

BRIEF ACCESSIBILITY CHECKLIST

WCAG AA COMPLIANCE

Here is a simplified checklist of WCAG A and AA standards that will help you understand the fundamental principles of Web Content Accessibility Guidelines. The checklist is categorized into four main sections, each representing a guiding principle of accessibility: Perceivable, Operable, Understandable, and Robust.

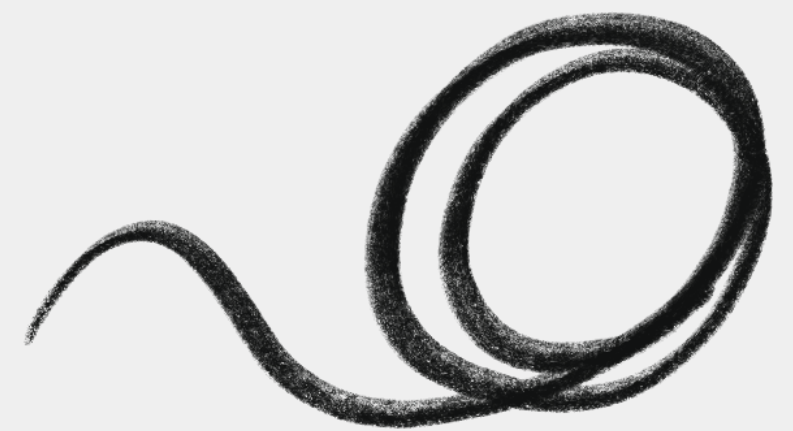
Remember, ensuring accessibility on your website is an ongoing process and not a one-time project. Stay ahead by testing it regularly.

perceivable

Information and user interface components must be presentable to users in ways they can perceive.

When testing your website, it's important to consider users with different disabilities, including those with vision impairments like blindness, color blindness, and low vision, as well as people who are deaf or hard of hearing, those in sound-sensitive environments, and those with dyslexia or cognitive impairments. Users have various ways of accessing the Internet, including assistive technologies and website customization options like adjusting the websites' fonts, sizes, and colors by designated plug-ins. It is important to make sure that your website is not only visually appealing but also user-friendly and easy to understand.

- The page has correct semantic HTML element structure and a logical order of elements - visually and programmatically.
- Text and background color have sufficient contrast → [tool to check it.](#)
- All images have helpful alternative text, and decorative images are not visible to screen readers.
- Multimedia have alternative ways to be consumed, eg. captions or extended captions, audio-descriptions, or transcripts for audio-only content.
- Content scales properly (with no loss of logic, content, or functionality) when zoomed/enlarged up to 200%.
- There is no information that depends on color, sound, shape, size, or visual location.
- If there is an autoplay audio longer than 3 seconds, it can be paused or stopped and the volume can be adjusted.





operable



User interface components and navigation must be operable.

There are many different ways of navigating the Internet. Some people are not able to operate a mouse and instead use a keyboard or assistive technologies and strategies (eg. voice input) to interact with the Web. People with attention deficit disorder or visual processing disorders might need more time to comprehend the content online. For all users, it is beneficial to provide a clear and easy-to-understand page structure with proper headings, descriptions, and elements that are easy to interact with.

- All content and functionality (links, forms, media controls, etc.) can be accessed through a keyboard.
- There are visual focus indicators for every focusable element on the page and the focus style does not rely solely on color.
- The tab order is consistent, the focus moves through the page in a logical order and never reaches disabled or visually hidden elements.

If you need help while testing → [try out this tool](#)
- The user's session doesn't time out unexpectedly and the user can turn off, adjust, or extend their session before it ends.
- Content that automatically changes (slideshows, ads, videos, etc.) can be paused.
- There are no flashing elements (best scenario), or the flashing is less than 3 times a second.
- Keyboard users can skip navigation or other content repeated among pages by using a skip link that is visible when focused.
- Every page has a descriptive and unique title that clarifies its topic or purpose.

operable

- Links and buttons have contextual labels that provide unique information about the destination or action they trigger (simple "Read more" is not enough;)).
- There are visual focus indicators for every focusable element on the page and the focus style does not rely solely on color.
- There are multiple ways to find pages on the website (eg. search function, sitemap page, detailed menus in header and footer).
- Headings and labels are straightforward and easy to understand, describing the topic or purpose of the page section, form, or element.
- Headings are used in a logical descending sequence and no heading level is skipped.
- Information presented on graphs, charts, maps, SVGs, etc. is accessible through assistive technology.

understandable

Information and the operation of the user interface must be understandable.

Assistive technologies commonly used by people differently-abled operate by strict programmable rules and algorithms, and their ability for context interpretation is very narrow. Therefore, until AI enters this aspect of technology as well, it is crucial to design websites that behave predictably not only for people but also for software that lacks imagination. The more context is provided for assistive technologies, the better.

- There is an HTML lang attribute indicating the language of a page or chunk of text.
- Navigation elements remain the same (in order and visual appearance) on all pages.
- Elements with the same functionality are shown, defined, and styled consistently on all pages.
- All inputs have associated labels, required fields are easily identified, and placeholders serve as additional help, not as a label.
- Forms have autocomplete attributes and helpful, accessible verification and error messages (with suggestions for correction).
- Elements of an interface do not automatically change the context of a page. Context can be changed only by user action eg. submitting buttons.

robust

Maximize compatibility with current and future user agents, including assistive technologies.

Browsers and assistive technologies serve website content to the user relying on the code, especially HTML, CSS, or JavaScript. The code should be clean and well-written, following coding best practices and standards. Otherwise, the information the user agent renders might be different than intended by the design and even negatively influence the usability of a page for assistive-technology users.

- HTML code is applied using programming best practices and is error-free. You can check it → [here](#).
- The [ARIA](#) landmarks, roles, and states are used when applicable.

