



# *constructing Panels*

*Where do panels come from?*

## Where do panels come from?

Panels started as replacement for Notification Bars.

Panels have since been extended into different forms and for different use cases. This has opened up new interface possibilities but also created *inconsistencies* and *inefficiencies* on top of the an incomplete foundation.

We would like to get to a point where panels are more predictable, *coherent* and *polished*.

*What types of panels do we currently have?*

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- 1 Prompt / Notification — e.g. Password
- 2 List / Menu — e.g. History
- 3 Full Featured UI — e.g. Hello!
- 4 Combinations of the above — e.g. Device Permissions

# 1 *Prompt / Notification*

# Prompt / Notification | Overview

## *Benefits over Notification Bars:*

- Contextual — points to an anchor
- Allows for richer UI
- Compact and Contained — doesn't require full width window

## *Negatives compared to Notification Bars:*

- Overlay content, more intrusive — pushes user action

## *Serious (but fixable) Problems:*

- Transient — easy to dismiss/miss/ignore
- Hard to get back to — many icons are not persistent

Prompt / Notification

| *Current List of Notifications*

*Persistent\**:


- Password
- Geolocation
- Plugins (CtP)
- Web Notifications
- Blocked Content
- WebRTC
- Pointer Lock

*\*Should be persistent*


*Transient:*

- Add-on Install
- Web App Install
- Plugin Install
- Service Install

# Prompt / Notification | Current Panels

 Would you like to remember the password for "Stephen" on thiswebsite.com?


Remember Password ▾

 Do you want to install "App!" from this site (marketplace.firefox.com)?

Install ▾


"Adobe Flash" is enabled on github.com  
[Learn More...](#)

Block Plugin Continue Allowing

 Would you like to share your location with thiswebsite.com?

[Learn more...](#)

Share Location ▾

 Extension will be installed after you restart Nightly.


Restart Now ▾

 Would you like to share your camera and microphone with thiswebsite.com?

Camera to share:  
HD Pro Webcam C920 ▾


Microphone to share:  
default (Built-in Microphone) ▾

Share Selected Devices ▾


 Would you like to enable services from thiswebsite.com to display in your Firefox toolbar and sidebar?

[Learn more...](#)

Enable Services ▾


 Would you like to show notifications from mail.google.com?

Show for this session ▾

 Would you like to allow the pointer to be hidden on thiswebsite?

Press ESC at any time to show it again.

Hide Pointer ▾

 Nightly has blocked content that isn't secure.

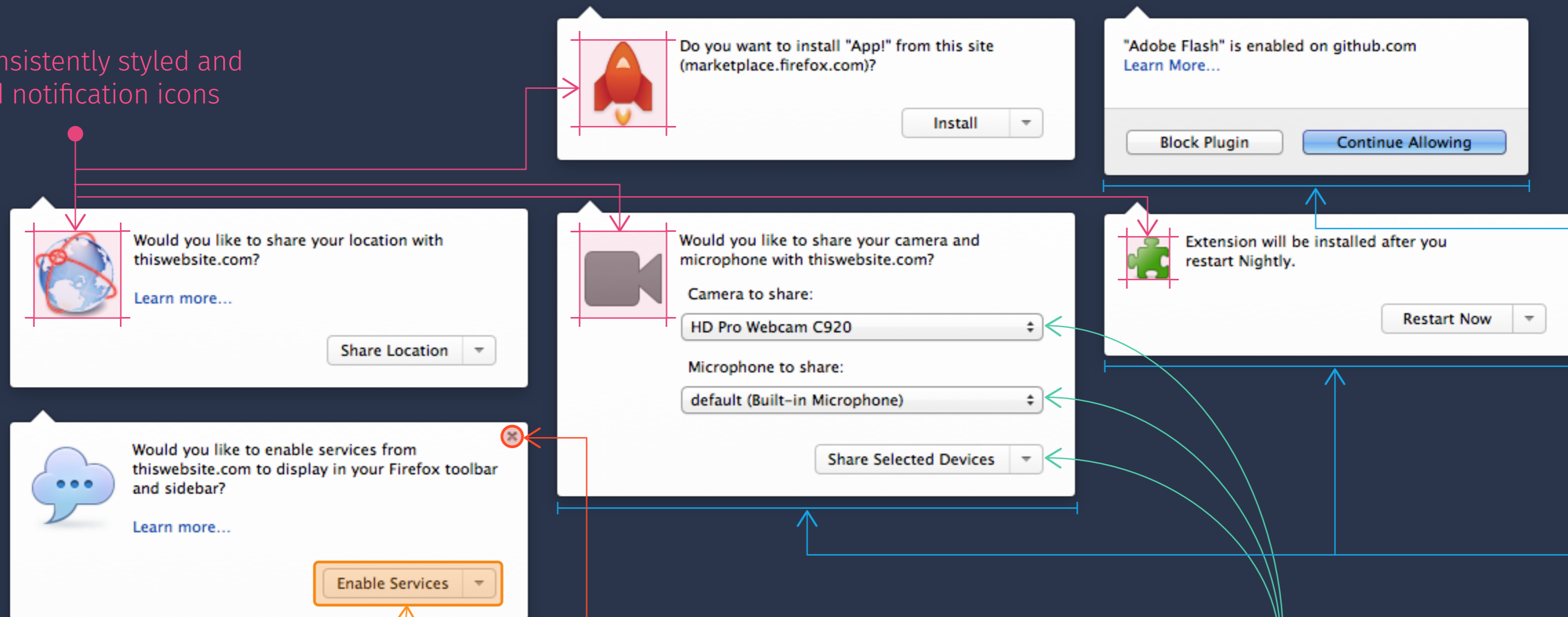
Most websites will still work properly even when this content is blocked.

[Learn more...](#)

Keep Blocking ▾

# Prompt / Notification | *Inconsistencies & Problems*

Inconsistently styled and sized notification icons




Too many options, hidden options

Redundant and inconsistent close buttons

Inconsistent native and non-native UI elements


Inconsistent widths

# Prompt / Notification | Improvements

 chromaticpixel.com

Would you like to remember the password for this site?

Never Remember Remember Password

 Extension will be installed after you restart Nightly.

Restart Later Restart Now


chromaticpixel.com

This site would like to access:

Camera  
HD Pro Webcam C920

Audio  
default (Built-in Microphone)


Share Selected Devices

 chromaticpixel.com

Would you like to share your location with this site?

[Learn more...](#)

Don't Share Share Location

 chromaticpixel.com

Do you want to install "App!" from this site?

Don't Install Install

chromaticpixel.com

This site would like to access:


Don't share any windows

Share Selected Devices

This site is currently using these devices:


Facetime HD Camera Mute

Built-in Microphone Mute

 chromaticpixel.com

Would you like to show notifications from this site?

Block Notifications Allow Notifications

 chromaticpixel.com

Would you like to allow services from this site to display in your Firefox toolbar and sidebar?

[Learn more...](#)


Don't Install Install

chromaticpixel.com

This site is currently using these plugins:

"Adobe Flash" Block

[Learn more...](#)

 chromaticpixel.com

Would you like to allow the pointer to be hidden this site?

Press ESC at any time to show it again.

Don't Hide Hide Pointer

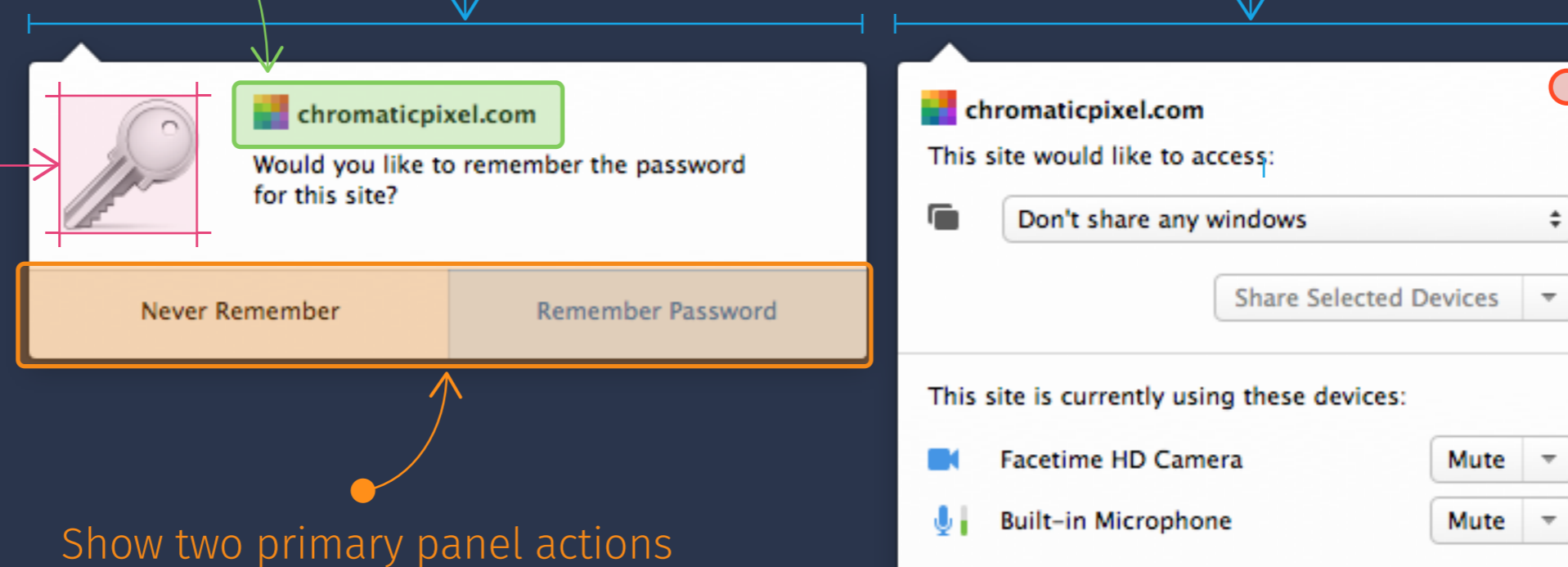
# Prompt / Notification | Improvements

Pull the site identity from the message copy to make it clear which site you are granting permissions

Establish a set of consistent default panel widths

Fix Icon style and size

Remove close buttons



Show two primary panel actions for most cases and highlight the default/preferred action

Update all UI elements to a custom appearance

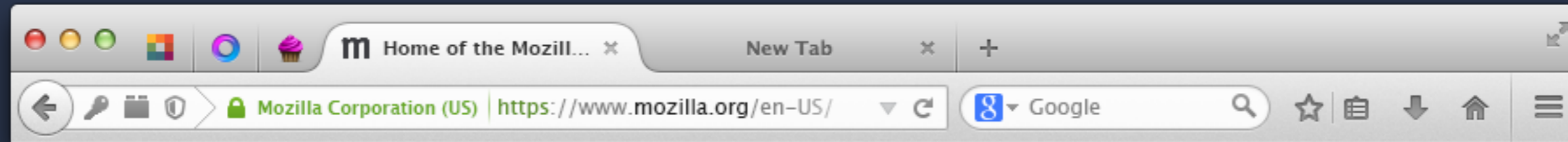
## *Prompt / Notification* | *Stickyness*

Notification icons currently disappear\* after you choose an action. It isn't clear how to get them back or where to go if you made a mistake or changed your mind. One solution would be to persist the indicators. This does have some drawbacks...

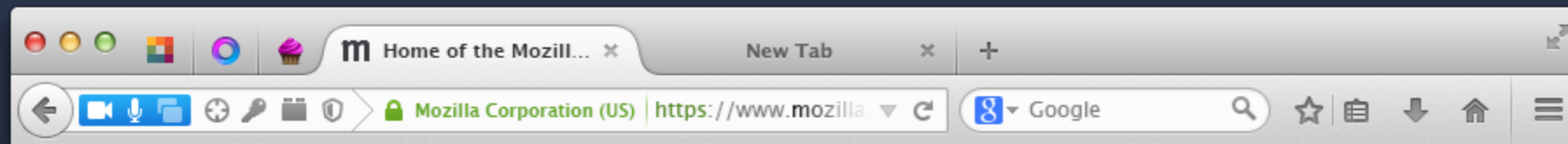
\*Most of them — exceptions being Click-to-Play and Blocked Content

# Prompt / Notification | Stickyness

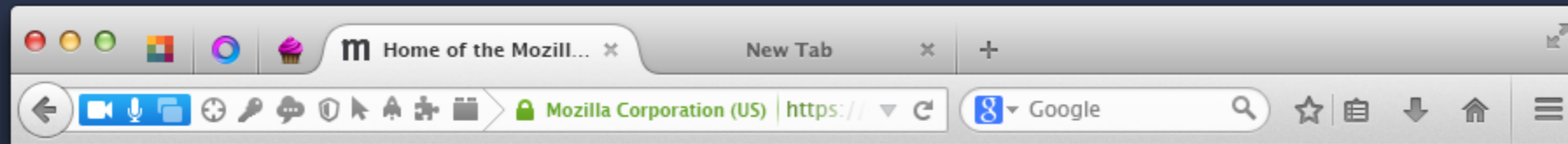
Common case:  
- Three-ish icons



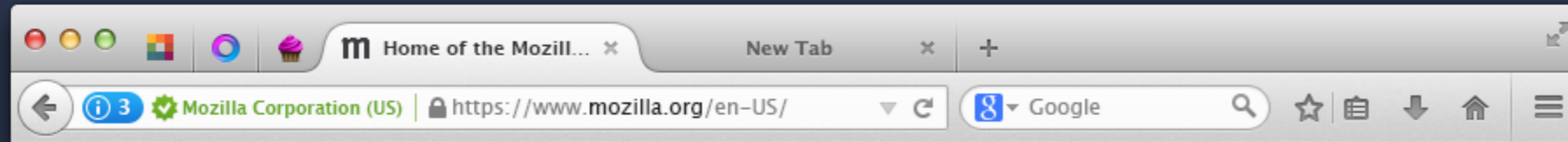
Believable case:  
- Device Permissions  
- Geolocation  
- Plugin  
- Content Protection



Worst case:  
- All the permissions!



# Prompt / Notification | *Stickyness*



Out of scope for this bug, another option would be to explore a redesign of the site identity UI to contain all the passive permissions.

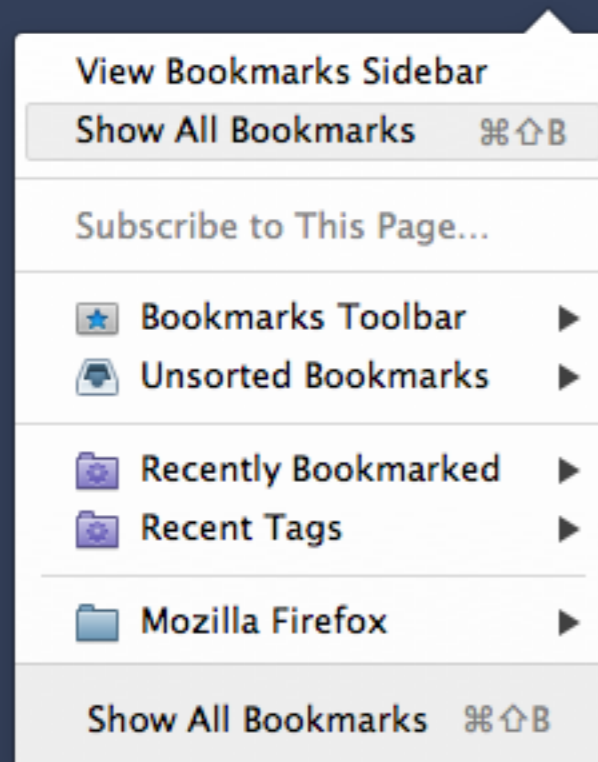
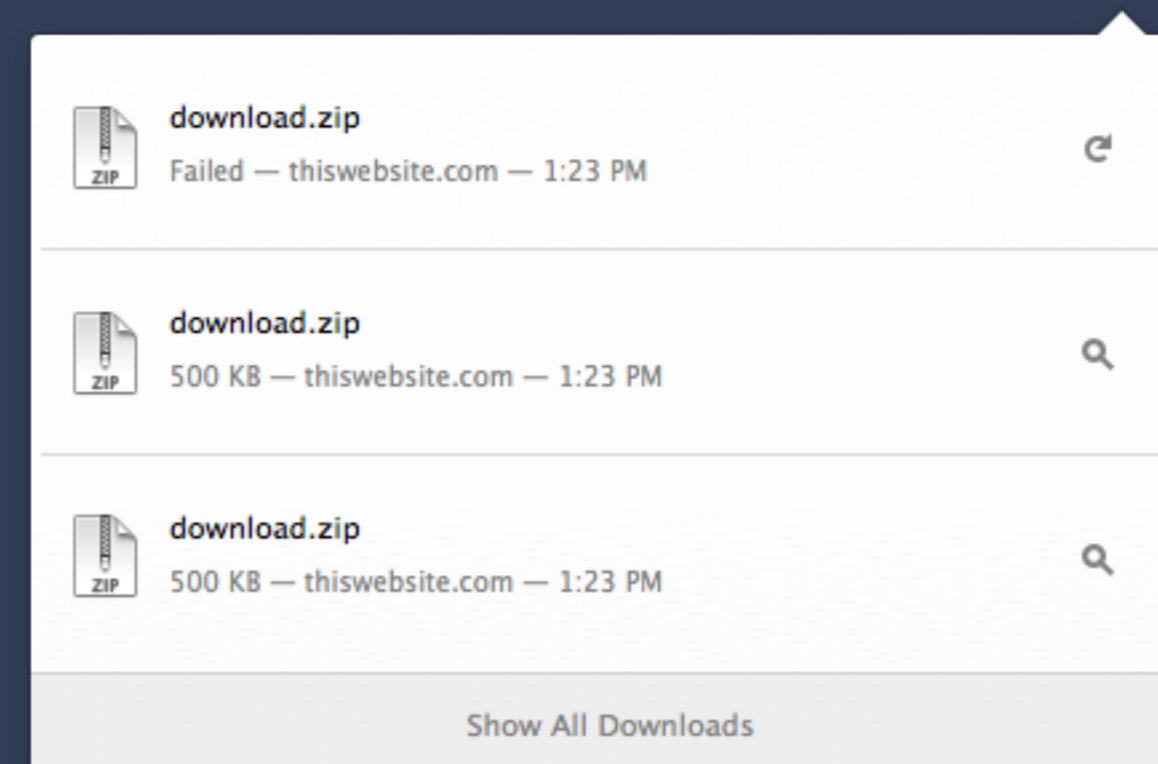
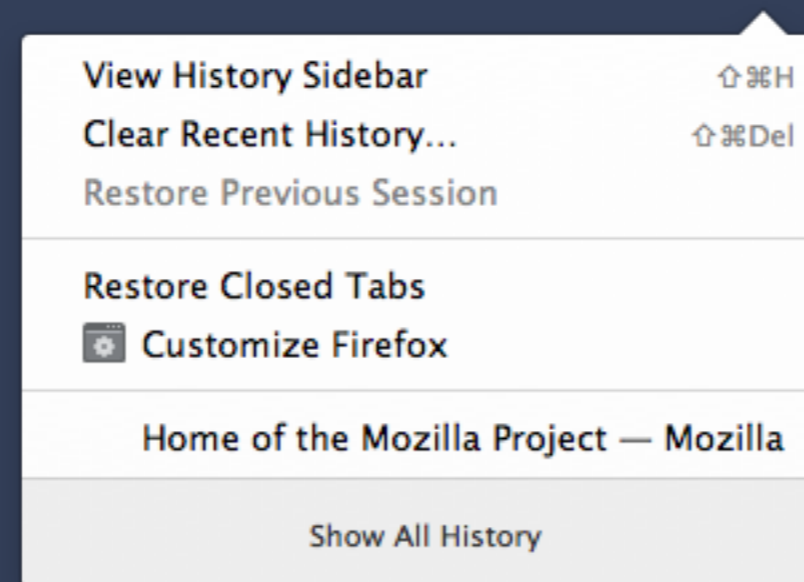
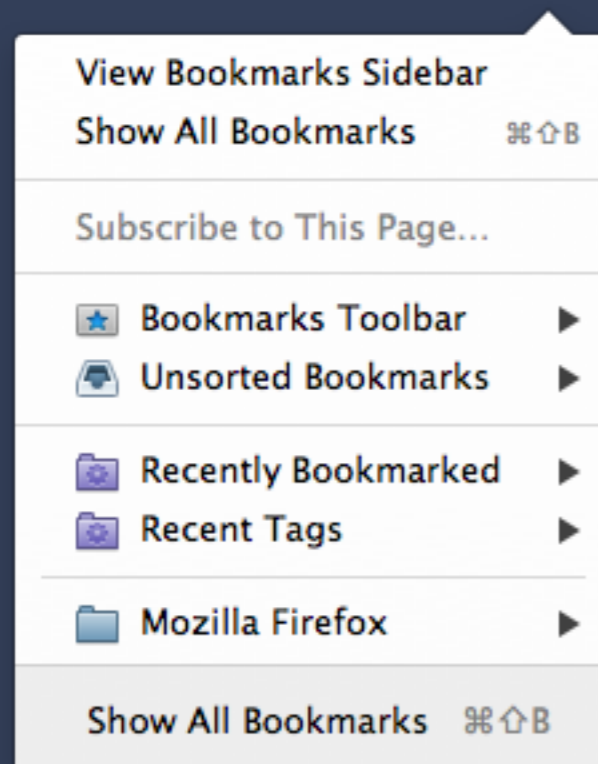
## 2 *List / Menu*

List panels are much like traditional menus, with the significant differences being more *versatility* and *options for enhanced list items*.

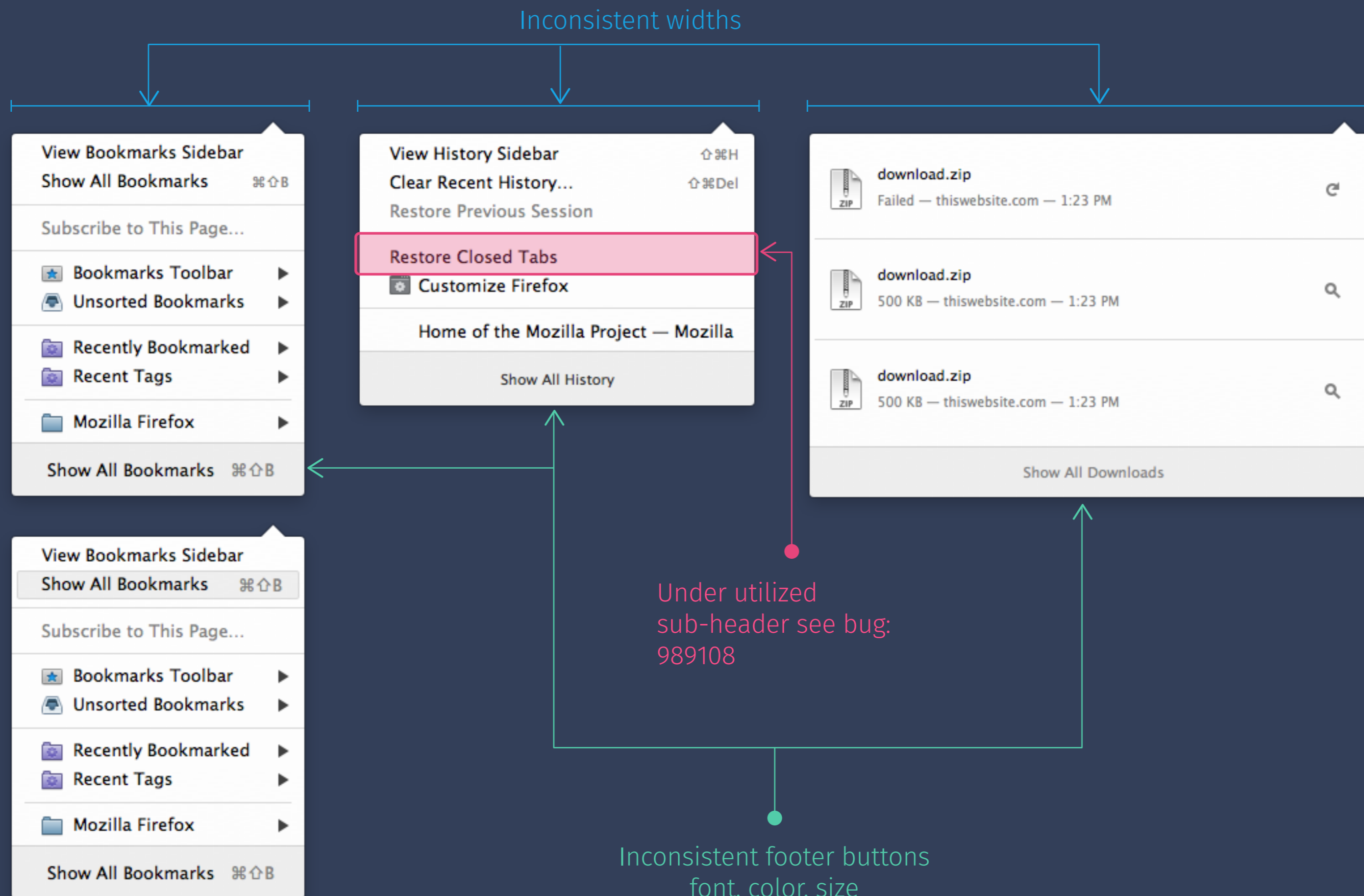
*Examples:*

- History
- Bookmarks
- Downloads
- Developer
- Character Encoding

# List / Menu | Example Panels



# List / Menu | Inconsistencies & Problems



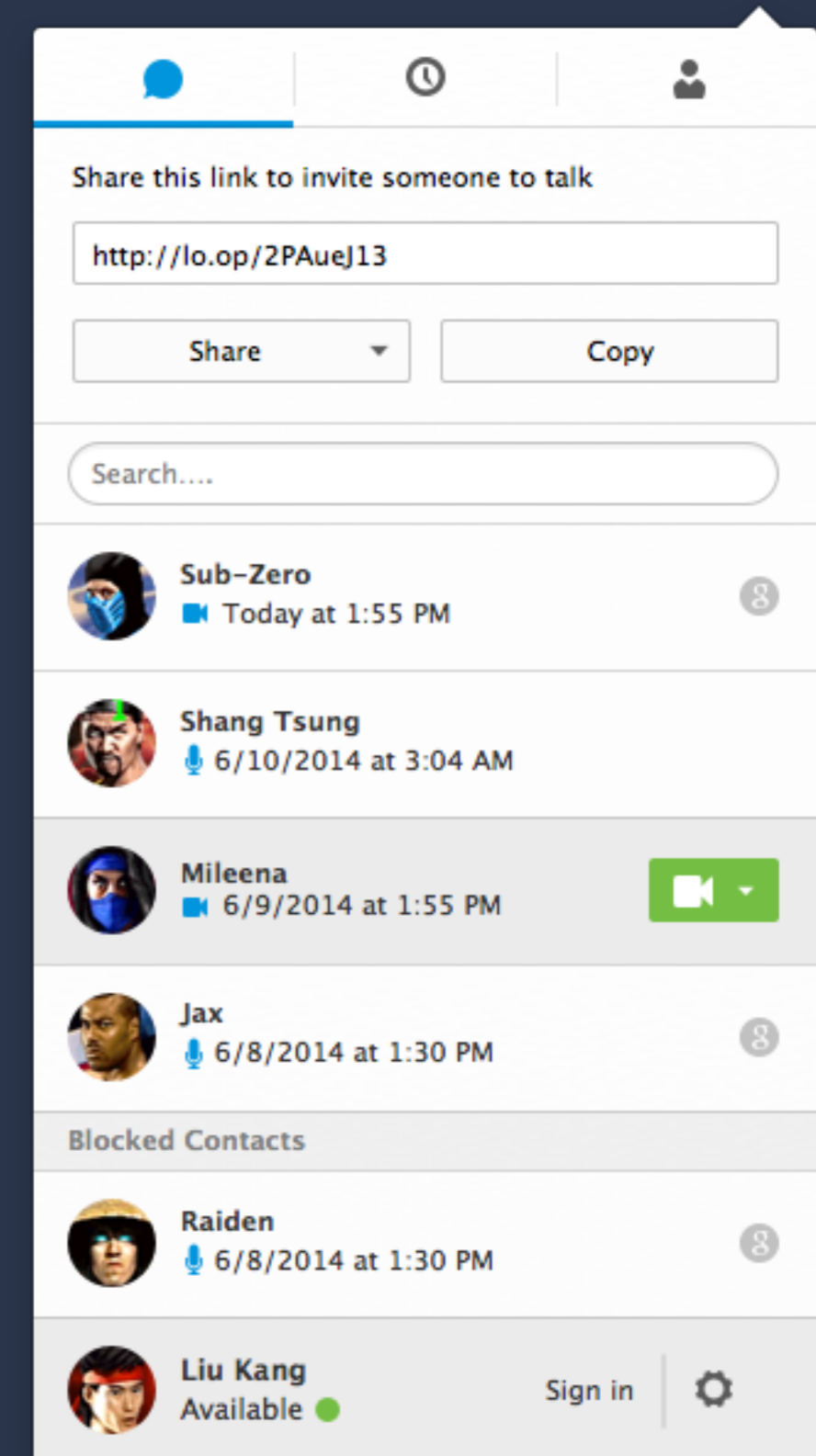
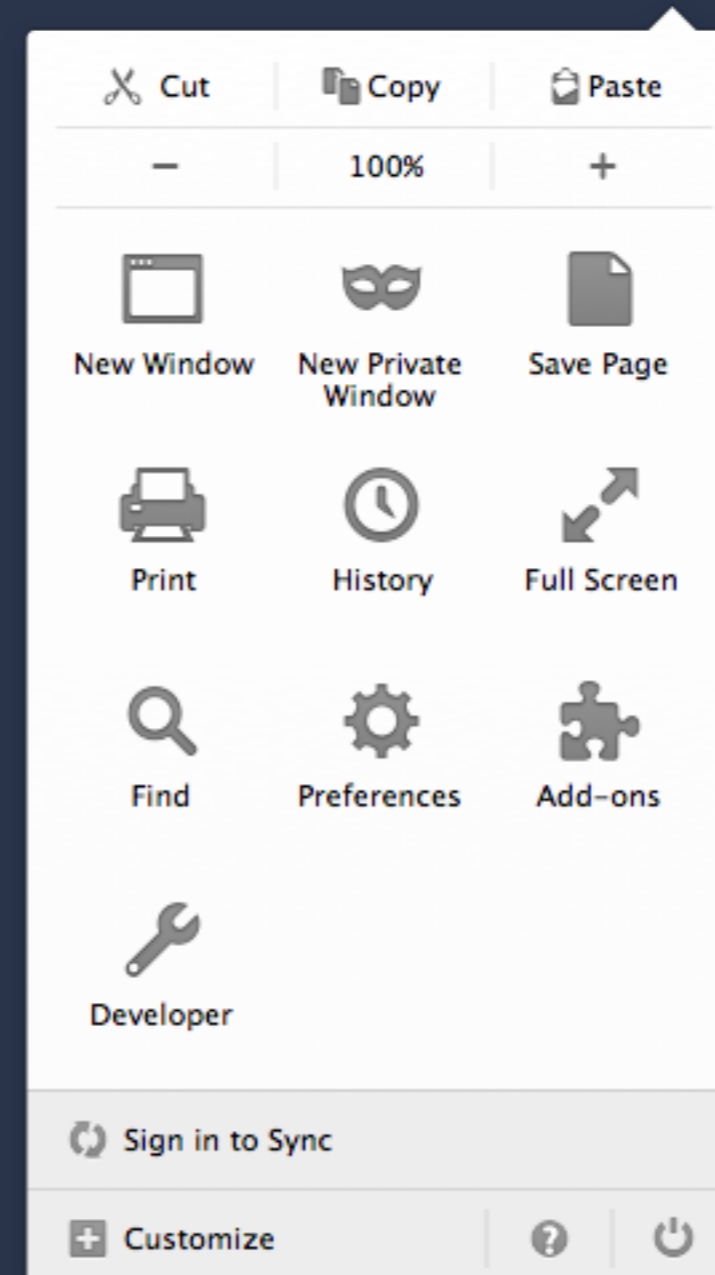
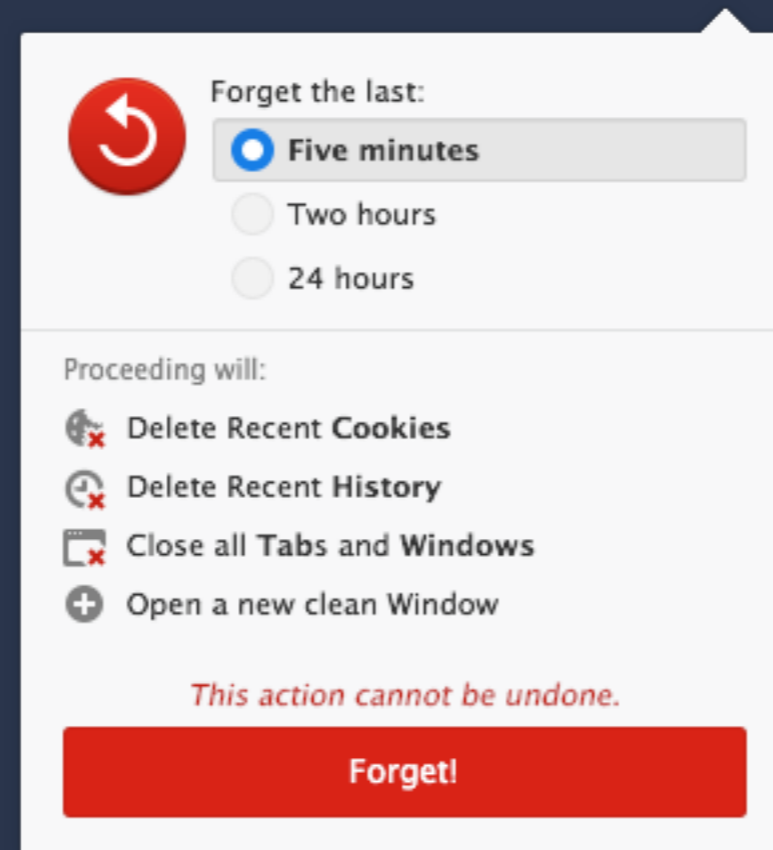
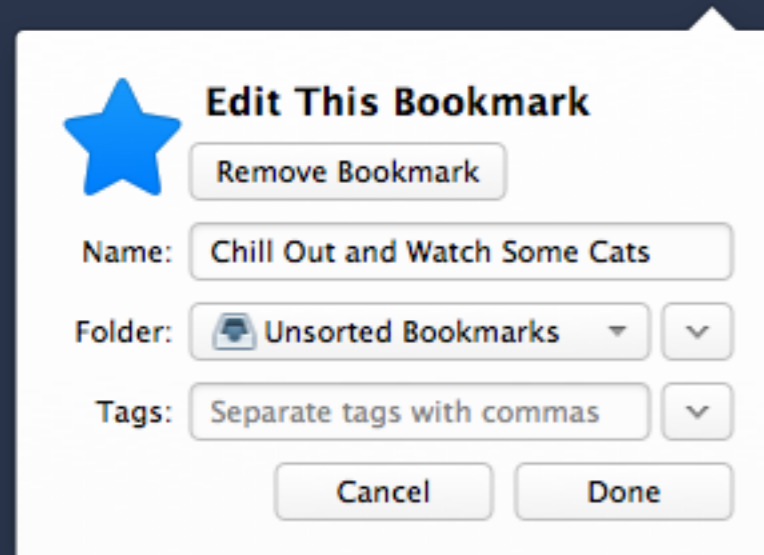
### 3 *Full Featured UI*

Some panels don't conform to the templates of Notifications and Lists. These panels may use aspects of Lists and Notifications but they also use other complex interface elements. They do have reusable *patterns* and *conventions* that should be used for *familiarity* and *consistency*.

*Examples:*

- Forget Panel
- Menu Panel
- Hello! Panel
- Edit Bookmarks Panel

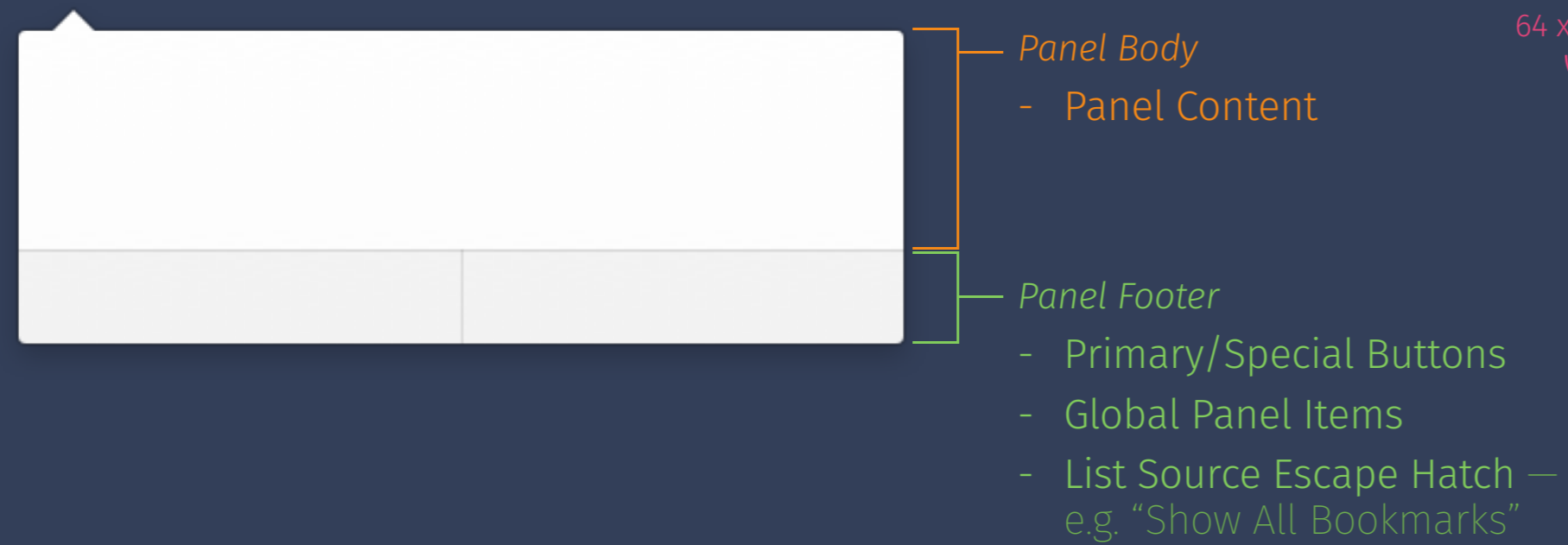
# Full Featured UI | Example Panels



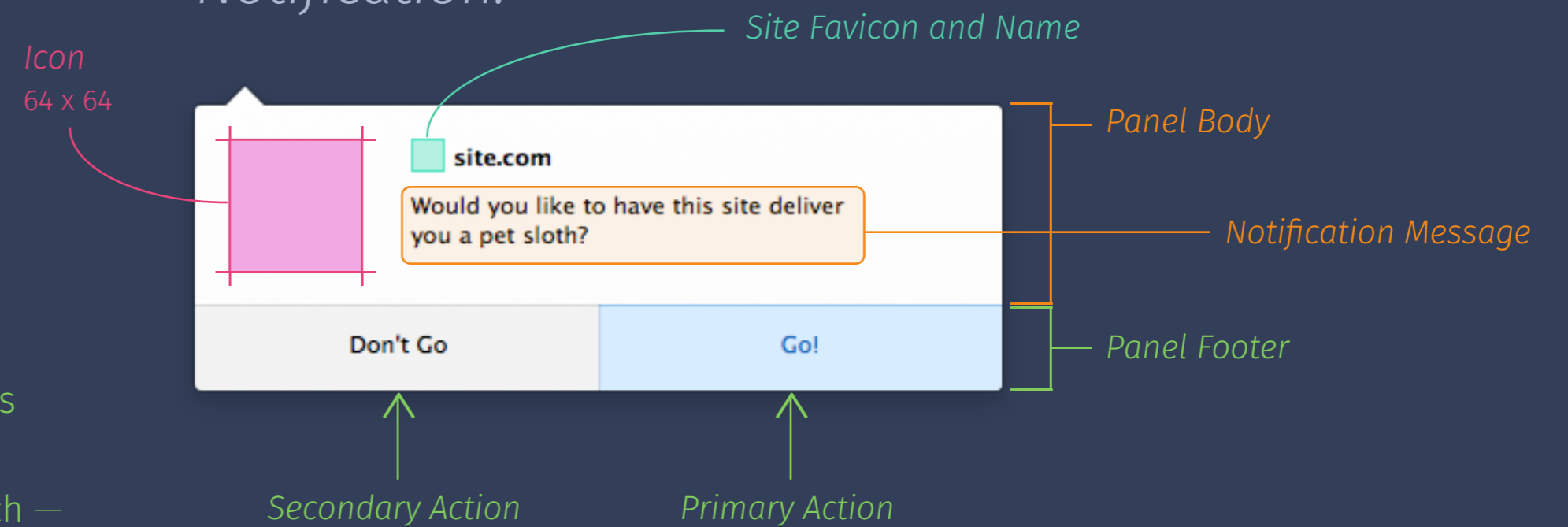
# *Anatomy of a Panel*

# Anatomy of a Panel

## General:

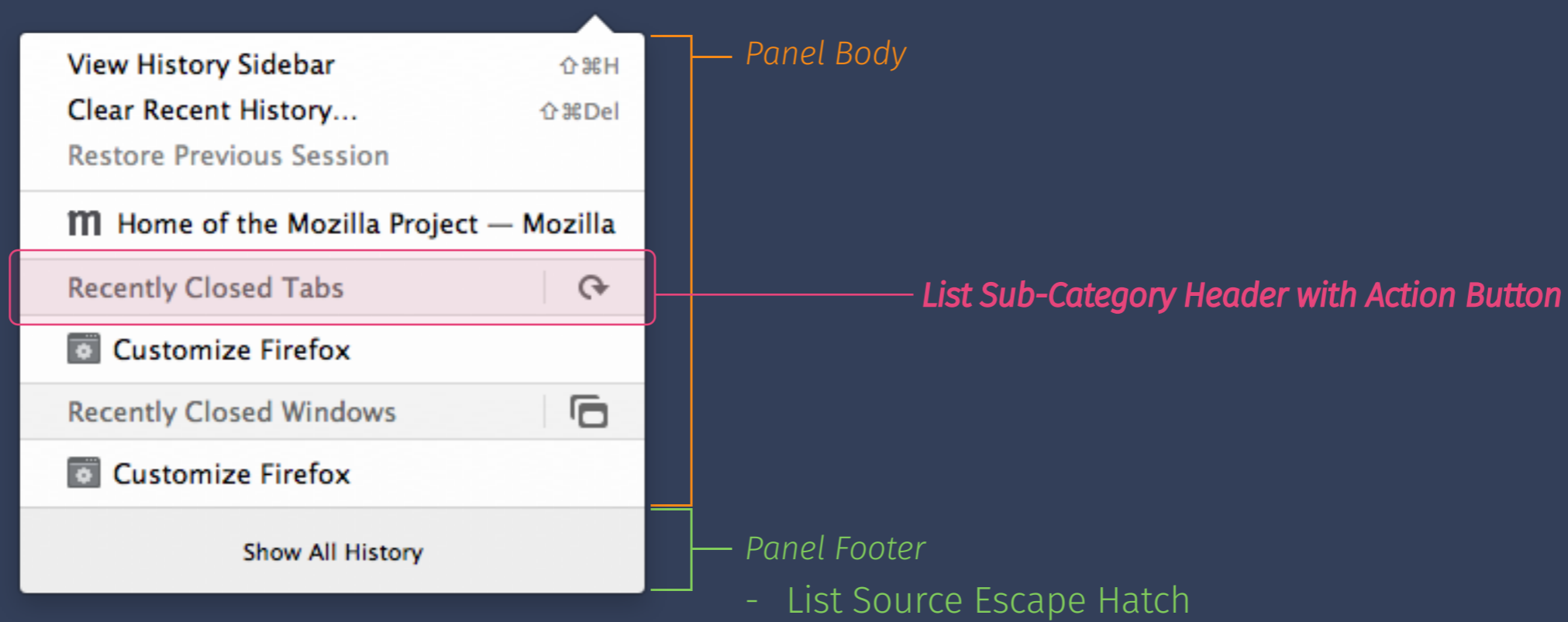


## Notification:



# Anatomy of a Panel

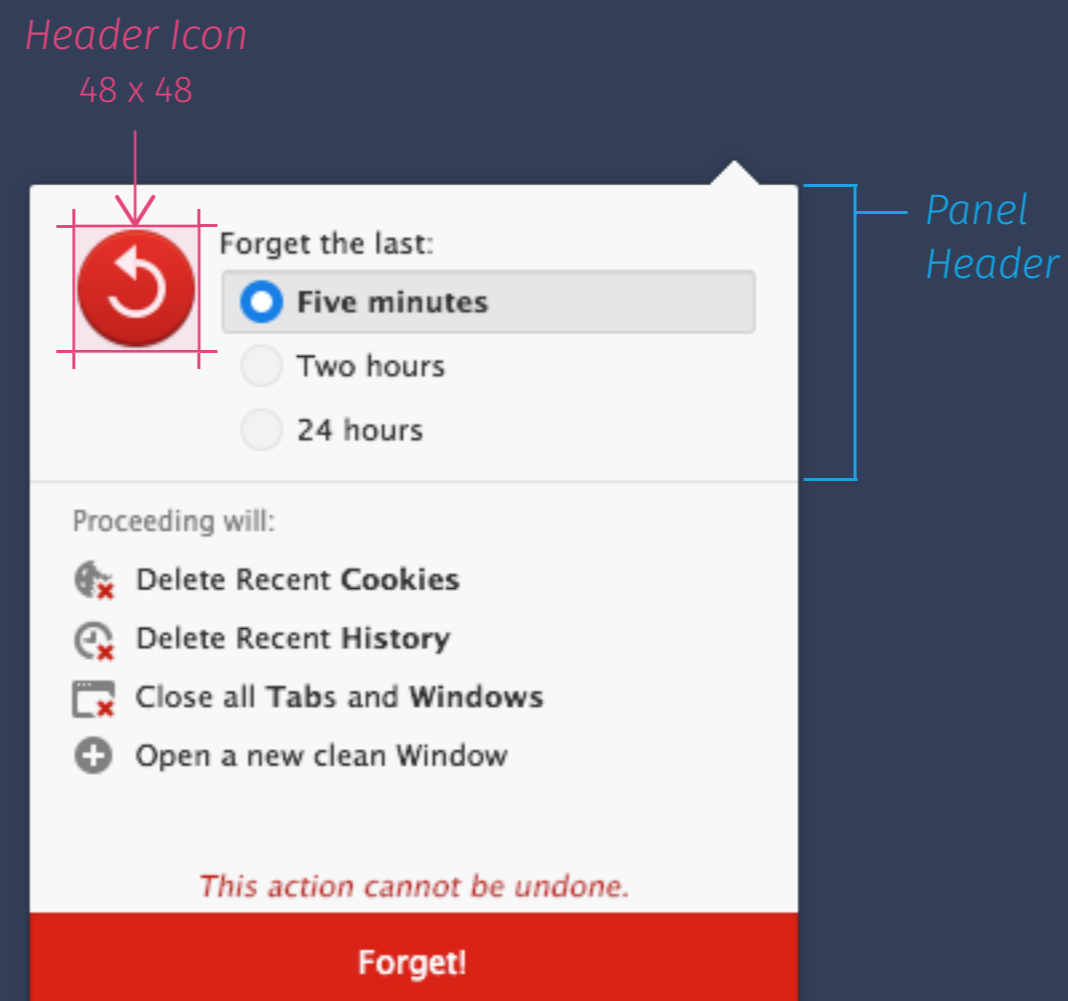
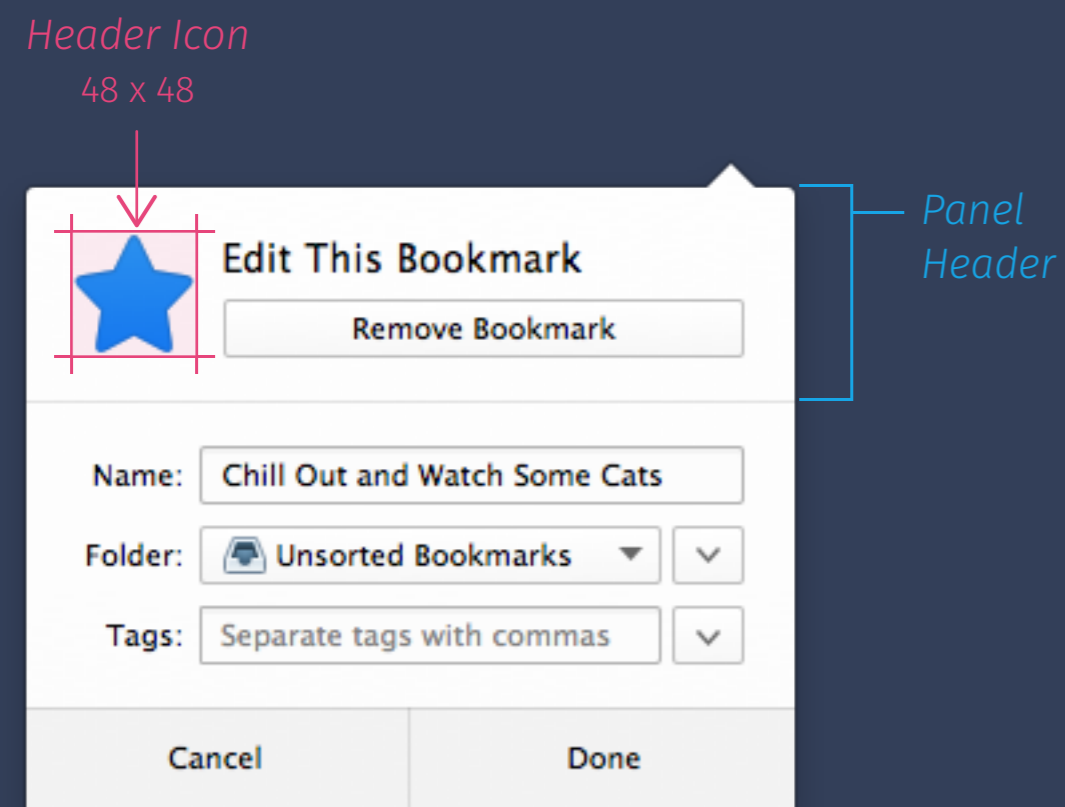
List:



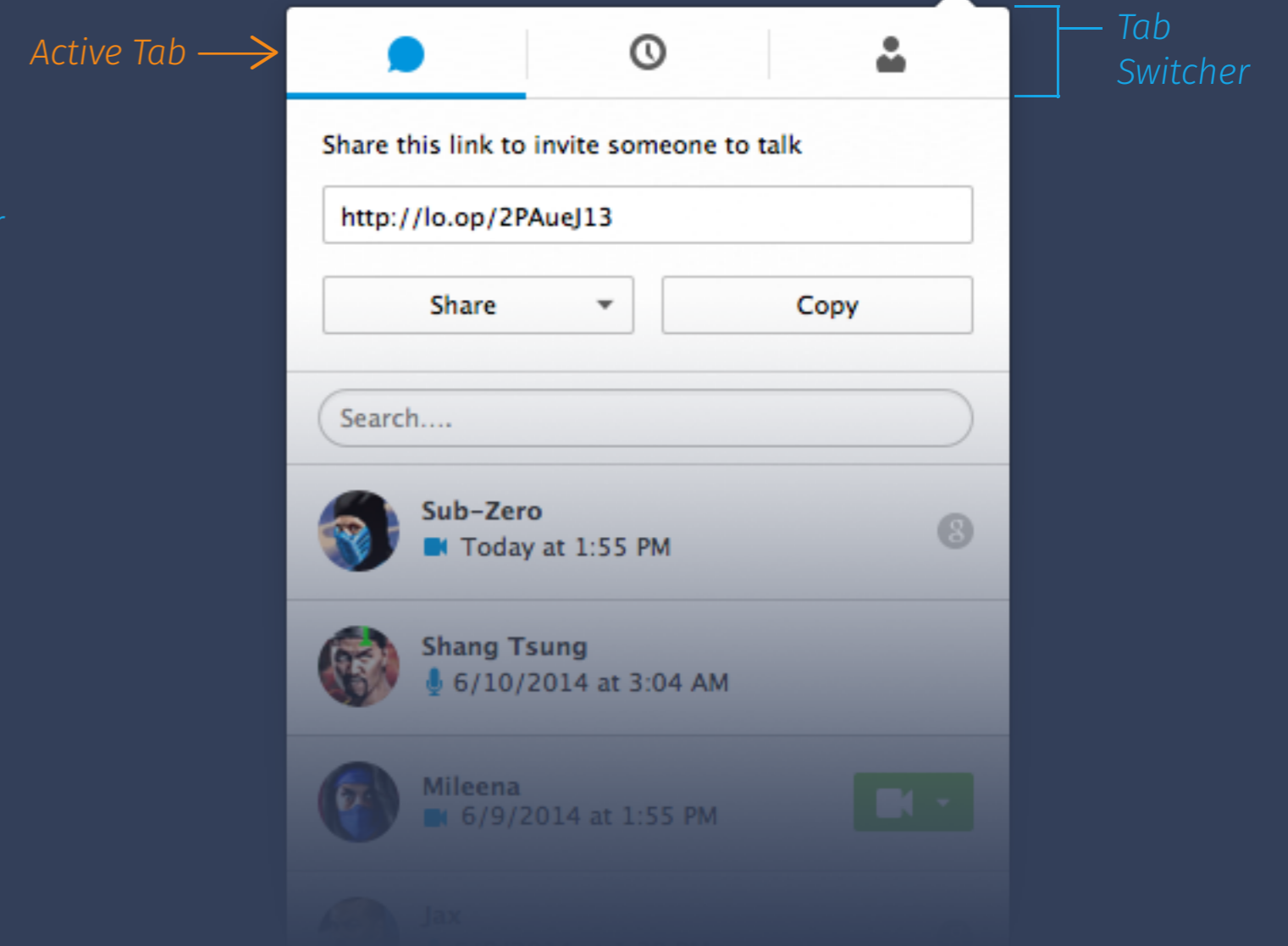
# Anatomy of a Panel

## Full Interface — UI Patterns:

### Panel Header



### Tabbed Panel Switcher



# *Breaking This Into Actionable Chunks*

*(Clumping)*

# Breaking This Into Actionable Chunks

## *Independent Chunk #1 — Consistency and Polish:*

- Spec out and update panels to be consistent and polished
  - Includes: Alignment, dimensions, behaviors, styles, icons, layout, reusing common UI patterns

## *Independent Chunk #2 — Rework Notification Action Options:*

- Evaluate and streamline options in the notification; goal two primary actions per notification

## *Independent Chunk #3 — Operation Sticky Notifications:*

- Make notifications harder to lose
  - Includes: Not closing window switch, figure out persistent indicators,



*Thank you!*