feel that with hard work and a good deal of motivation, a person can accomplish almost anything. But, alas (most of us believe), hard work cannot make an ugly woman beautiful...

#### — E. Aronson

#### **Users Behavior**

- information overload forces users to make quick choices, in a matter of seconds
- users don't check some important informations, although stating the opposite (privacy policy, website identity, information verification, sponsors and customer support)
- users suppose that websites with a professional look were built by professionals

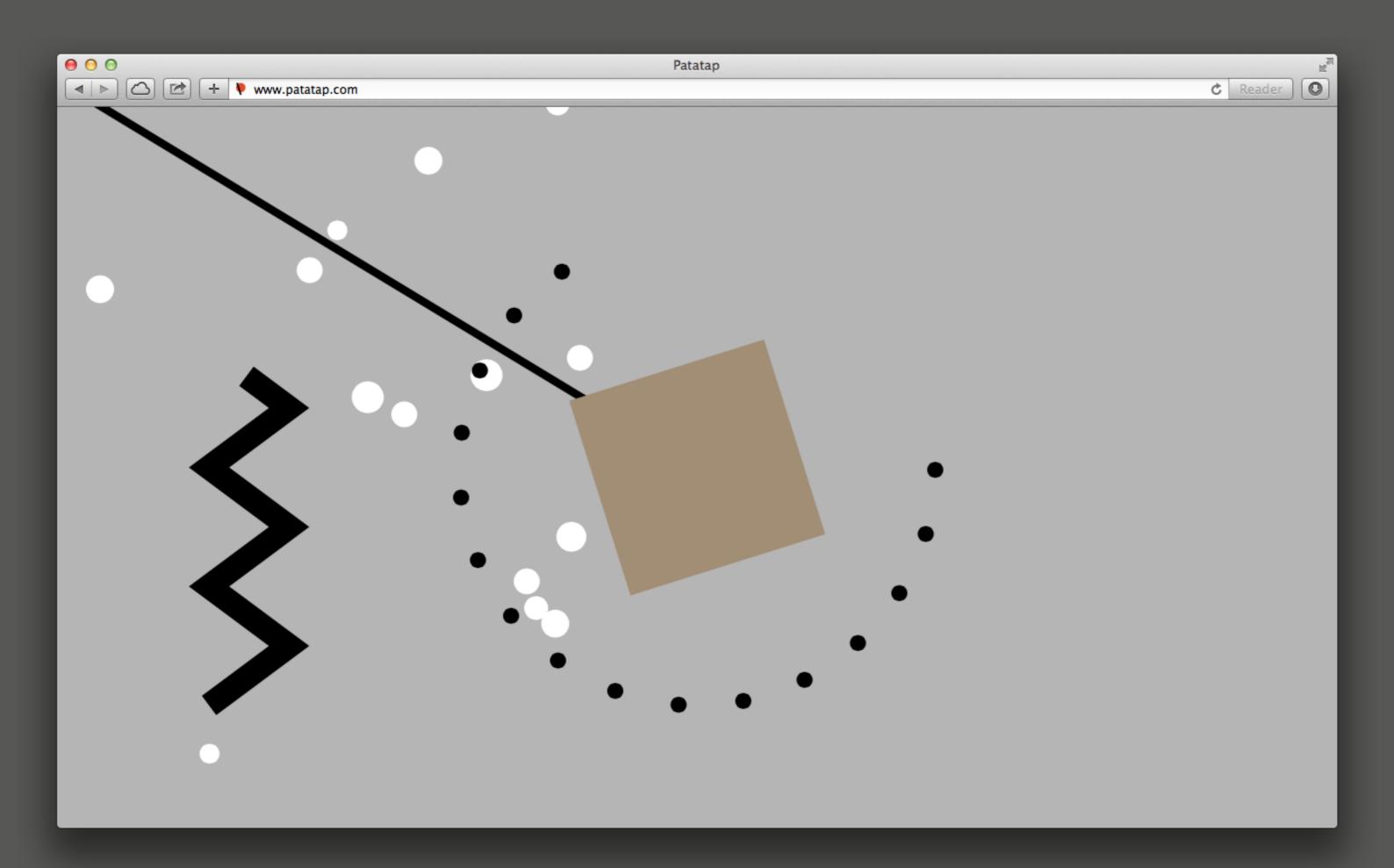
When a site lacks credibility, users are unlikely to remain on the site for long. They won't buy things, they won't register, and they won't return. They certainly won't think favorably of the organization that sponsors the site.

— BJ Fogg et al.

### Visual Design

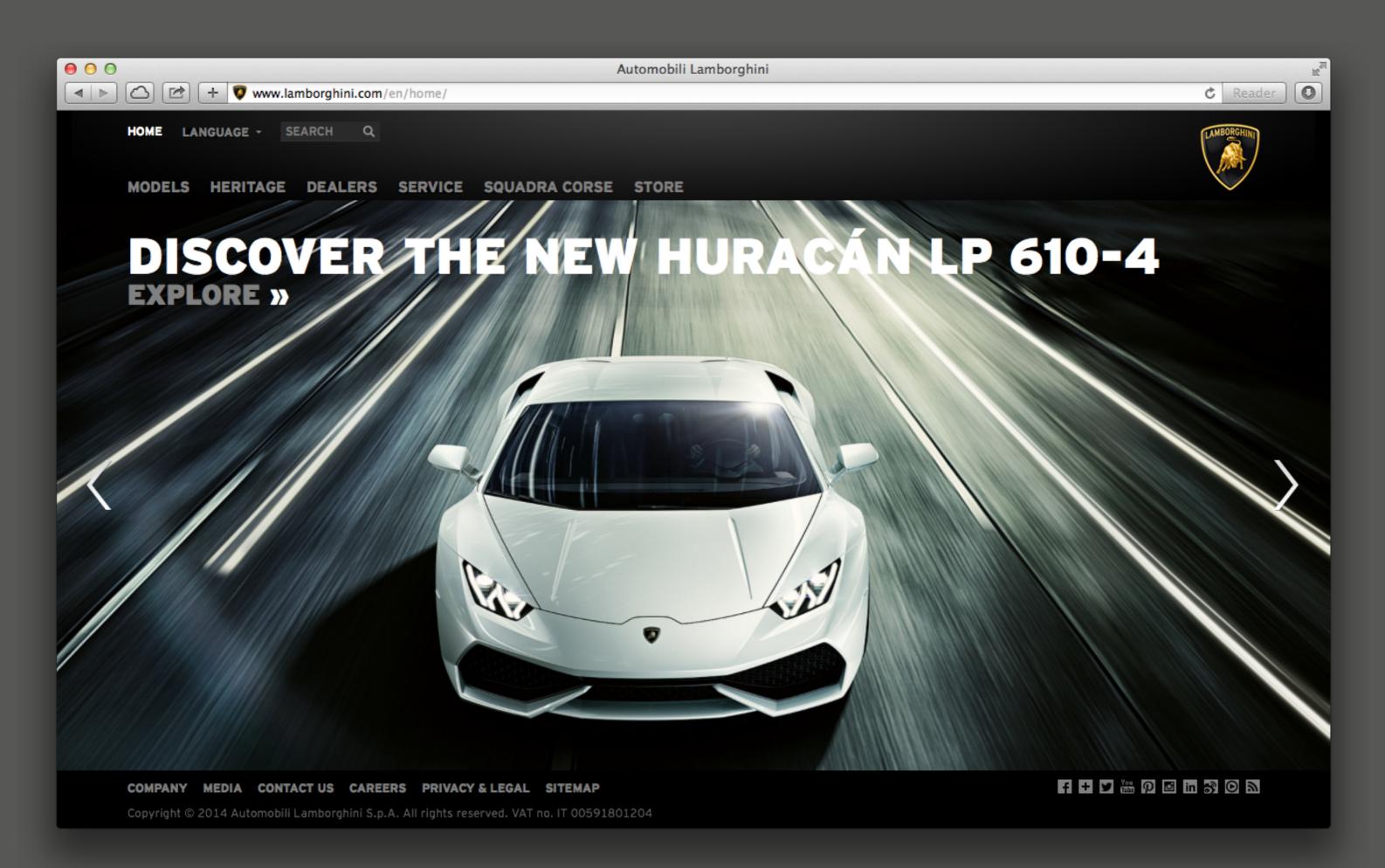
Visual design is the rendering of information [...]. It includes structural features such as typography, images, color, and aesthetics.

— Robins et al.



Graphic design is the first and the last part of the user interface observed by the user.

— Jakob Nielsen





In the past, rarely has beauty been an end in itself. [...] The function of the exterior decoration of the great Gothic cathedrals was to invite entry.

#### — Paul Rand



LATEST





POPULAR





As of 4PM ET



Subscribe





0

#### TIME

DOW	16,170	-266.96 ▼	<b>-1.62% ▼</b>
NASDAQ	4,054	-129.79 ▼	-3.10% ▼
S&P	1,833	-39.10 ▼	<b>-2.09% ▼</b>

#### **JUST POSTED**

Which Movie and Television Entertainers Should Be on the 2014 TIME 100? 7:54 PM ET.

Department of Inevitable Acquisitions: Amazon Buys ComiXology 7:46 PM ET

That's Not Happiness to See Me: Hillary Clinton Greeted With Flying Shoe 7:30 PM ET

Sebelius Resigns After Botched Obamacare Rollout 6:46 PM ET



ONE WORLD TRADE CENTER

#### BREAKING Los Angeles police accidentally kill TV production assistant

#### THE **BRIEF**



Jonathan Ernst-Reuters

#### **Sebelius Calls It Quits**

Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius will announce her resignation Friday after five years in the Obama administration, which included oversight of the botched roll-out of the HealthCare.gov website

#### IN THE MAGAZINE



The Rise of Fake Pot

Subscribe

The Humbling of the Senate Master

**Christians and Tyrants** 

Skrillex: King of the Imperial Blaster Beat

Canada's Ghosts in the Machine

#### **VIDEO**



# Designing for credibility

#### Avoid:

- confuse layouts
- confuse navigation
- lack of clear entry points
- poorly saturated colors (which leads to a "boring" design)
- poor distinction between ads and content
- assimetric or unbalanced design
- pop ups

#### Avoid:

- incorrect or outdated hyperlink destinations
- slow entry pages (with Flash animations, for example)
- small font size with poor legibility
- text overload
- weak resources for search purposes
- name inappropriateness
- corporate look

#### Aim to accomplish:

- Balanced/simmetric design
- Clear navigation
- Clear focus point
- Chromatic scheme with bright and warm colors as dominant, cold as secondary, and tight contrasts

#### Aim to accomplish:

- Good distintion between ads and content
- Interactive characteristics
- Photographs (of people, for example)
- Absence of mistakes or typos
- Domain ending in .gov, .edu...
- Source recognition (author, brand)

## Aim to accomplish:

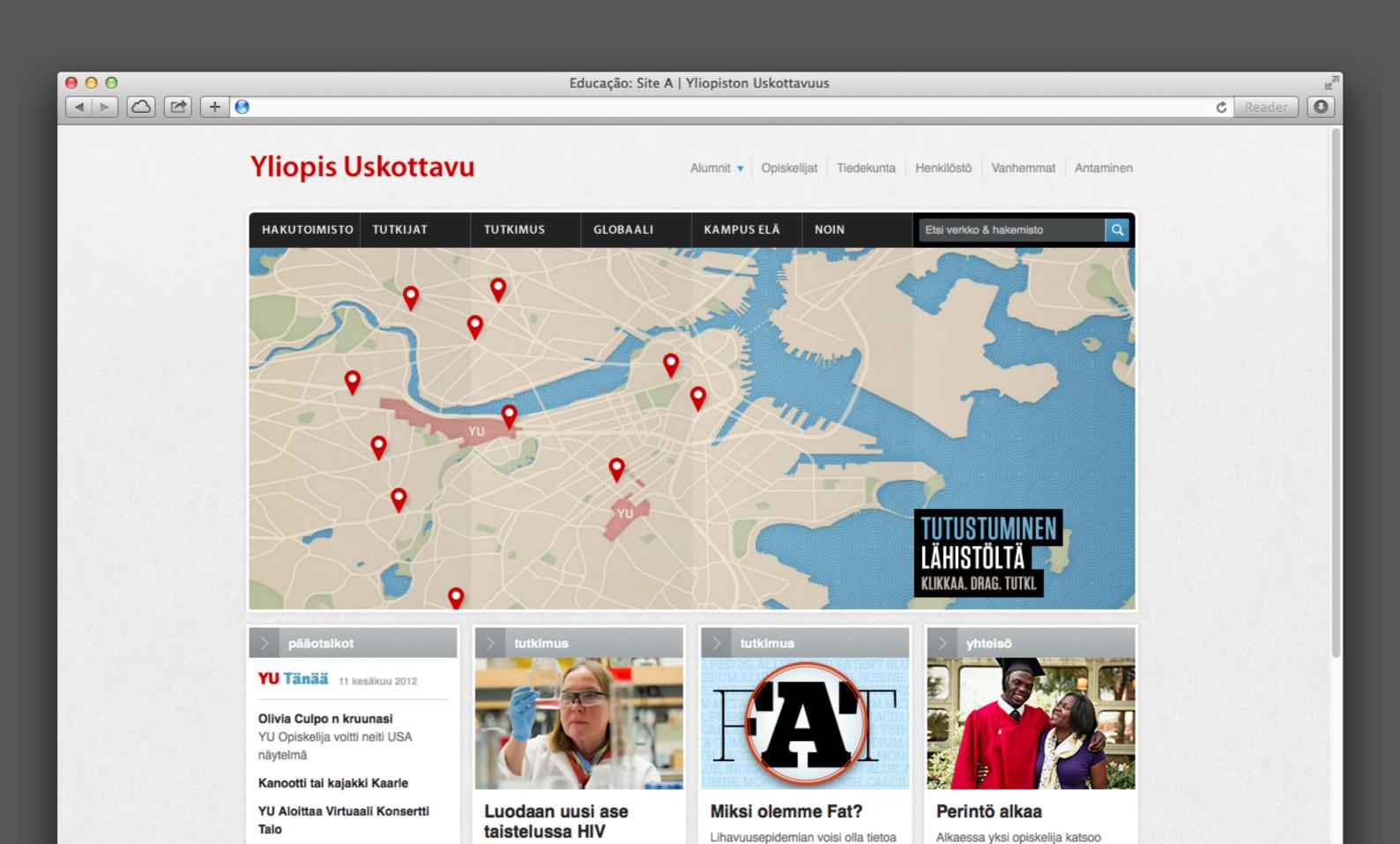
- Clear presence of a grid/alignments
- Long messages («length implies strength»)
- Search field
- White space
- "A clean, professional look" (according to what users state)
- Unity, cohesion of the parts in the whole

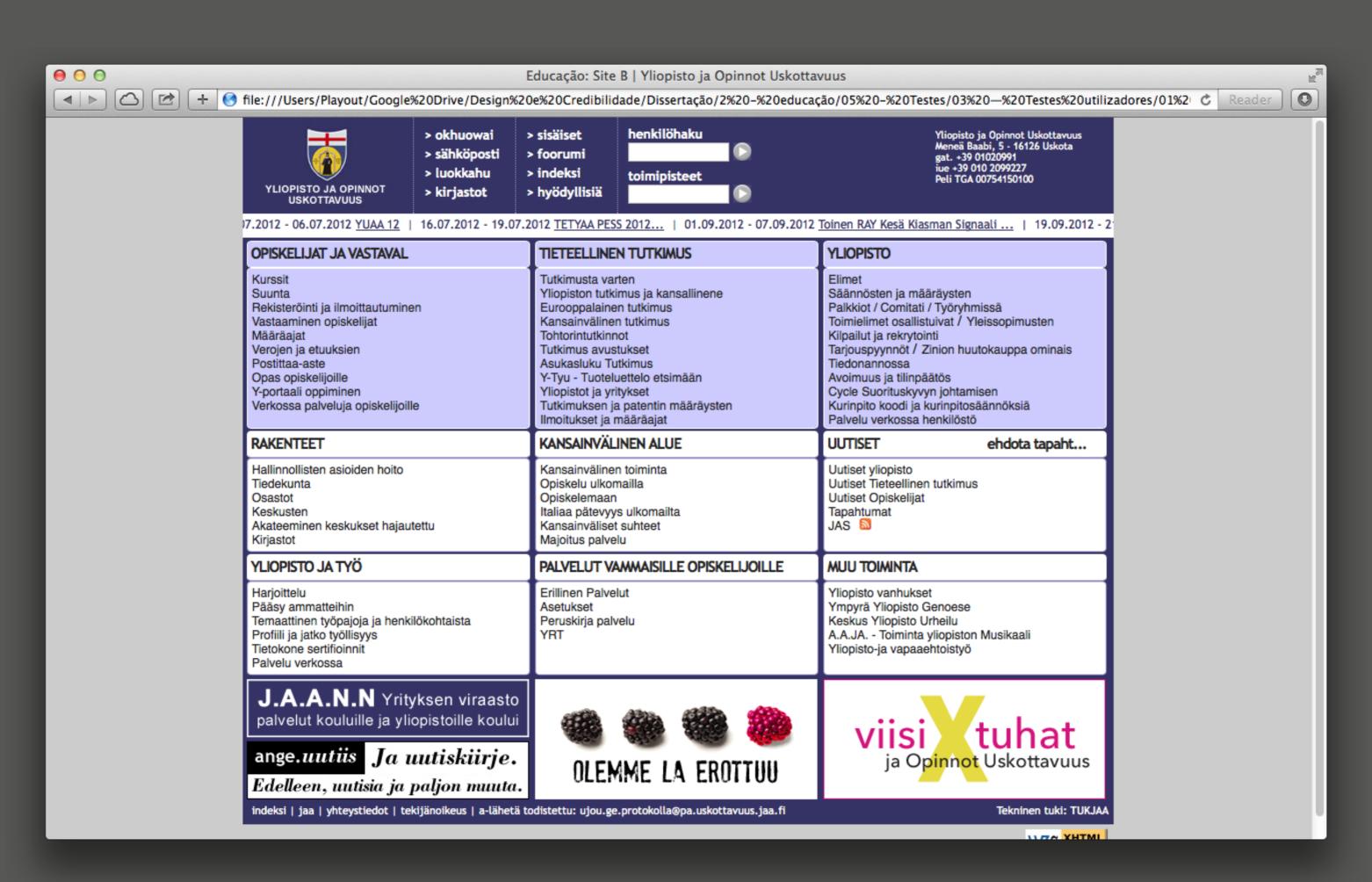
## The Relation Between Visual Design and Perceived Credibility

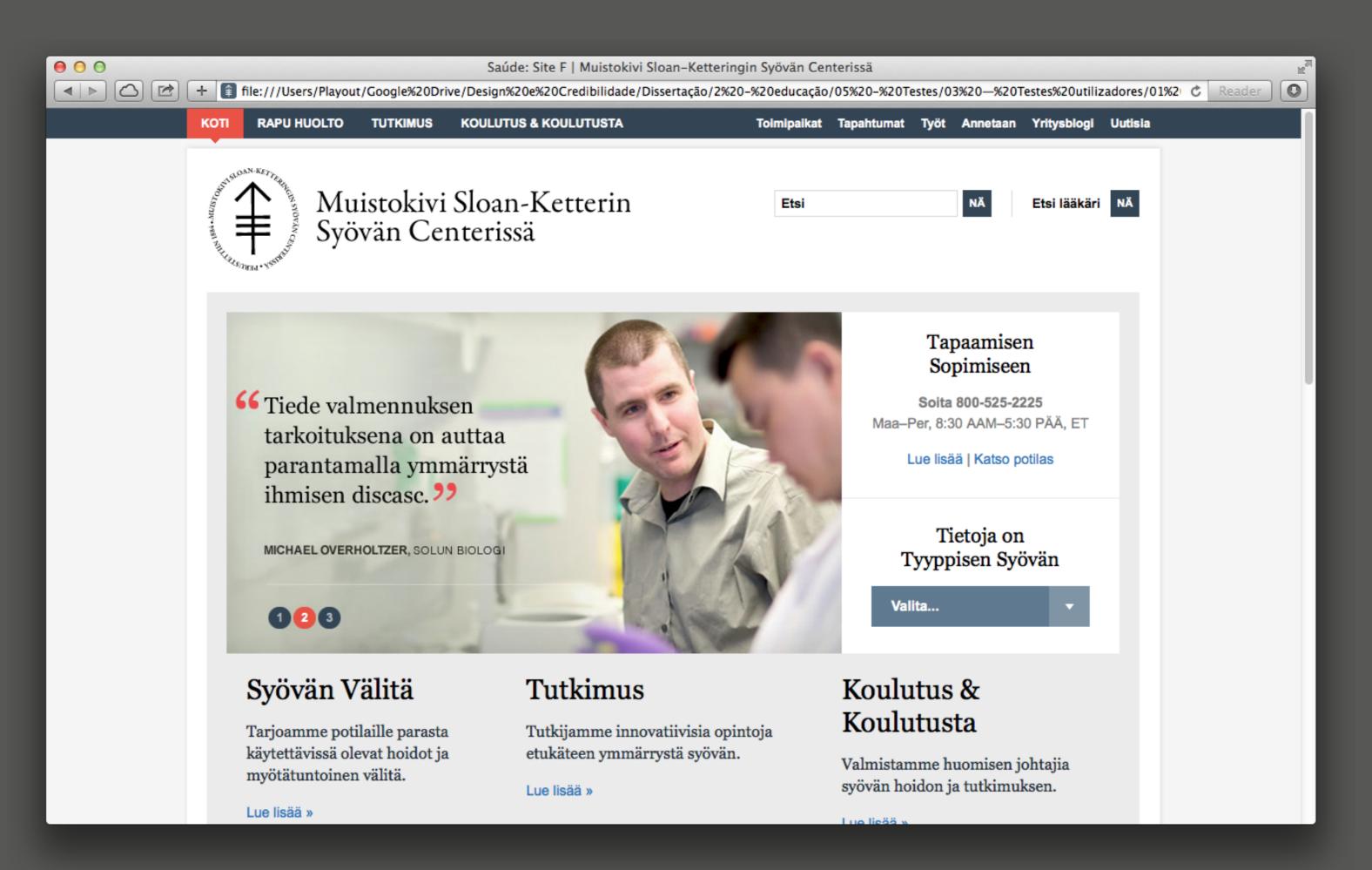
## A study with:

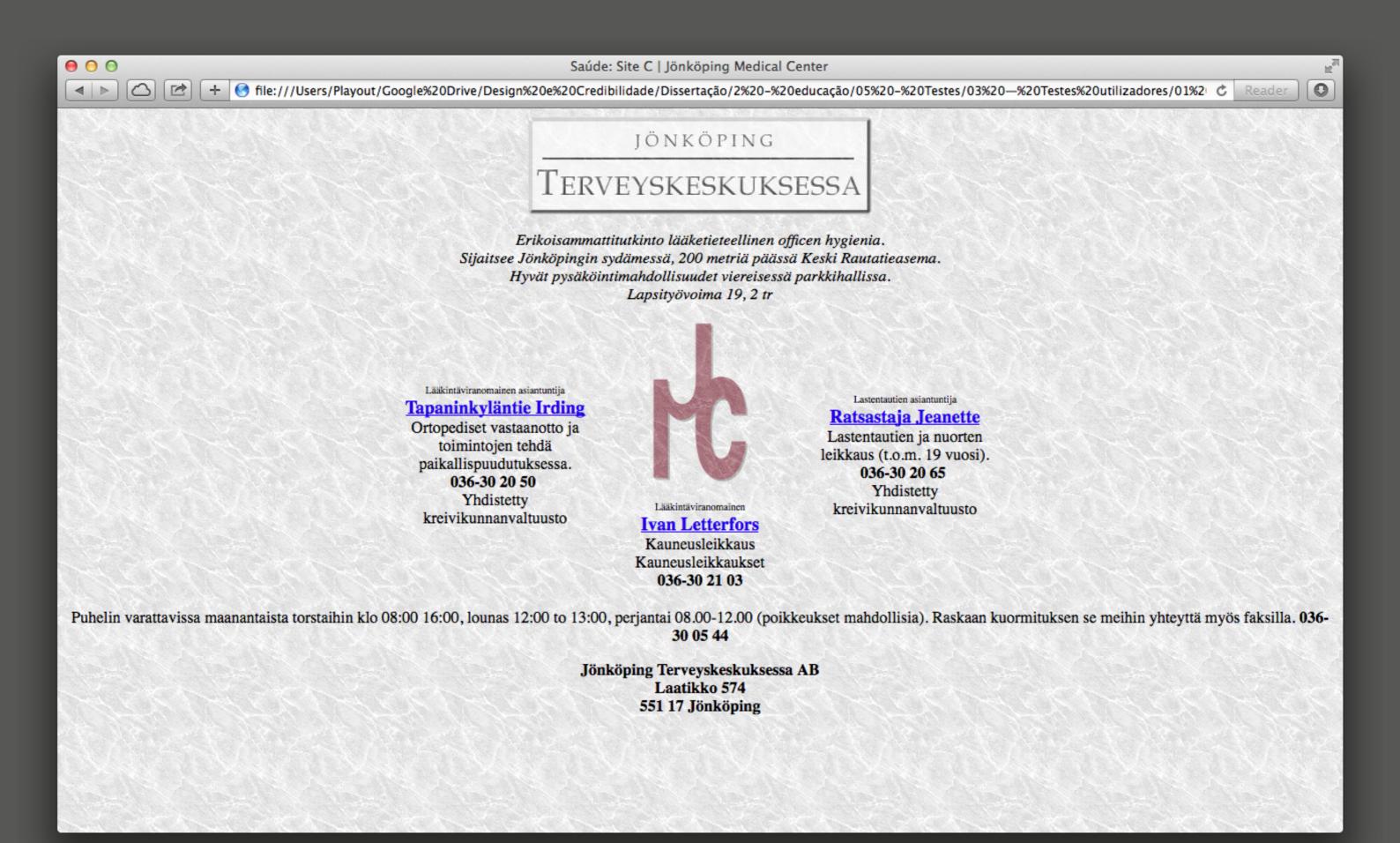
106 participants26 design specialists12 websites

- 2 case studies:
- Education
- Health





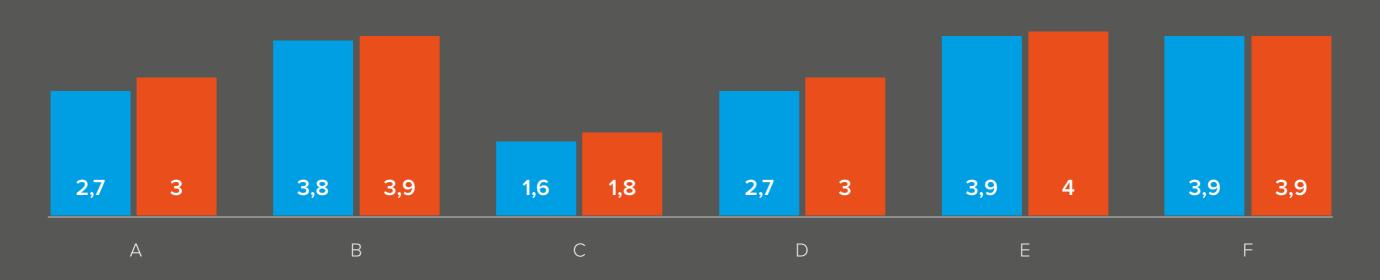








Max: 5



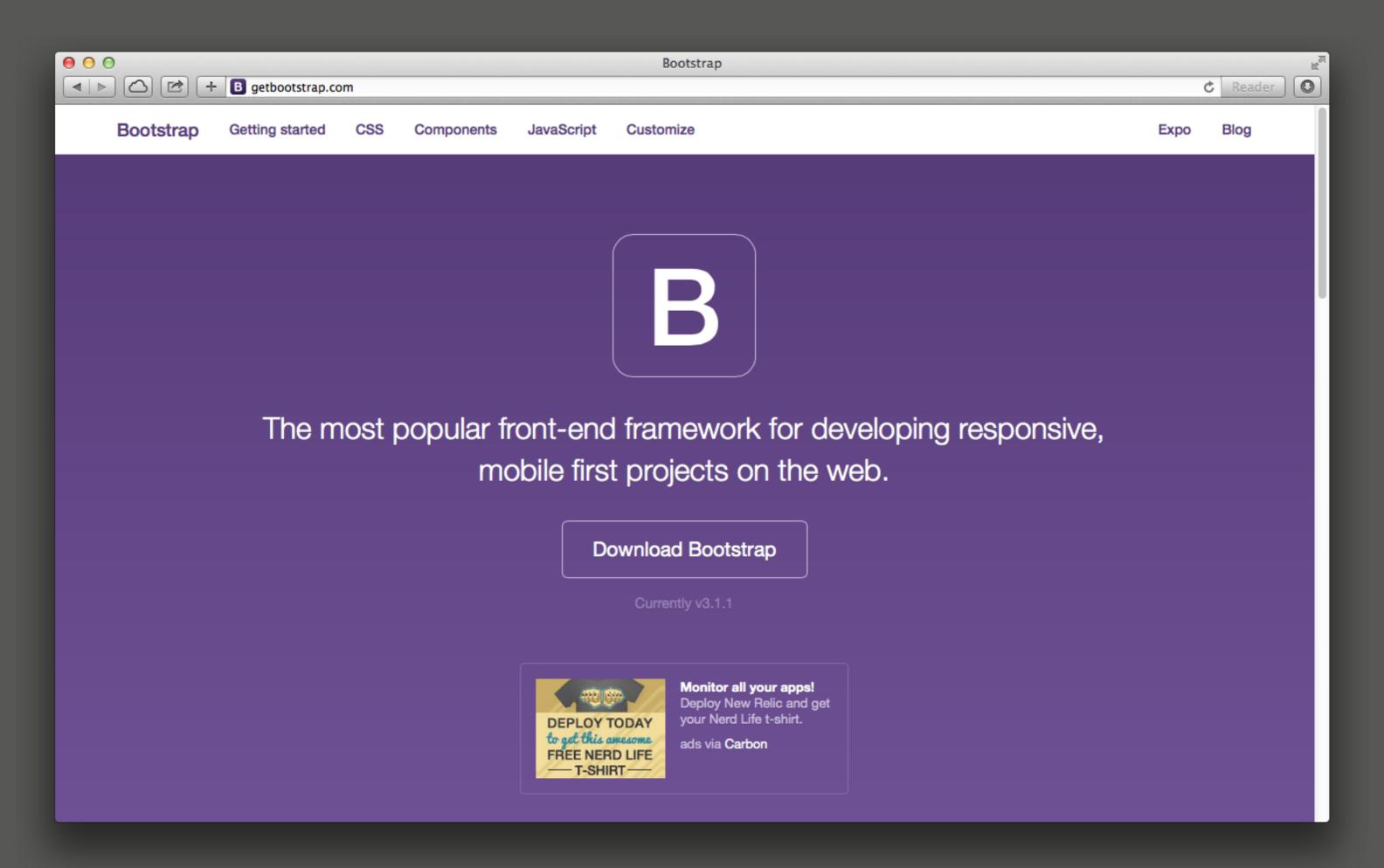
### What users commented the most:

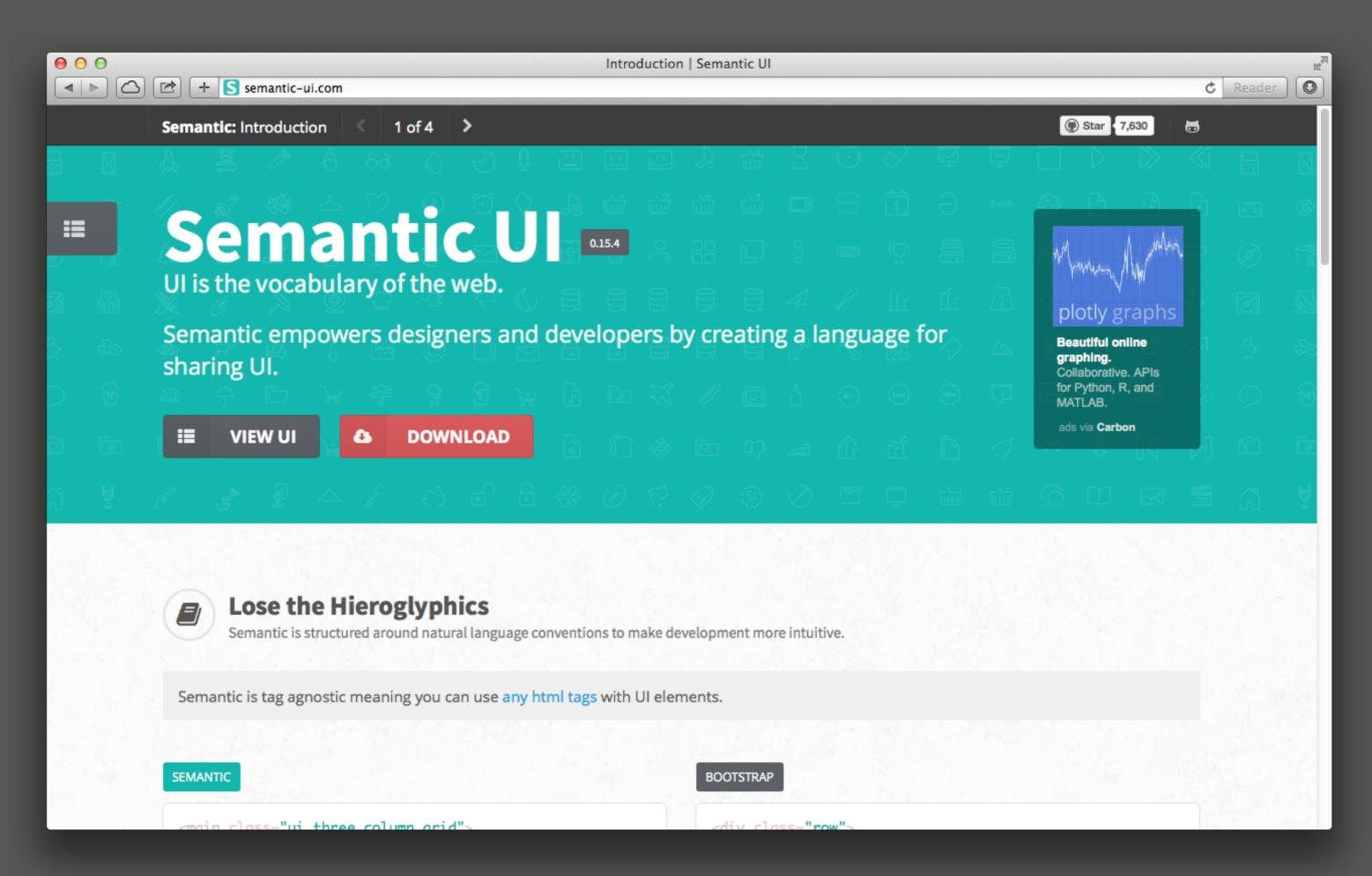
- color
- presence of photos and images
- organization
- navigation
- white space
- logo
- information amount

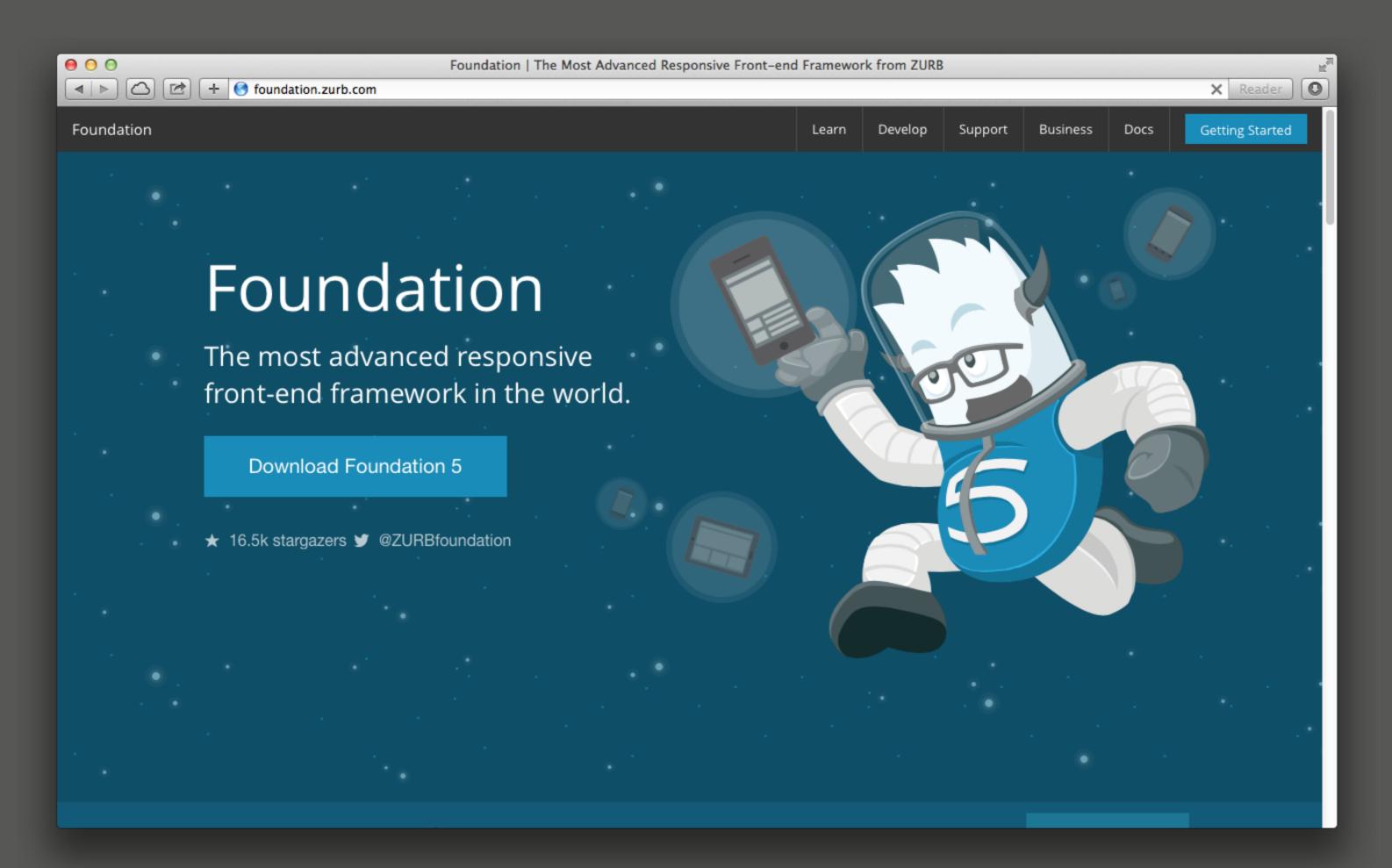
## Resources

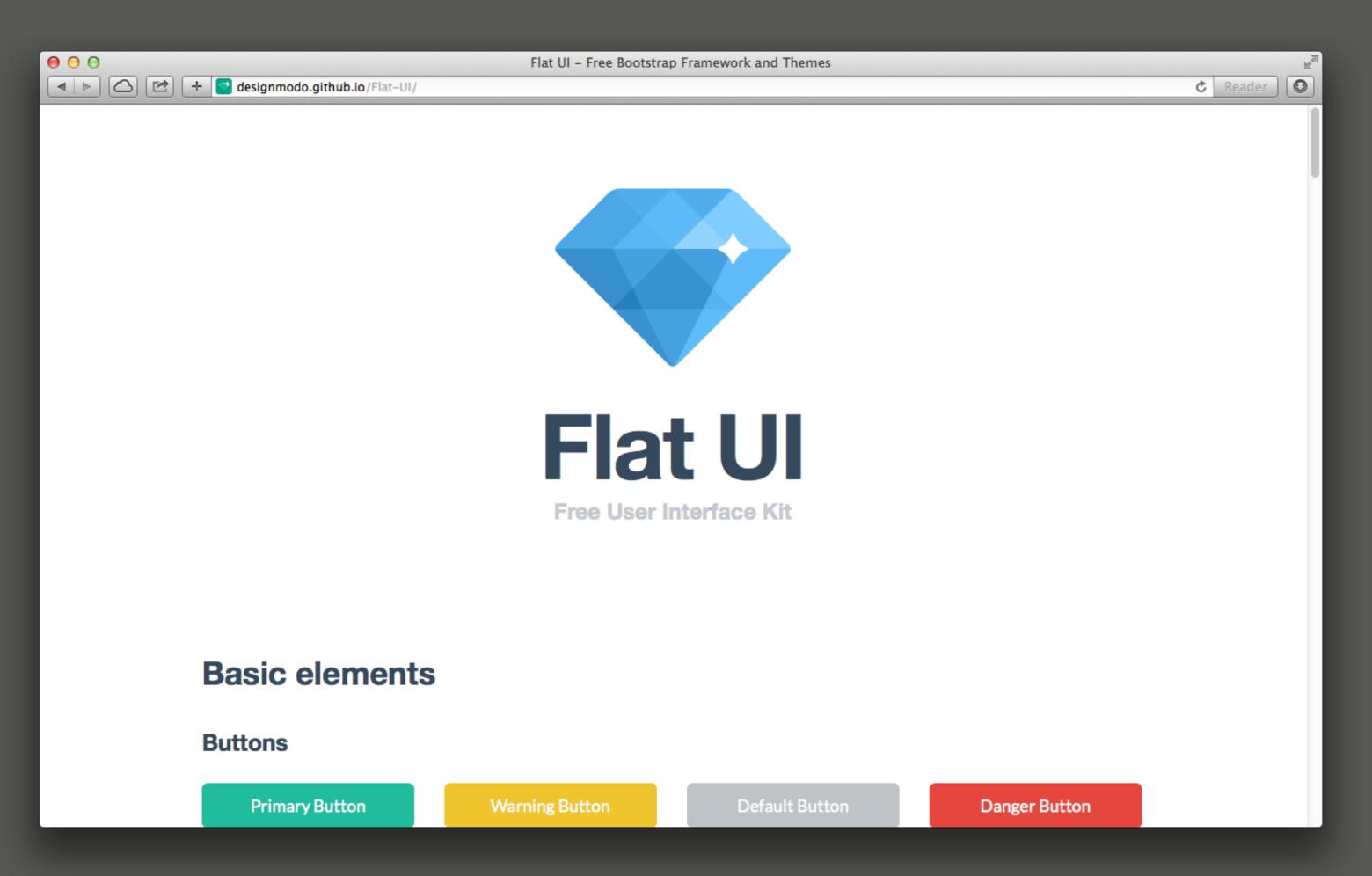
- Frameworks
- Webfonts
- Icons
- Colours
- Images

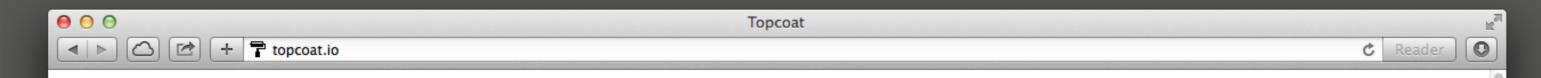
## Frameworks









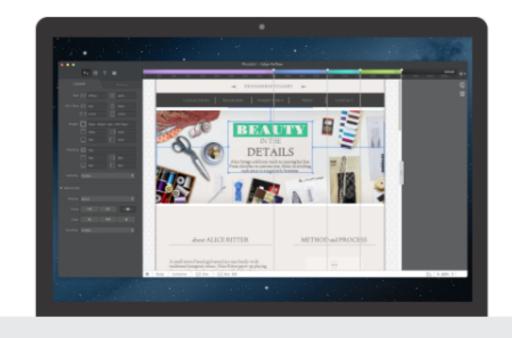


## **Topcoat**

CSS for clean and fast web apps.



Download









#### Soooo Fast!

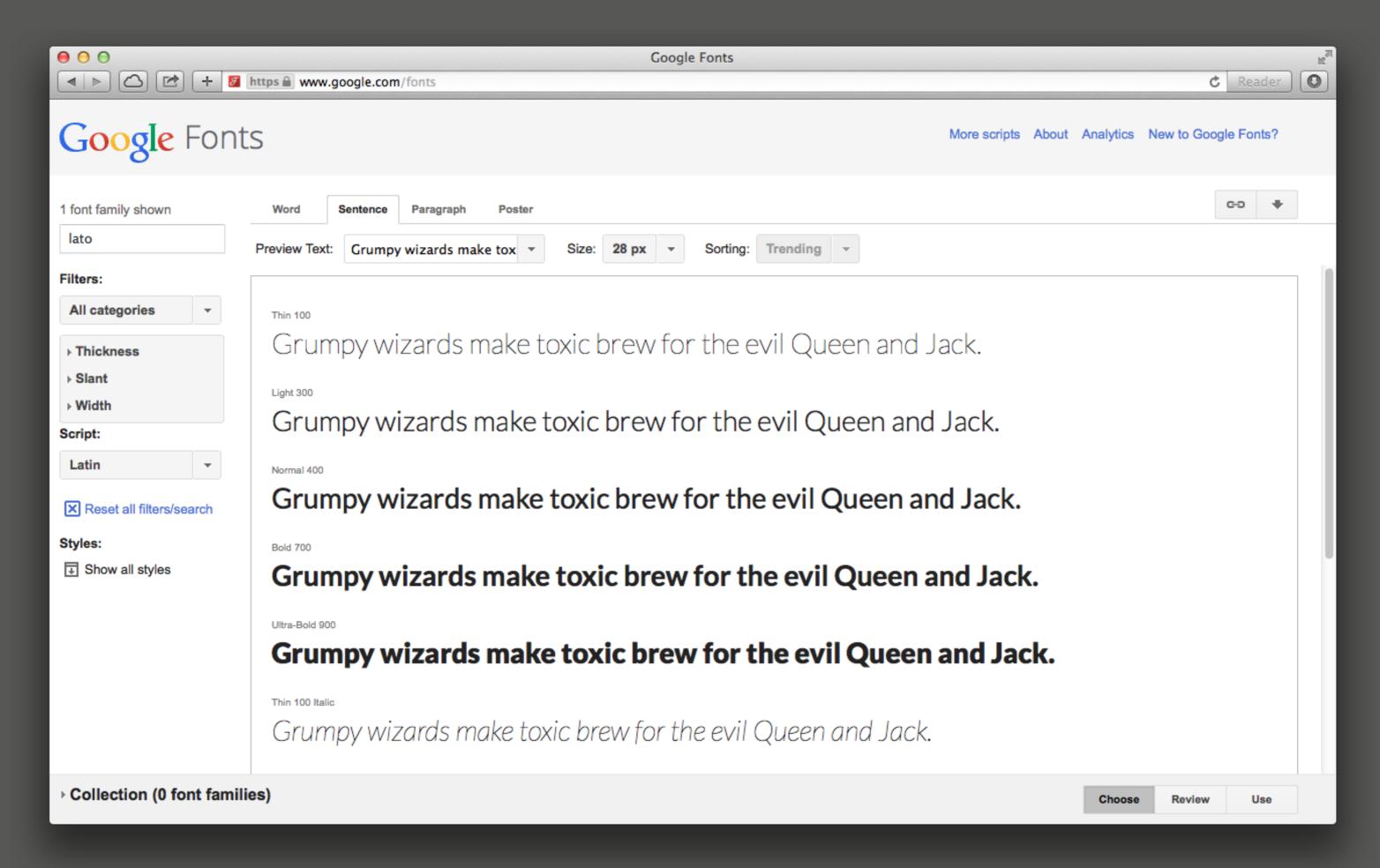
Performance is our #1 goal. Every component we design is benchmarked

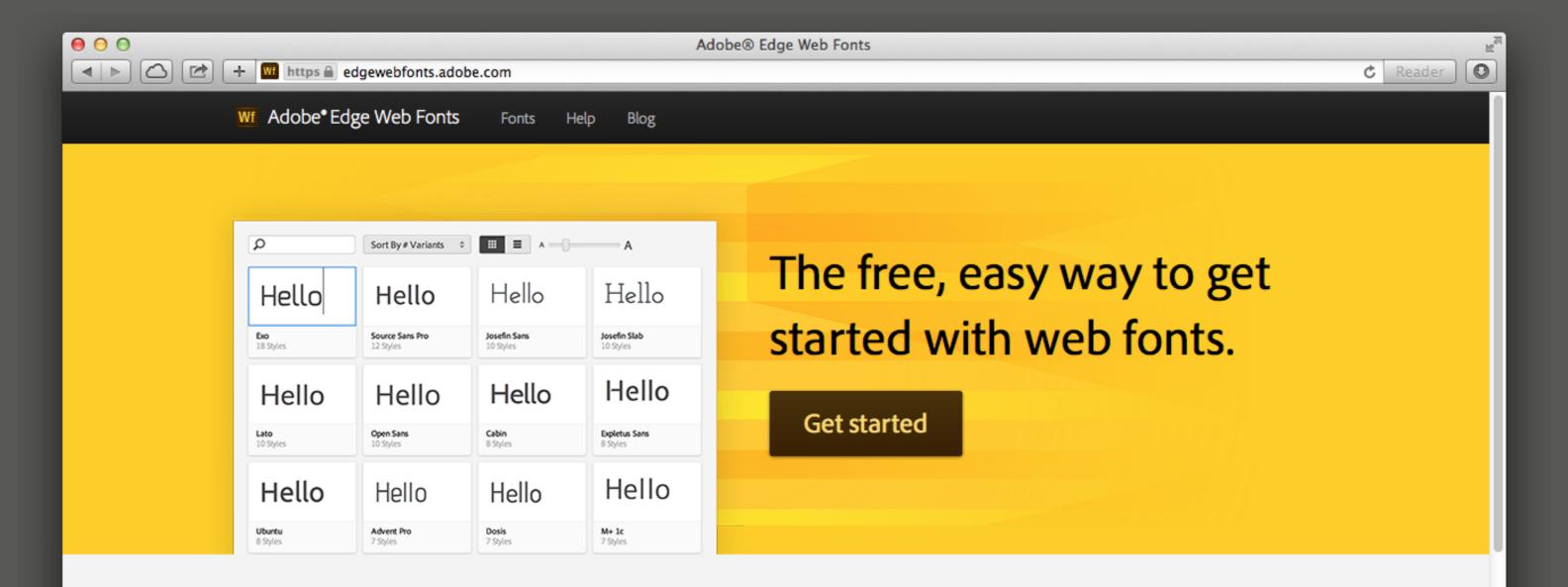


#### **Components Galore**

We have the building blocks to get you up and running fast. Our growing set of

## Webfonts







#### Huge selection of web fonts

Edge Web Fonts gives you access to a vast web font library made possible by contributions from Adobe, Google, and designers around the world.

Learn more about the library.



#### Totally free, no account required

Just choose the fonts you want to use on your website, copy a line of JavaScript into your site's HTML to enable them, and you're ready to start using the fonts in your site's CSS. That's all there is to it. No sign up, no subscription, no cost. Learn more about using

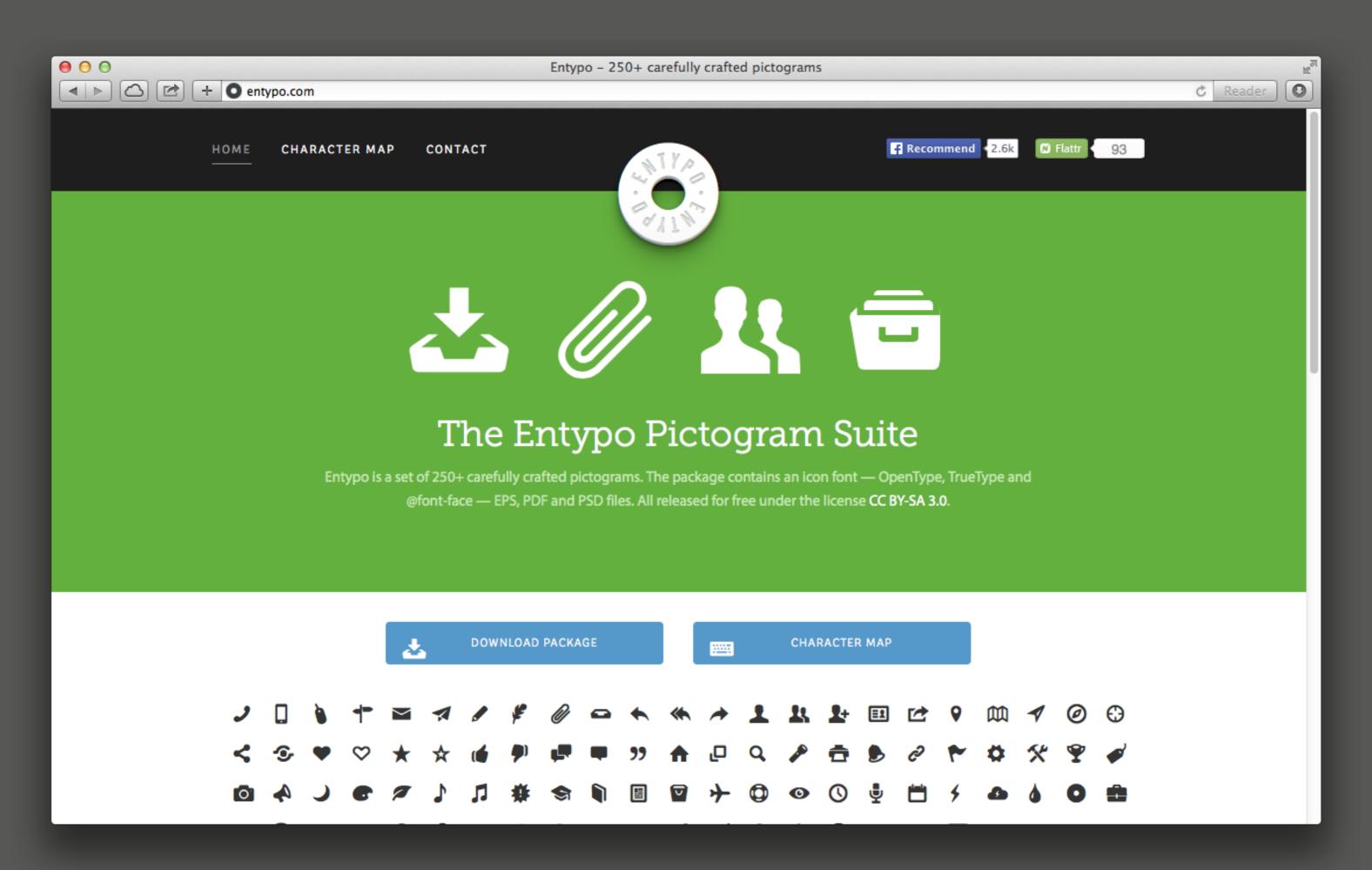


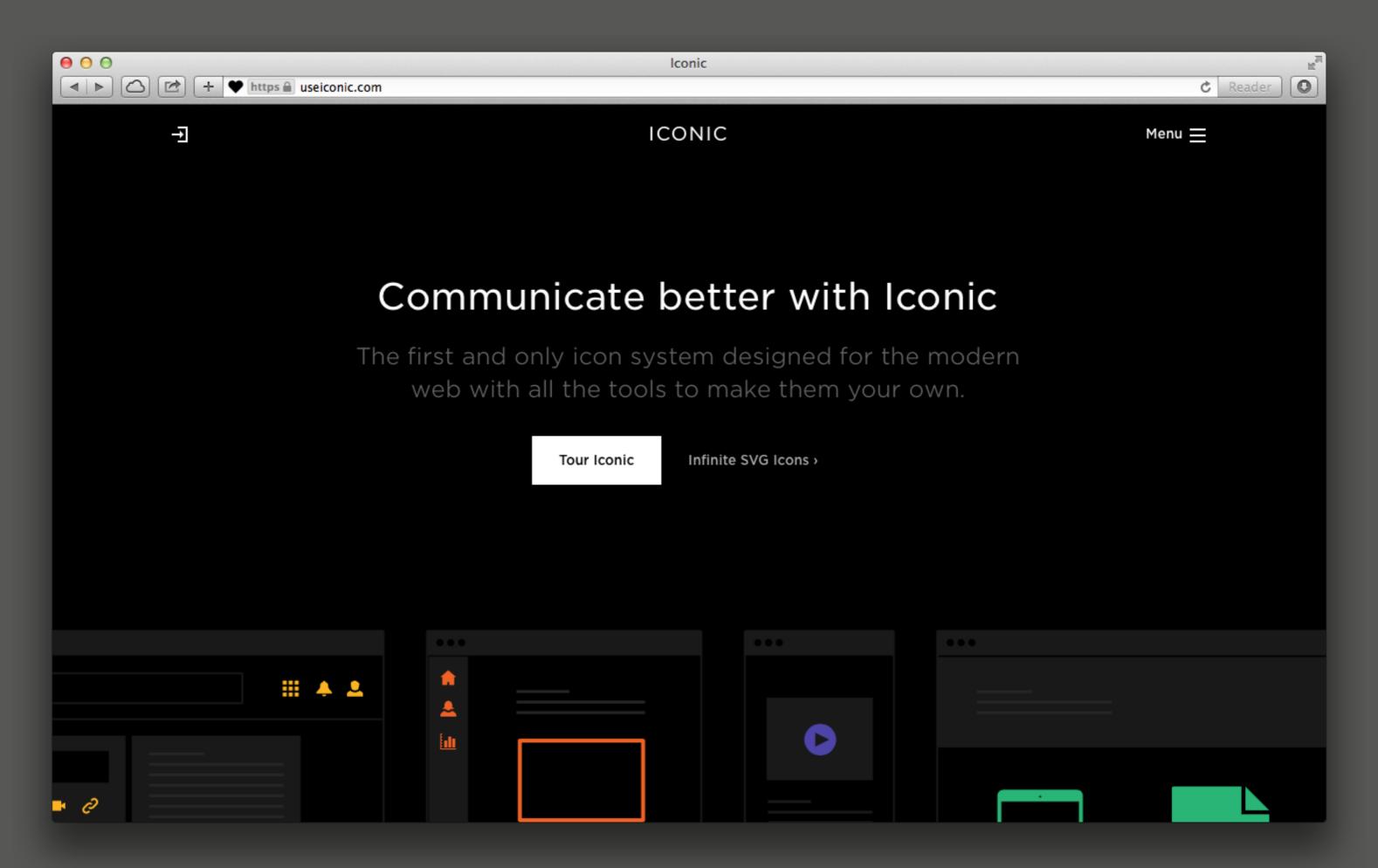
#### Powered by Adobe® Typekit®

Edge Web Fonts is powered by Typekit, a commercial web font service from Adobe, so you can be sure of high performance and stability. Plus, it's easy to switch to Typekit if you need customer support or want access to Typekit's library of commercial web fonts.



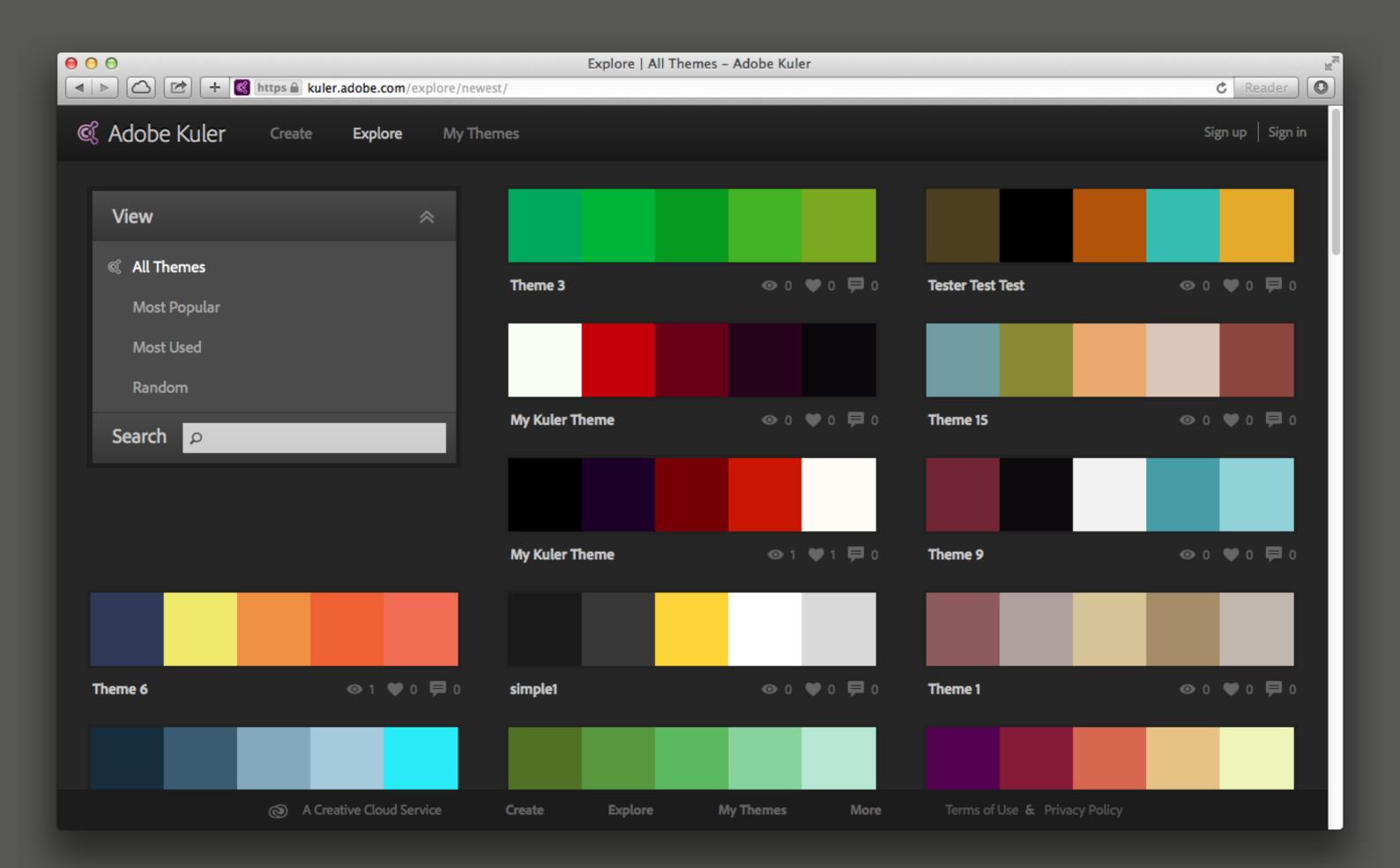
## Icons



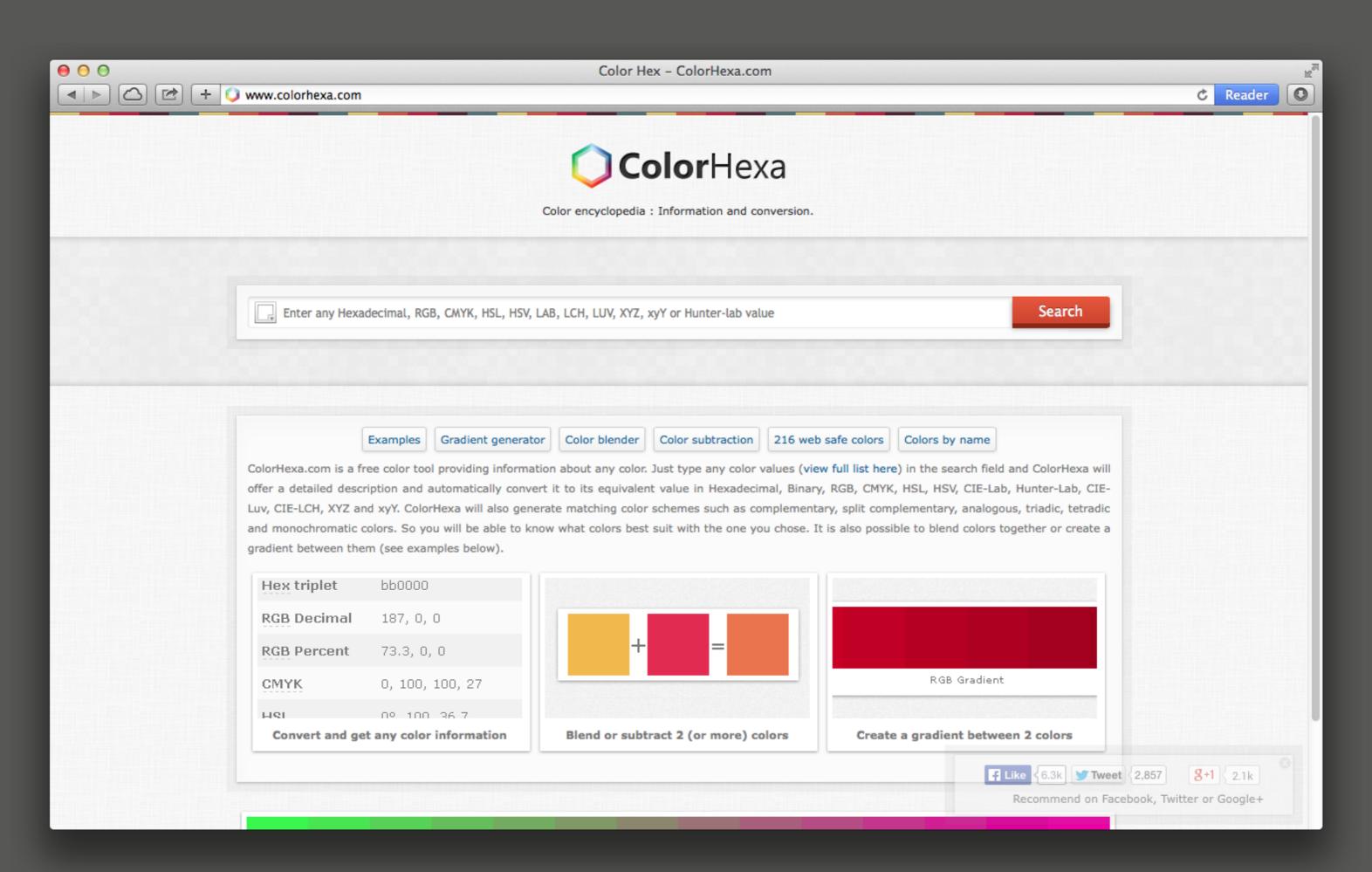


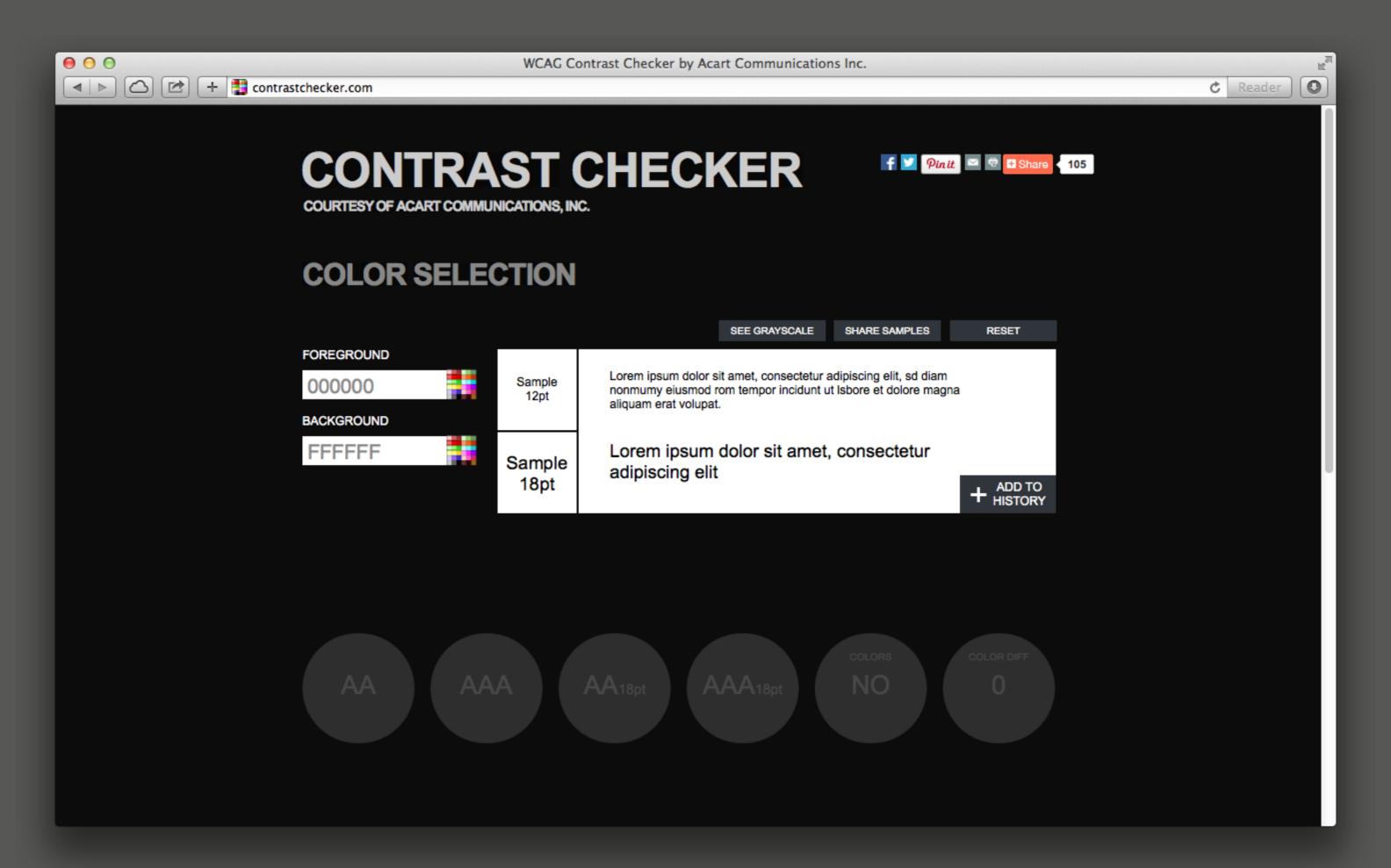
http://useiconic.com

## Colour

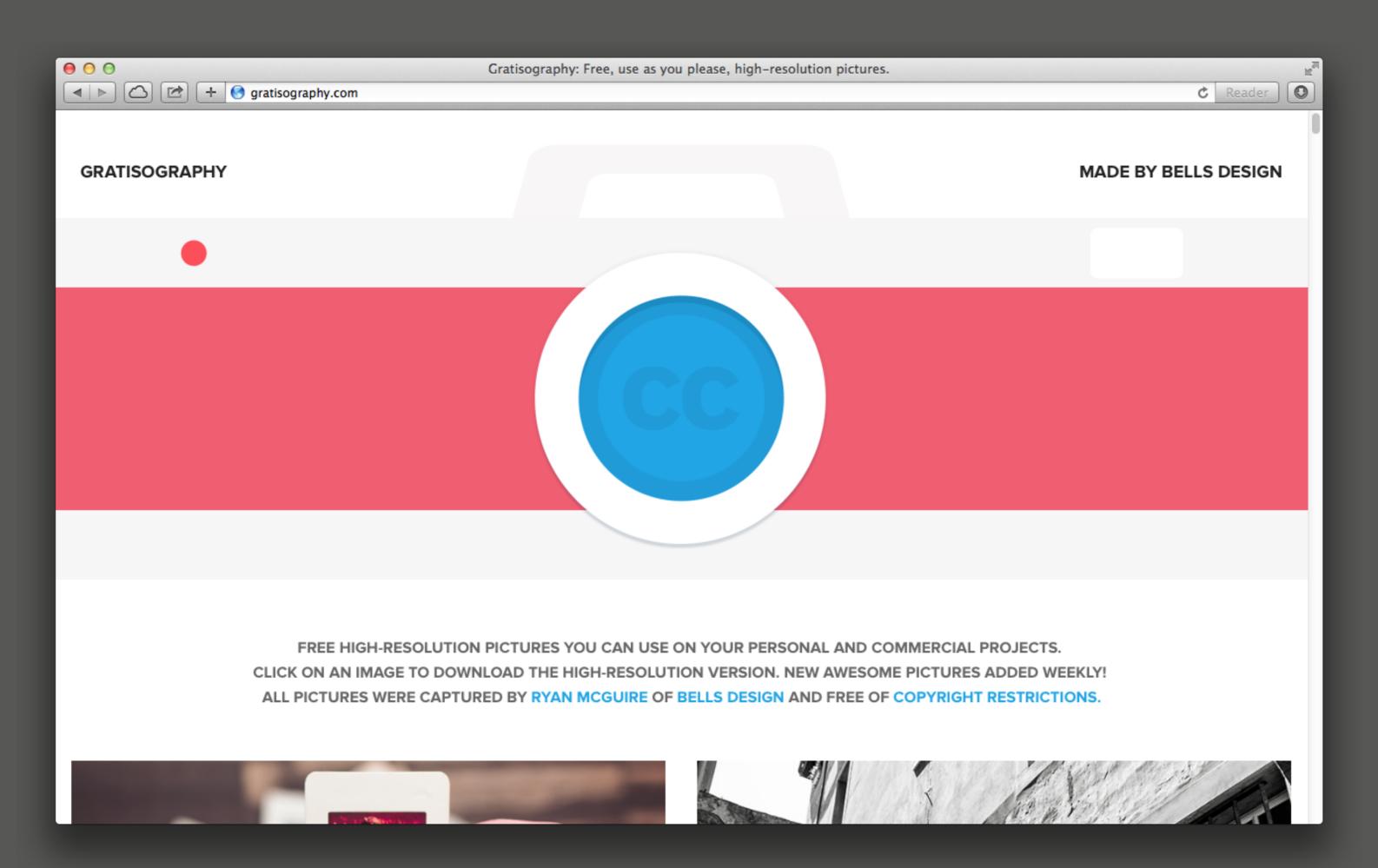


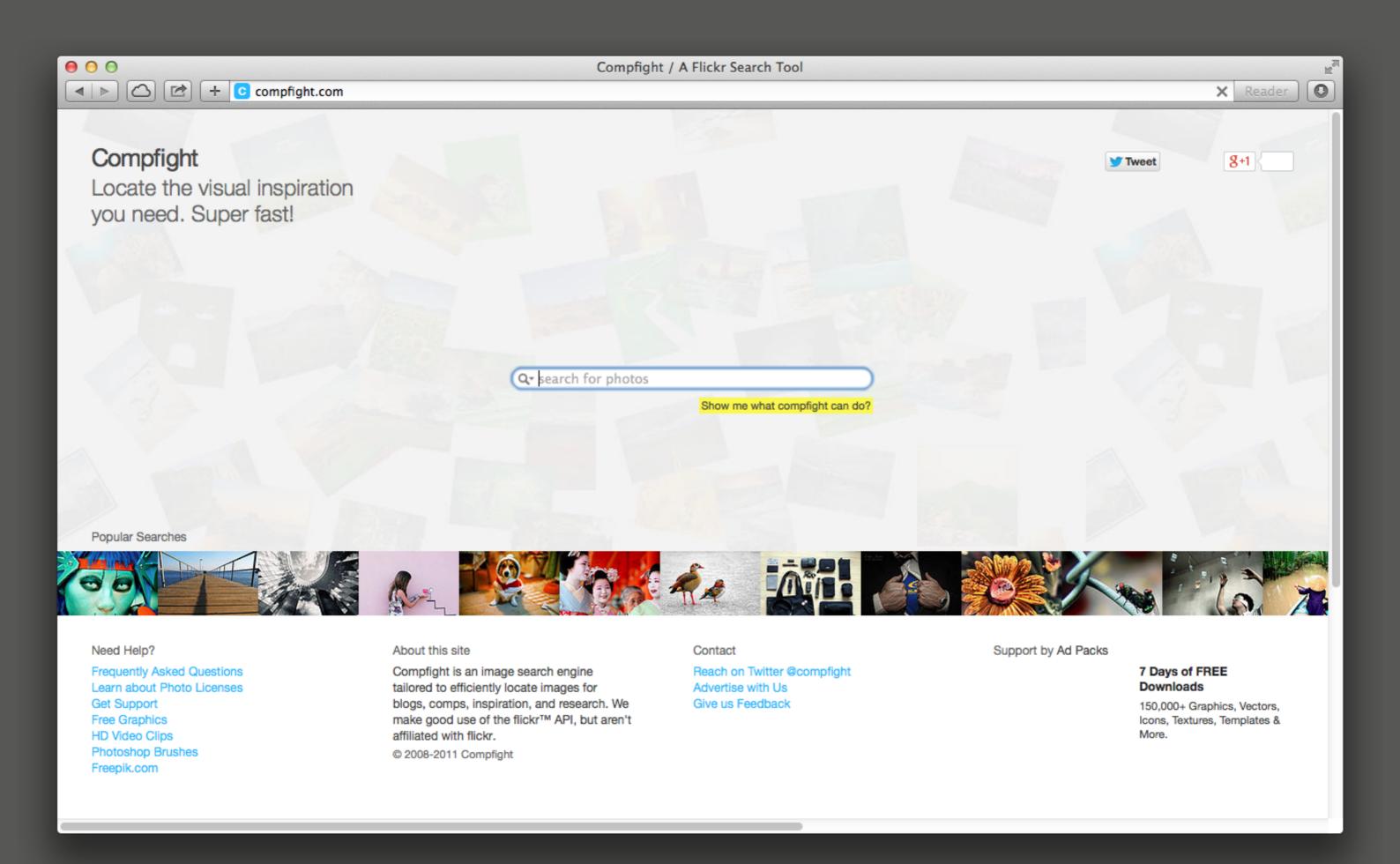
http://kuler.adobe.com



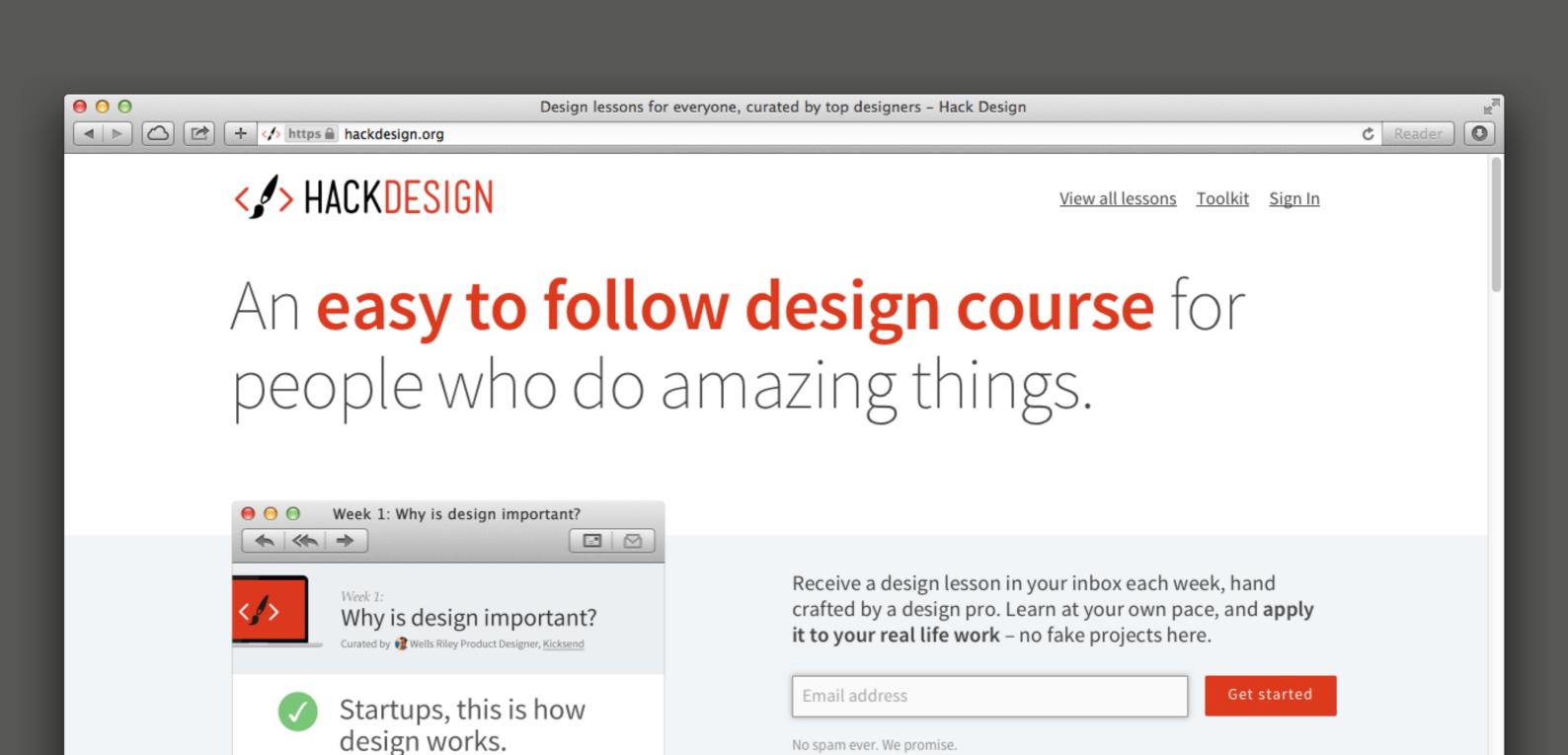


## Images





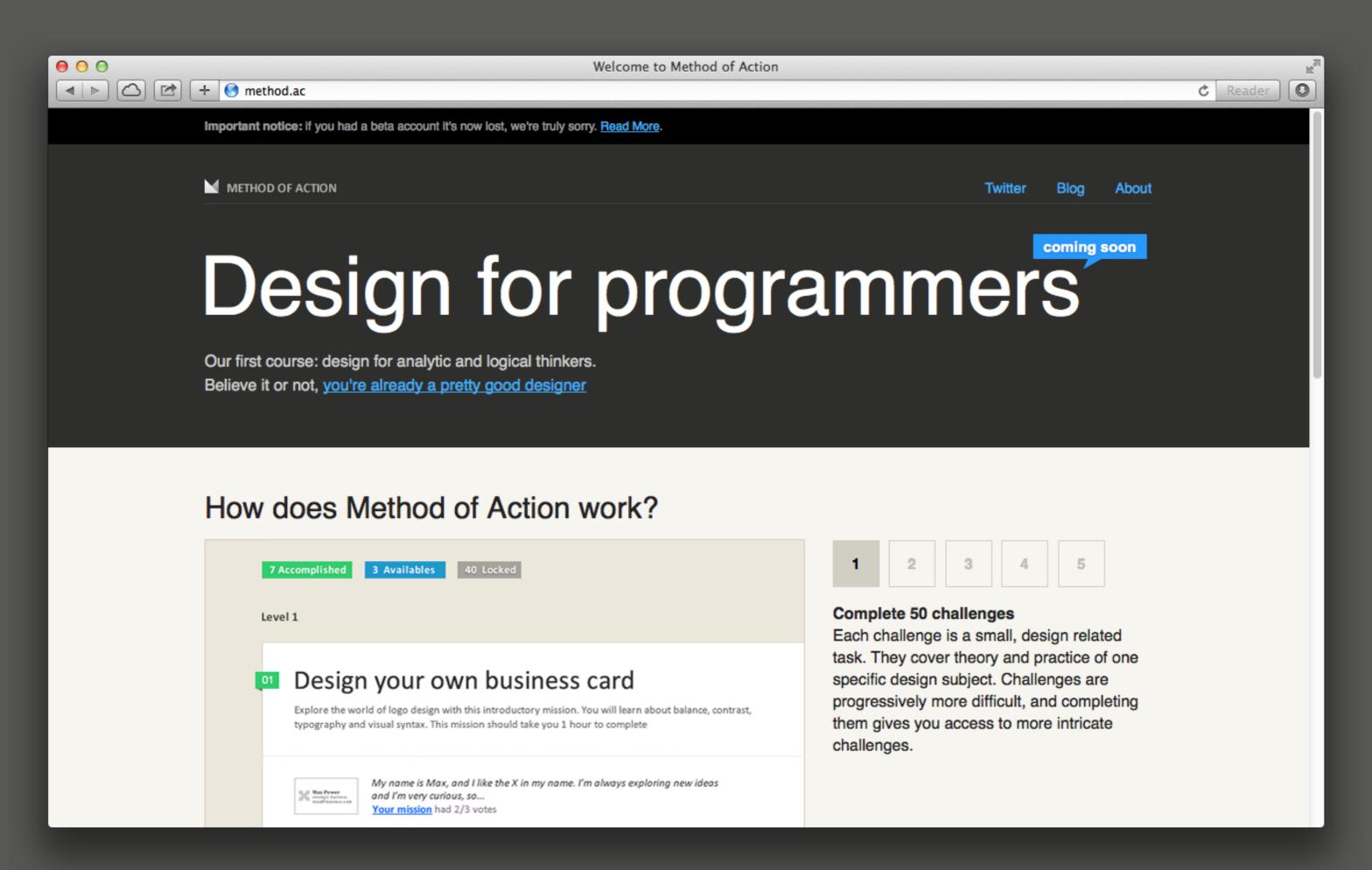
## **Design Courses**



**BLOG POST** 

The Kerning Game

No spam ever. We promise.



# Designing for Credibility Q&A

Mafalda Sequeira @msssequeira mafaldasequeira.pt

Tiago Machado
@playoutpt
tiagomachado.pt

# Designing for Credibility The end

Mafalda Sequeira

@msssequeira mafaldasequeira.pt Tiago Machado

@playoutpt
tiagomachado.pt