



# Web Applications using Fomantic UI

Donald Howard and Jonathan van Alteren  
ESUG 2019



# Pharo consortium portal

A clean, innovative, open-source, Smalltalk-inspired environment.

Pharo is a clean, innovative, open-source Smalltalk-inspired environment.

Pharo's goal is to deliver a clean, innovative, free open-source Smalltalk-inspired environment. By providing a stable and small core system, excellent dev tools, and maintained releases, Pharo is an attractive platform to build and deploy mission critical Smalltalk applications.

The license of Pharo is MIT with some original parts remaining under the Apache License. All contributors are required to sign our license agreement.

The consortium is for legal entities, if you are an individual that wants to support Pharo participate to the [Pharo association](#).

## Industrial members

 ENSTA Bretagne	 Ingenieurbüro Schmidt	 JPMorgan Chase	 Lifeware	 Lam Research Corporation	 INRIA	 ZWEIDENKER	
 feenk	 Thales	 Projector Software	 GemTalk Systems	 ESUG	<h1>Object Guild joined the Pharo Consortium this month!</h1>		
 knowroaming	 HRworks	 Yesplan	 Beta Nine				
 Object Guild	 Spesenfuchs	 Osoco	 Inspired.org	 Inceptive.be			 Ta Mère
 netstyle.ch GmbH	 High Octane SPRL	 Sensus					



OBJECT GUILD



# Object Guild

## Mission

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

We are committed to use technology and software to make the world a better place.

We do that by working for clients who are equally committed to social and environmental values.

Our focus is on creating **software that fits**, that seamlessly integrates with and enhances the complex system where it is used.



# Comparing modern popular UI frameworks

## Basis of comparison

- Popularity
- Active development
- Good documentation
- Level of specificity
- Appearance
- Ability to customize

## Numerous frameworks—top three for us

- Fomantic UI, Bootstrap, Material Design Lite

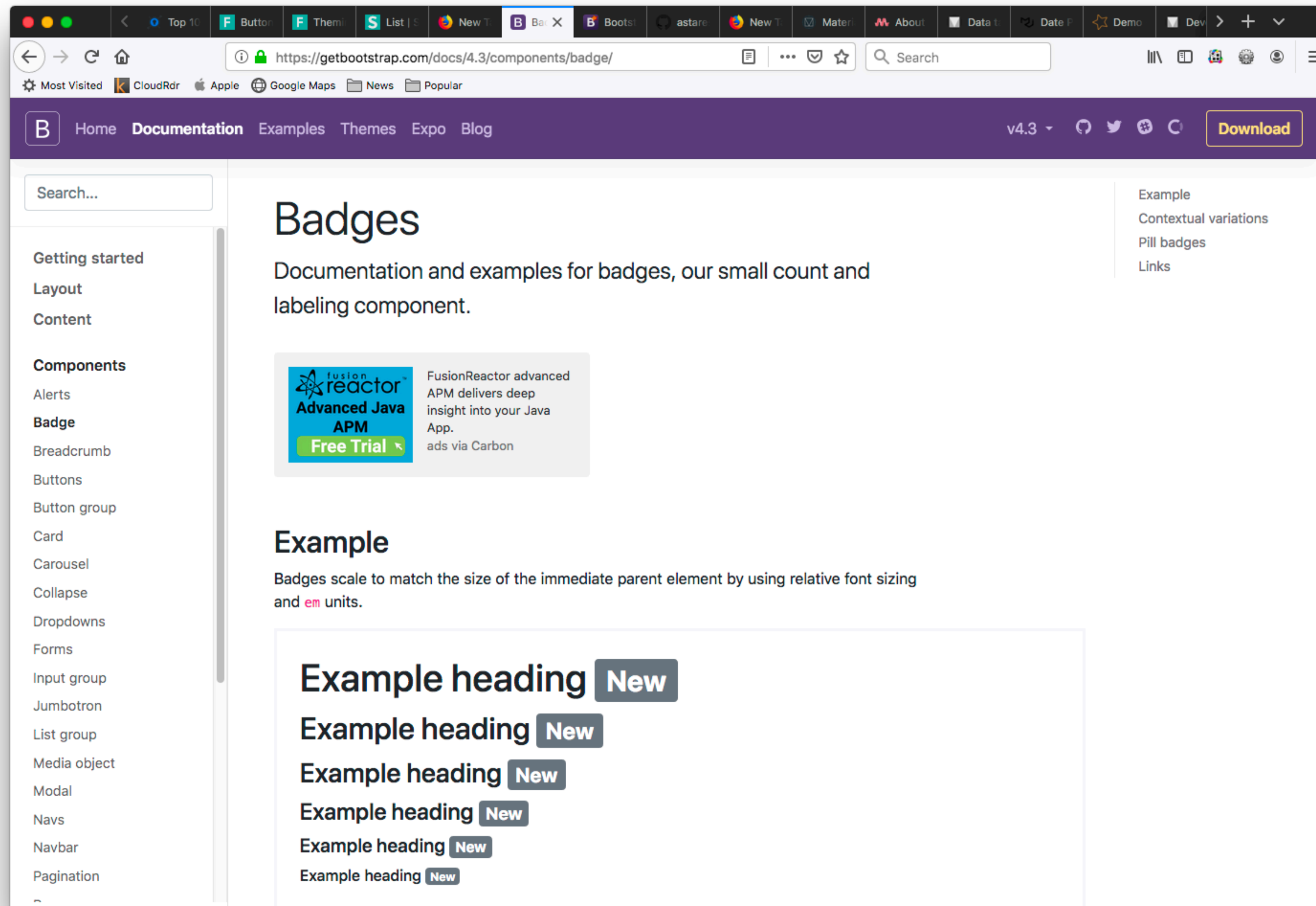
# Fomantic UI <https://fomantic-ui.com>

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Fomantic UI website. The browser's address bar shows the URL <https://fomantic-ui.com/modules/shape.html>. The page content includes a navigation sidebar on the left with categories like 'Modules' and 'Behaviors'. The main content area is titled 'Shape' and contains a definition: 'A shape is a three dimensional object including any flat content as a side.' Below this is an 'Example' section featuring a stylized profile card for 'Steve Jobs' with a description and social media-style information. At the bottom, there is a code snippet: 

```
<div class="ui people shape">
  <div class="sides">
    <div class="active side">
```

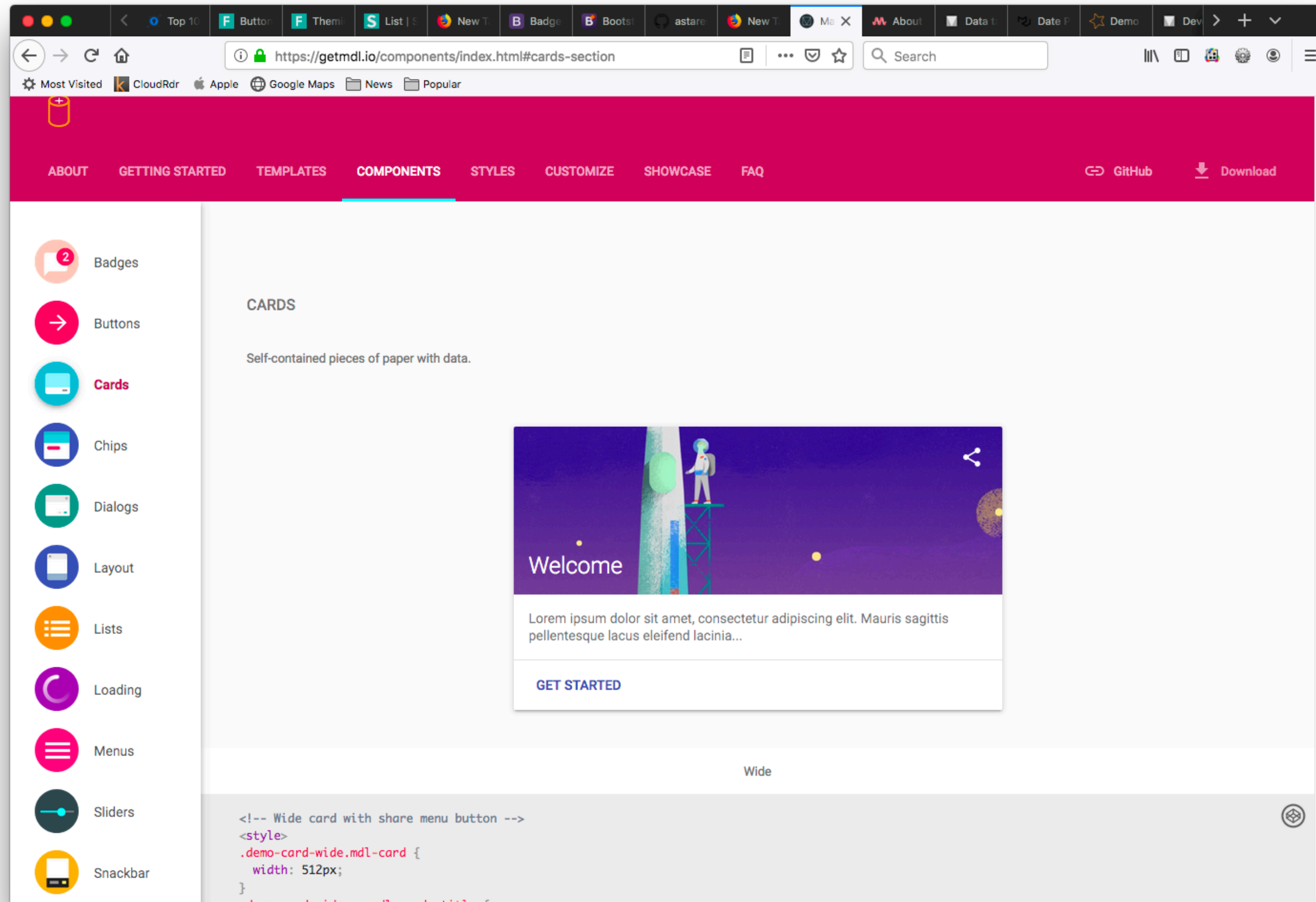
- Simple, intuitive, uses natural language
- Cutting edge style and appearance
- Active community support
- Fomantic UI is forked from Semantic UI
  - Continue active development
  - Intent to merge

# Bootstrap <https://getbootstrap.com>



- Large installed base
- Ongoing updates, new features and integrations
- Has Seaside implementation for Bootstrap v3 and v4
- <https://github.com/astares/Seaside-Bootstrap>

# Material Design Lite <https://getmdl.io>



- Weight of Google behind it
- Implements Google's material design guidelines
- Has Seaside implementation for MDL v1 and Material Components Web v2
- <https://github.com/DuneSt/MaterialDesignLite>
- <https://github.com/DuneSt/MaterialComponents>



# Why did we choose Fomantic UI?

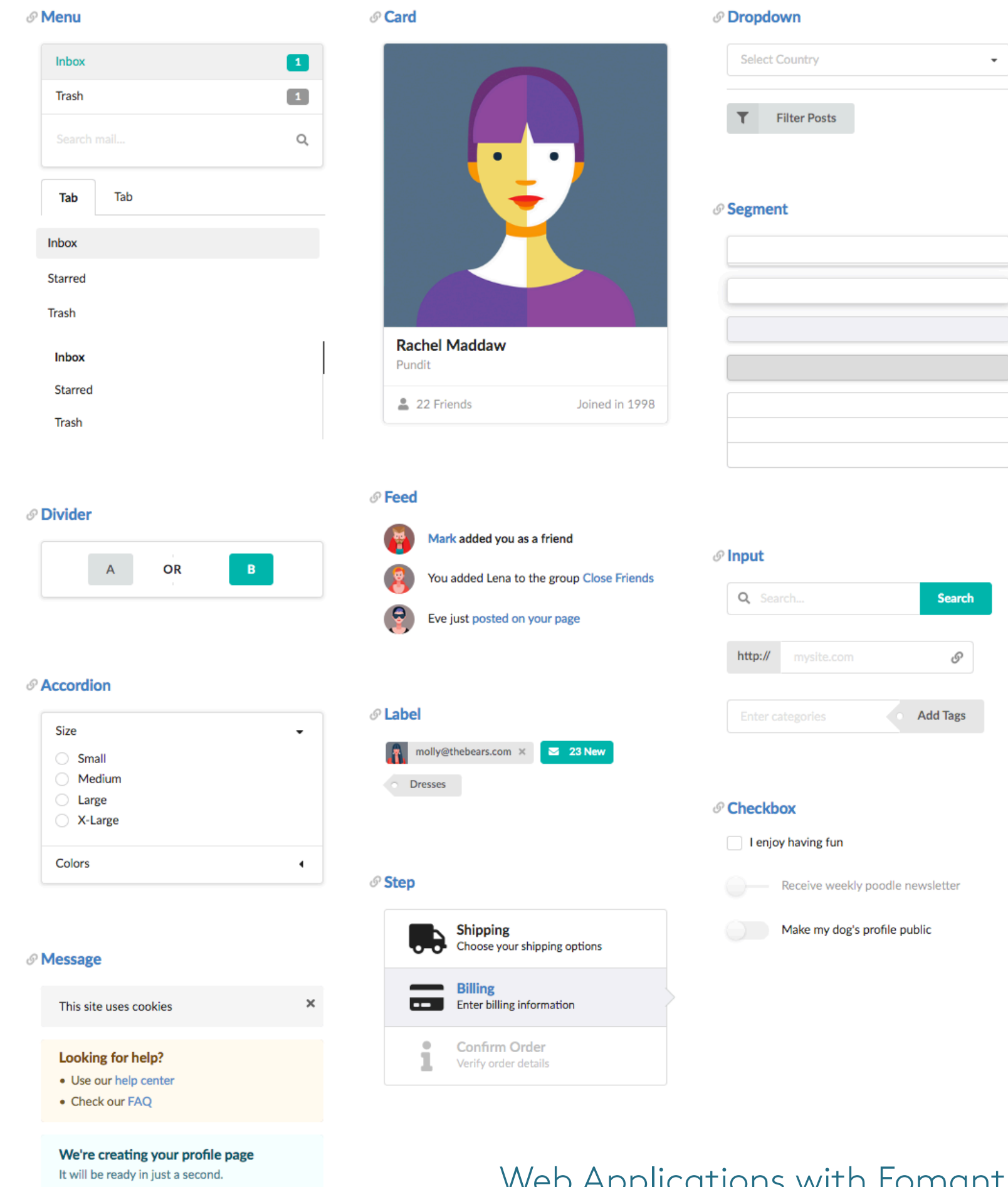
Quickly build business web applications.

Professional look and feel.



# Comprehensive set of 'Enterprise Ready' components

- Allows for rapid development of (forms-based) business applications.
- Flexible layout options with nested grids, lists and menus, etc.
- Advanced widgets out-of-the-box, for example Calendar and Dropdown.
- Good documentation, including lots of examples.
- Supports standard HTML elements, but also allows customization when needed.



# Semantics

CSS class names use natural language.

Context sensitive behavior of layout and styling.

Reduces cognitive load of developer.

Very powerful and easy to work with.

Trade off: initial learning curve, but...

productivity goes up quickly.

# Fomantic UI

Example

**First Name**

**Last Name**

I agree to the Terms and Conditions

Submit

```
<form class="ui form">
  <div class="field">
    <label>First Name</label>
    <input type="text" name="first-name" placeholder="First Name">
  </div>
  <div class="field">
    <label>Last Name</label>
    <input type="text" name="last-name" placeholder="Last Name">
  </div>
  <div class="field">
    <div class="ui checkbox">
      <input type="checkbox" tabindex="0" class="hidden">
      <label>I agree to the Terms and Conditions</label>
    </div>
  </div>
  <button class="ui button" type="submit">Submit</button>
</form>
```

# Bootstrap

Email address

We'll never share your email with anyone else.

Password

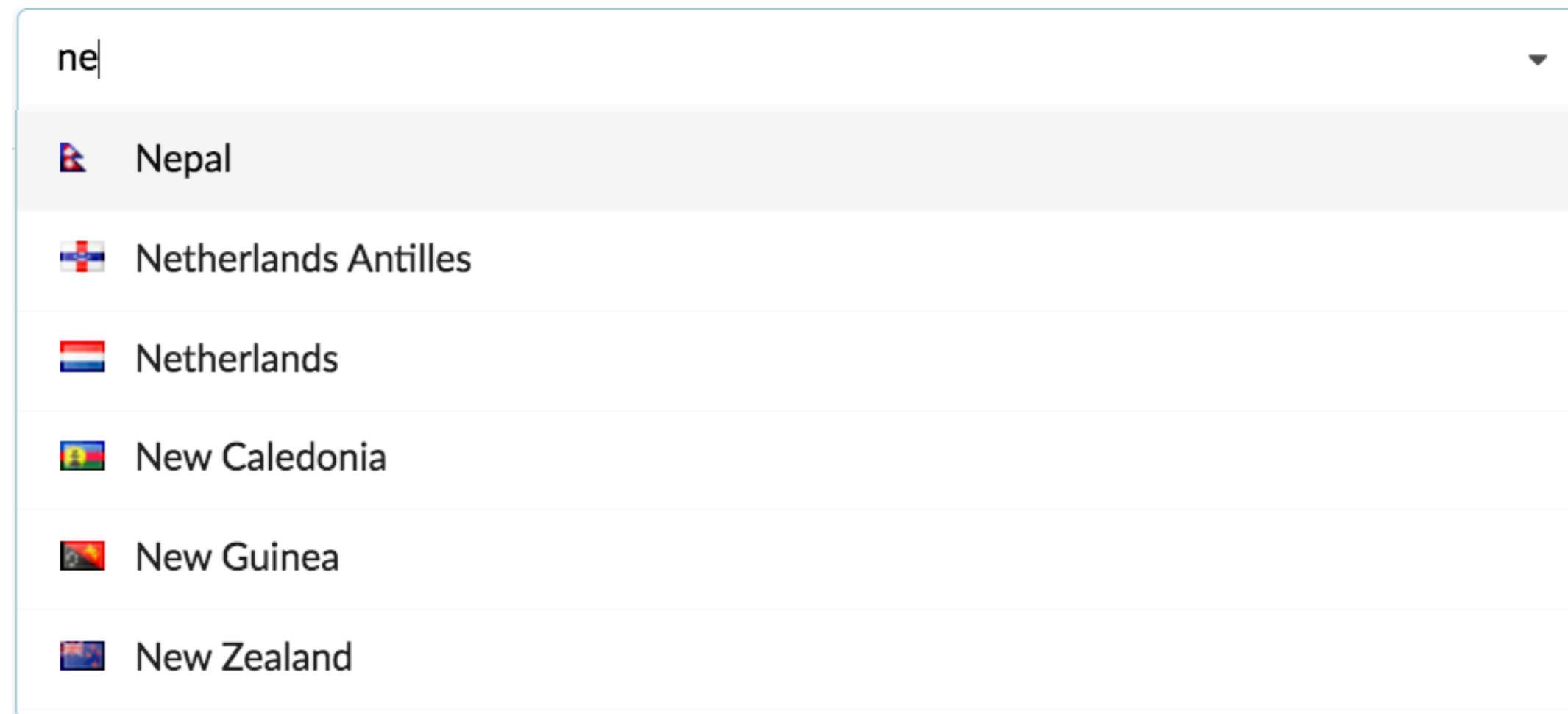
Check me out

Submit

```
<form>
  <div class="form-group">
    <label for="exampleInputEmail1">Email address</label>
    <input type="email" class="form-control" id="exampleInputEmail1" aria-describedby="emailHelp" class="form-text text-muted">We'll never share your email
  </div>
  <div class="form-group">
    <label for="exampleInputPassword1">Password</label>
    <input type="password" class="form-control" id="exampleInputPassword1" placeholder="Password" class="form-control">
  </div>
  <div class="form-group form-check">
    <input type="checkbox" class="form-check-input" id="exampleCheck1">
    <label class="form-check-label" for="exampleCheck1">Check me out</label>
  </div>
  <button type="submit" class="btn btn-primary">Submit</button>
</form>
```

# Fomantic UI

## Multiple Search Selection Dropdown

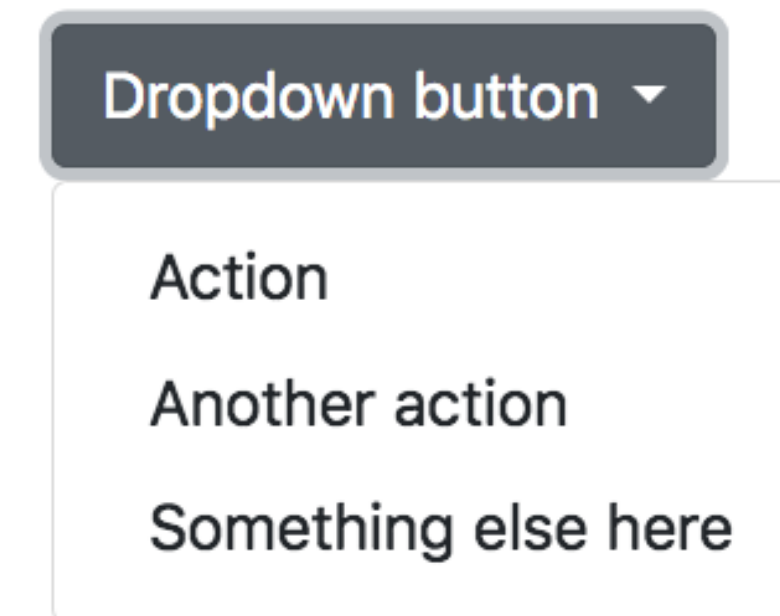


A screenshot of a search selection dropdown menu. The input field contains the text "ne" and a dropdown arrow. The dropdown menu is open, showing a list of countries with their respective flags. The first item, "Nepal", is highlighted. The other items are "Netherlands Antilles", "Netherlands", "New Caledonia", "New Guinea", and "New Zealand".

Country
Nepal
Netherlands Antilles
Netherlands
New Caledonia
New Guinea
New Zealand

# Bootstrap

## Single Button Dropdown



A screenshot of a single button dropdown menu. The button is labeled "Dropdown button" and has a dropdown arrow. The dropdown menu is open, showing a list of actions: "Action", "Another action", and "Something else here".

- Action
- Another action
- Something else here



# Our design principles

Wrap framework elements as necessary in less complicated, cleaner objects and methods

- Build incremental CSS class features with method calls
- Most are just very simple subclasses of WATagBrush that understand which CSS classes are relevant for that Fomantic UI element

Stay within Seaside

- Implications: Fomantic classes subclass WA and adopt Seaside API; will use WA brushes directly if no "wrapping" necessary



# Our design principles (continued)

## Stay within Fomantic

- Implications: Implement Fomantic's additions to HTML palette (via 'divs' of grids, containers, columns, etc.) using its vocabulary
- We're not creating higher order Seaside components to reduce verbosity. Instead, we stay close to the Fomantic UI elements and CSS class 'language'.
- No need to learn much on top of Fomantic UI language



Next up...

# Some hands-on examples



# Questions?

Please reach out to us to collaborate or exchange ideas.

## Object Guild is...

Don Howard - [dhoward@objectguild.com](mailto:dhoward@objectguild.com)

Jonathan van Alteren - [jvalteren@objectguild.com](mailto:jvalteren@objectguild.com)

Dave West - [dwest@objectguild.com](mailto:dwest@objectguild.com)