V 6.2

Extracting Styles from a Design File

UX designers can use the Style Extractor to extract data from shared styles into a style dictionary JSON file for use in a design system. Developers can then implement design system components for their apps using the color, typography, and layout styles from the style dictionary. Whenever the design changes, designers can update the style dictionary with a single command.

Currently, we support extracting styles from a Sketch design file for use in React Native apps. We'll support C++ apps (through After Effects) in an upcoming release.

The Style Extractor is a desktop app that runs on macOS 10.15 (Catalina) and Windows 10. You can also run it from the command line.

Installation

The Style Extractor app is installed with You.i Engine One. Once you've installed the Engine, you can use the Style Extractor.

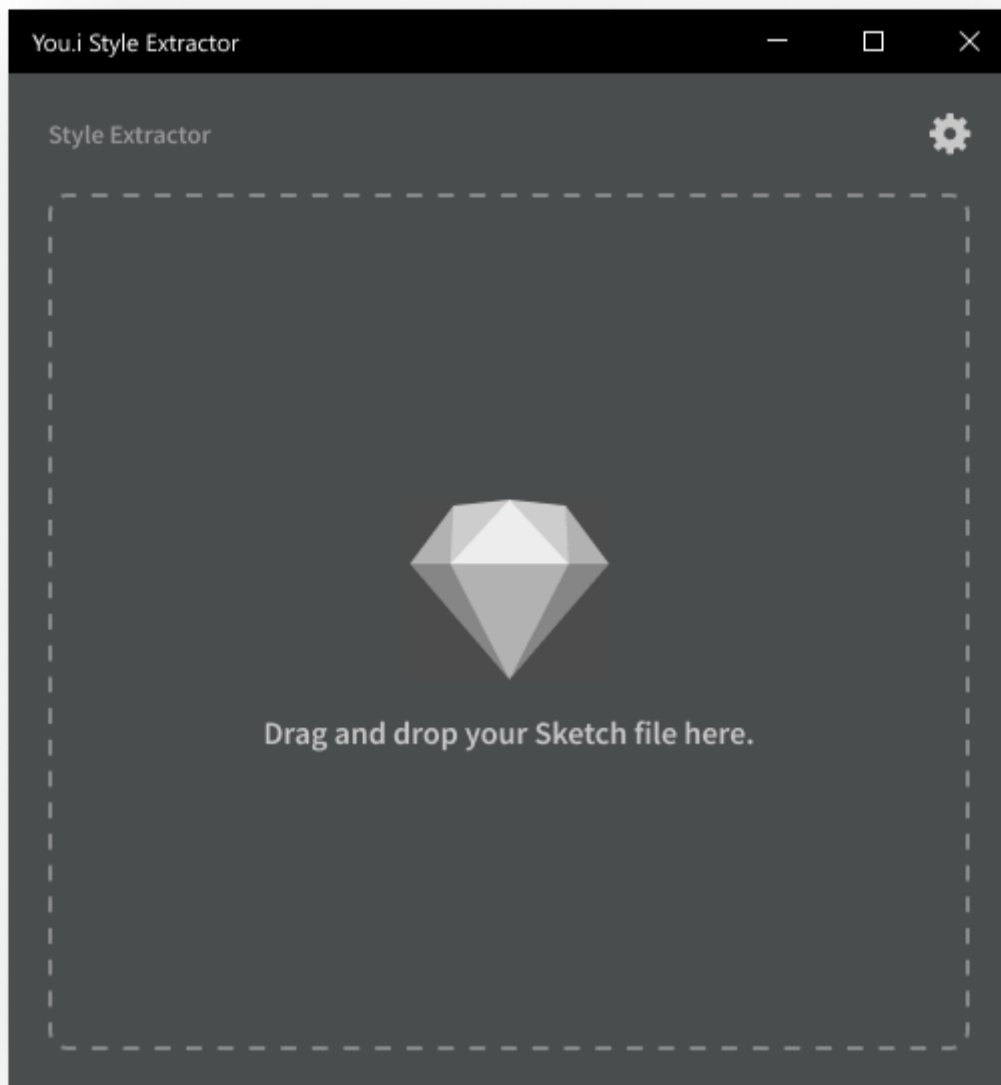## Preparing Your Sketch Shared Styles

To extract layout styles along with the Sketch shared color and typography styles, create a page in your Sketch file named "Layout Styles". The width/height value of square Artboards in this page will be extracted and included in the style dictionary JSON as layout spacing styles. The Artboard names are used to determine the JSON key names and overall structure of the extracted layout styles, with a forward slash (/) used to delineate the start of a new child key in an object. The substring following the final forward slash in the Artboard name is used as the key name with which the layout spacing value is associated. We've provided an image of what this looks like below.

Extracting Styles from a Sketch Design File

To create a style dictionary, you load a Sketch design file (`.sketch`) into the Style Extractor.

Extracting Styles Using the Desktop App

Launch the Style Extractor using the executable in `<engine-install>/tools/StyleExtractor` .

Feedback

Drag and drop a Sketch file into the Style Extractor window.

If all is well, you'll see **Extraction Complete!** and the location of the output JSON file.

By default, output files are written to the same location as your Sketch file. You can change the output location by clicking the gear icon in the top-right corner of the Style Extractor.

The output file has the same name as your Sketch file, but has the `.json` extension.

Extracting Styles on the Command Line

To extract styles from the command line, run the Style Extractor executable as follows:

```
./"<style-extractor-executable>" -i <input-file> [--output_directory <directory>]
```

where

`-i, --input <file-path>` specifies your Sketch design file

`--output_directory <directory-path>` specifies the directory where you want to save the JSON file. By default, output files are written to the same location as your Sketch file.

For example, on macOS:

```
./"You.i Style Extractor.app/Contents/MacOS/You.i Style Extractor" -i ../../../sketch-files/Style-Guide-Base.sketch
```
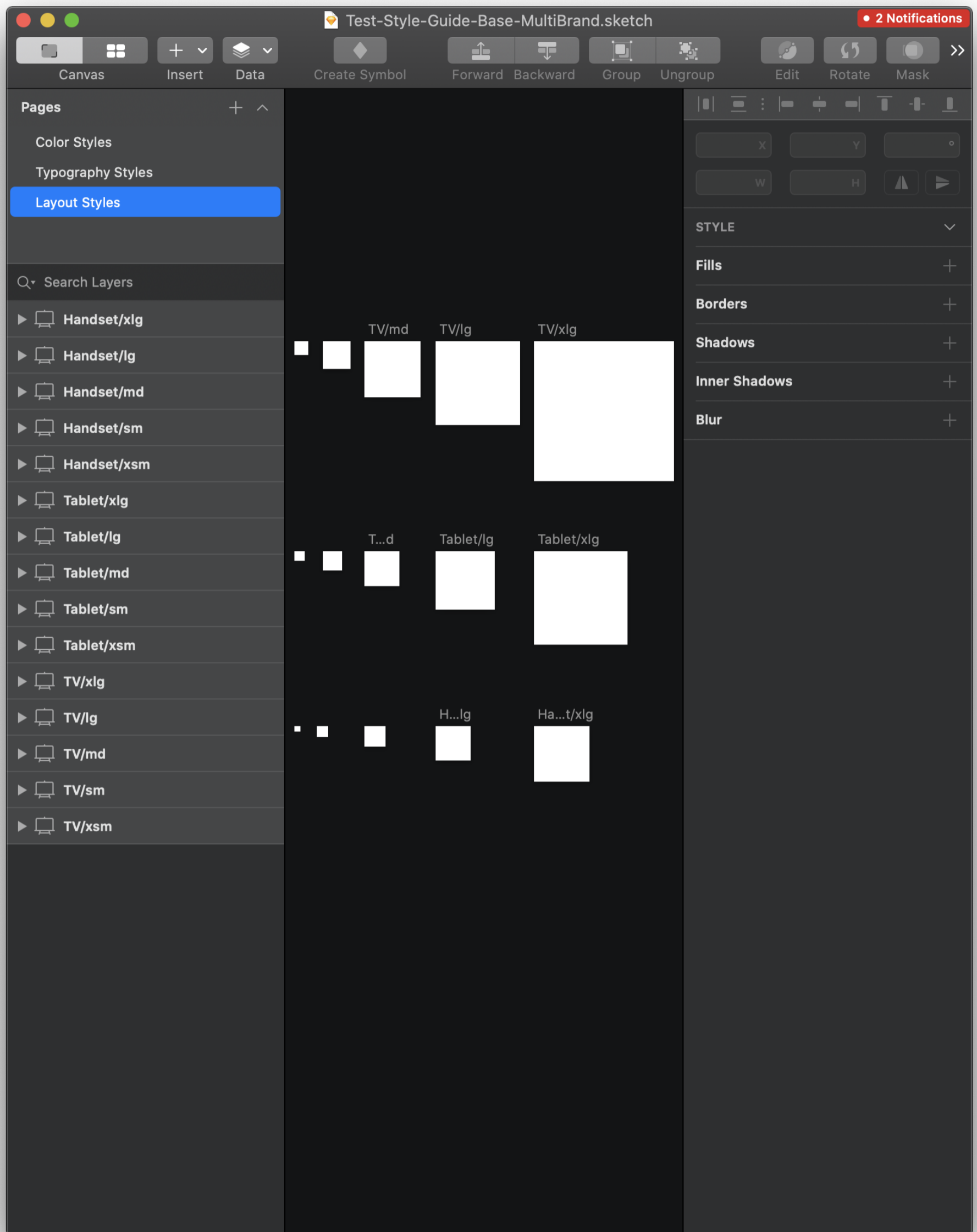
If all is well, you'll see a message like this:

```
Processing ../../../sketch-files/Style-Guide-Base.sketch
Output written to ../../../sketch-files/Style-Guide-Base.json
```

Using the Style Dictionary

To learn how to use the style dictionary for app development, see Using a Style Dictionary.

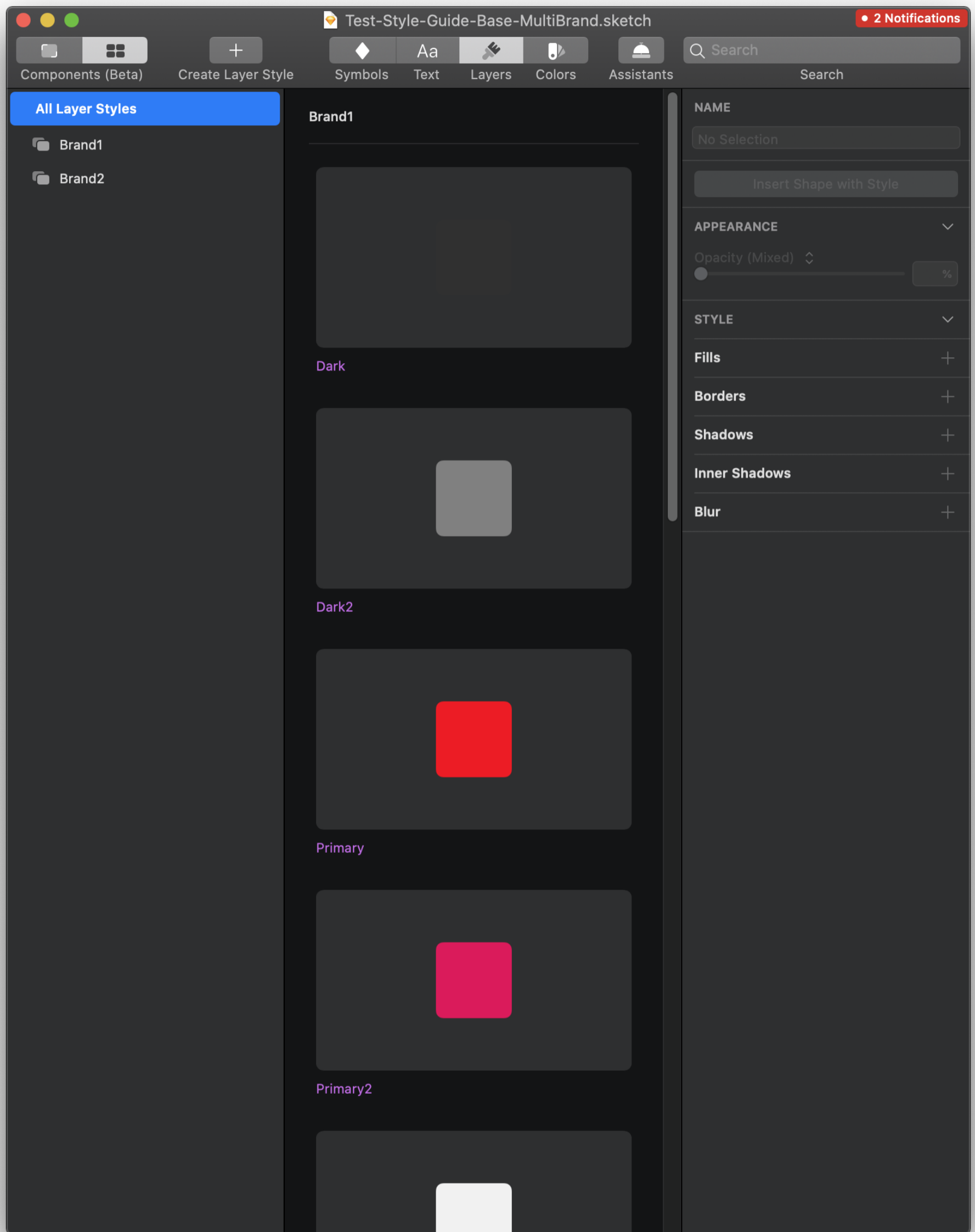## Examples

You can download an example Sketch file (shown in the images below) plus the JSON file generated with the Style Extractor for this Sketch file.
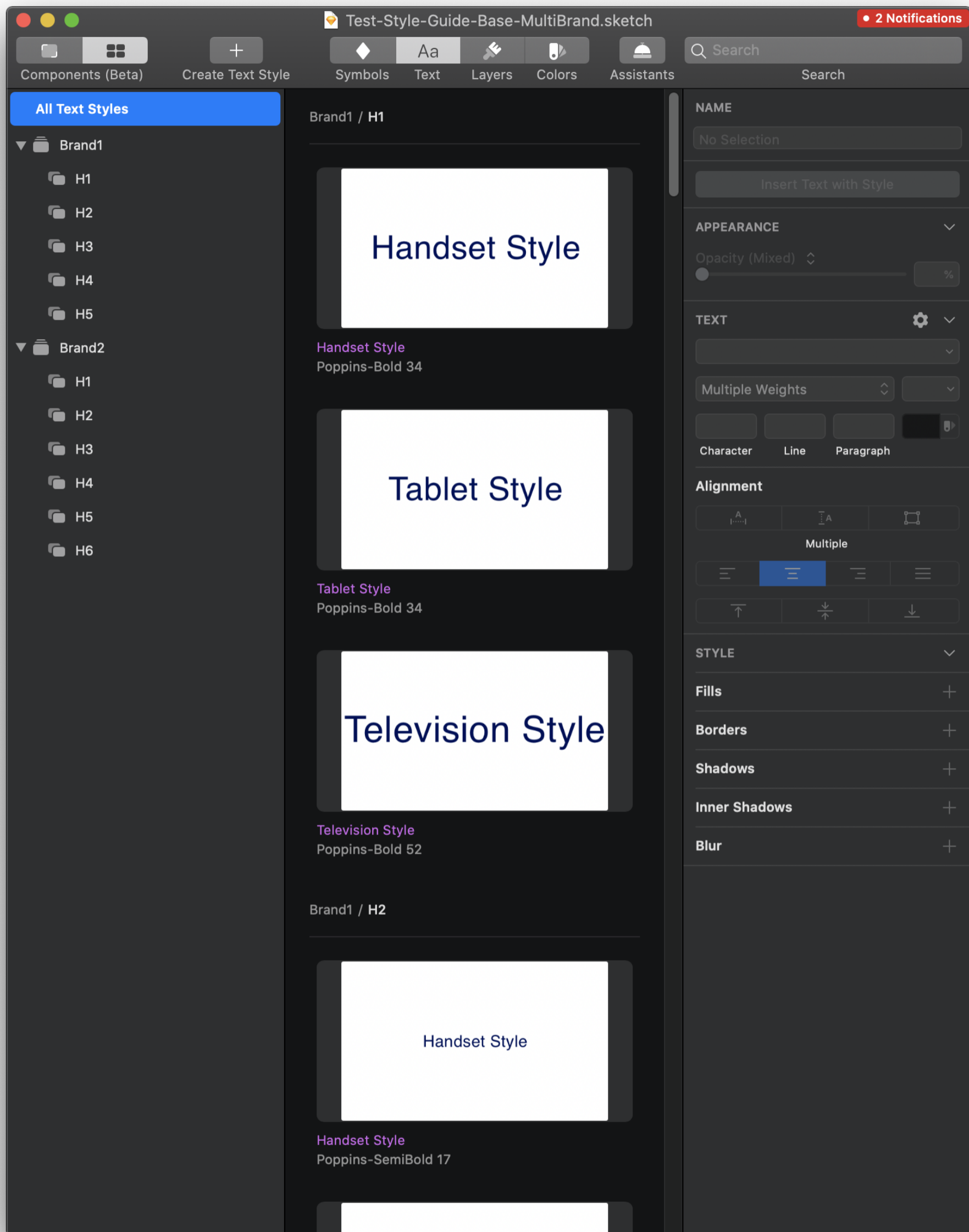
Example Sketch Shared Layout Styles

Example Sketch Shared Color Styles

Example Sketch Shared Typography Styles

Supported Sketch Style Attributes

The following tables lists all of the Sketch Layer Style properties

The following tables lists all of the Sketch Layer Style properties currently supported by the Style Extractor. It also provides the equivalent React Native View Style prop or Text Style prop for each Sketch style.

Sketch Layer Style Properties for View Style Props

Style property	Value	React Native View style prop
borders: color	string	borderColor
borders: thickness	number	borderWidth
fills: color	string	backgroundColor
opacity	number	opacity

Sketch Layer Style Properties for Text Style Props

Style property	Value	React Native Text style prop
fontFamily	string	fontFamily
fontSize	number	fontSize
lineHeight (see Note below)	number/null	lineHeight
textColor	string	color
textUnderline	string	textDecorationLine: 'underline'

NOTE

You.i Engine One typically applies universal `lineHeight` (it's applied once for all app text through code).

Feedback