

ClipPath & Mask Syntax Reference

Masking & Clipping in SVG: Complete Guide

About This Document

This reference accompanies the article: Masking & Clipping in SVG: Complete Guide

Read the full article at: <https://svgeneration.com/docs/masking-clipping-svg>

Article Summary

Use clipPath and mask elements to create complex shaped patterns, reveal effects, and dynamic compositions.

clipPath vs mask: The Key Difference

Both hide and reveal SVG content but through different mechanisms. <clipPath> uses geometry: everything inside the clip shape is shown, everything outside is hidden. Binary fully visible or fully hidden. <mask> uses luminance or alpha channel values: white areas reveal, black areas hide, greys create partial transparency. Masks support soft edges and gradual transitions; clip paths do not.

Creating Shaped Pattern Reveals

Clip a repeating SVG pattern to any arbitrary shape using clip-path. Define the clip shape (circle, polygon, or path) in a <clipPath> element, then apply it to a rectangle filled with your pattern: <rect fill="url(#pattern)" clip-path="url(#myClip)"/>.

This creates a pattern that only appears inside the clip shape powerful for text fill, icon fill, and geometric compositions.

Code example: ...

Free Resources

Visit SVGeneration.com for 600 free SVG background patterns. No attribution required.

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