

# Lazy Loading Images

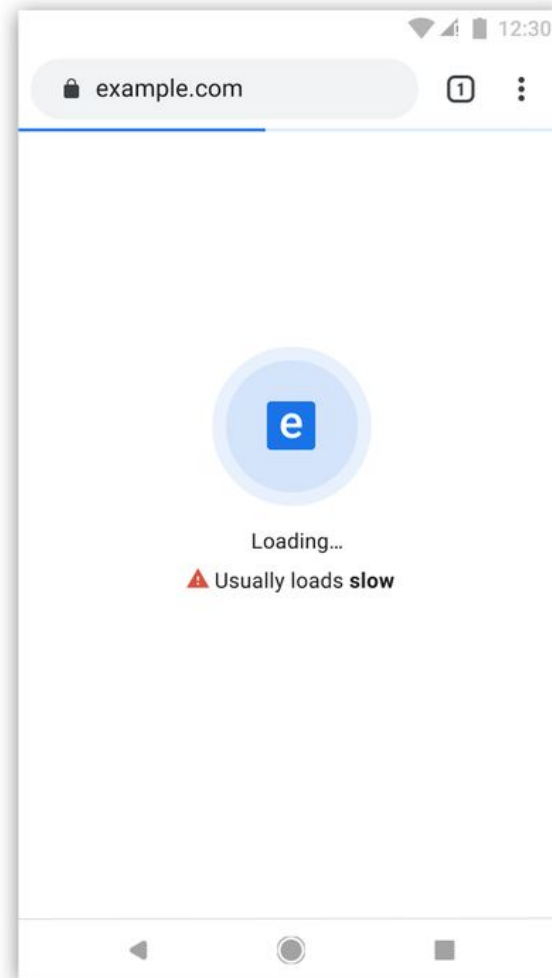
Donna Botti

@DonnaBotti

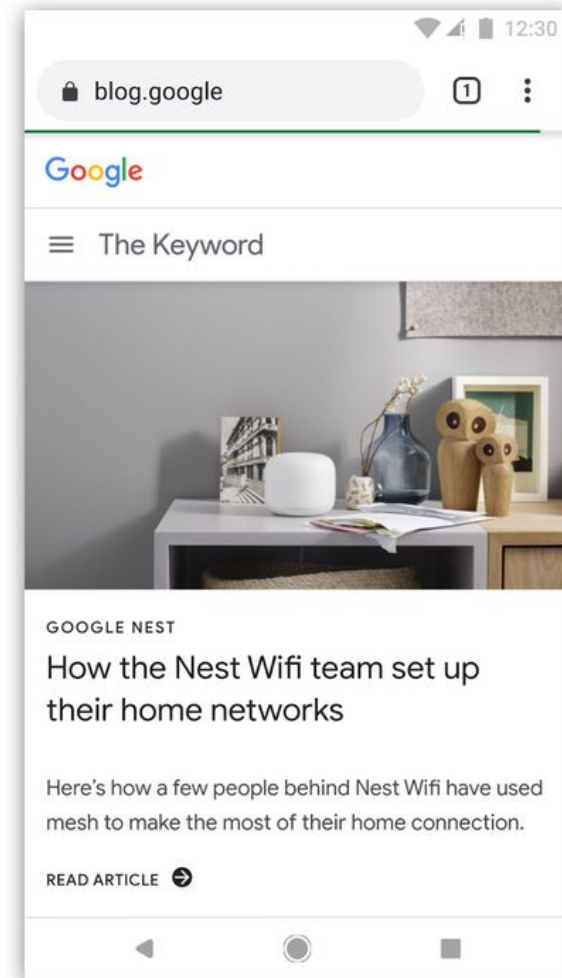
# What is it?

- “Lazy Loading” defers loading of non-critical resources at page load time. Instead, they are loaded at the moment of need.
- For images and video, this generally means to defer those items that are off-screen at time of page load.
- Improves page load time and perceived performance

# Why Should You Care?



Message on loading screen for slow sites



Green progress indicator for fast sites

## How is it done?

```

```

- Use JavaScript to check if element is in the viewport and if it is load the desired image.
- Markup the img html, add event listener for intersection observer, scroll, or resize that checks when the image is in view and subs the data-srcset image for the placeholder image

# How is it done?

```
.lazy-background {  
  background-image: url("hero-placeholder.jpg"); /* Placeholder image */  
}
```

```
.lazy-background.visible {  
  background-image: url("hero.jpg"); /* The final image */  
}
```

- Also can be used for CSS background images, video, gifs

# What's New – Browser Support

```
  
<iframe src="https://example.com" loading="lazy"></iframe>
```

- Starting with Chrome 76, native browser support for lazy loading if the loading attribute is used.
- Note: should include size attributes so browser reflow doesn't happen
- Mozilla is actively looking at adding this support too

# New Way – Browser Support

```
add_theme_support( 'genesis-lazy-load-images' );
```

- Genesis framework – 3.2.0 released November adds support for Chrome lazy loading of featured images

# Resources

- Google plans to give slow websites a new badge of shame in Chrome: <https://www.theverge.com/2019/11/11/20959865/google-chrome-slow-sites-badge-system-chrome-dev-summit-2019>
- Lazy Loading Images and Video: <https://developers.google.com/web/fundamentals/performance/lazy-loading-guidance/images-and-video>
- Native lazy-loading for the web: <https://web.dev/native-lazy-loading/>
- Lighthouse Offscreen Images: <https://developers.google.com/web/tools/lighthouse/audits/offscreen-images>
- Browser Support: <https://caniuse.com/#feat=loading-lazy-attr>
- Genesis Developer Docs: <https://studiopress.github.io/genesis/changelog/>