



Accessibility is a moving target

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Terms and Definitions

1. [The Americans with Disabilities Act \(ADA\)](#) - The ADA is a civil rights law that prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in all areas of public life, including jobs, schools, transportation, and all public and private places open to the general public.
2. [Section 508](#) - The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) Office of Government-wide Policy (OGP) is tasked under this law to provide technical assistance to help Federal agencies comply with these requirements and ensure that covered ICT is accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities.
3. [Bill C81](#) - The bill aims to benefit all Canadians, especially those with disabilities, by helping to create a barrier-free Canada.
4. [The World Wide Web Consortium \(W3C\)](#) - an international community that develops open standards to ensure the long-term growth of the Web.
5. [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(WCAG\)](#) - developed through the W3C process in cooperation with individuals and organizations around the world, with a goal of providing a single shared standard for web content accessibility that meets the needs of individuals, organizations, and governments internationally.
 - a. [2.0](#)
 - b. [2.1](#)
 - c. Compliance Levels - WCAG is broken down into three levels; A, AA, and AAA. Each increasing A in the level indicates additional criteria to follow.
 - i. A - Minimal
 - ii. AA - Acceptable
 - iii. AAA - Optimal
6. [POUR](#) - an acronym for four high-level principles that describe functional accessibility.
 - a. Perceivable - Information and user interface components must be presentable to users in ways they can perceive.
 - b. Operable - User interface components and navigation must be operable.
 - c. Understandable - Information and the operation of the user interface must be understandable.
 - d. Robust - Content must be robust enough to be interpreted reliably by a wide variety of user agents, including assistive technologies.

On the horizon

7. WCAG
 - a. [2.2](#)
 - b. [3.0](#)
 - c. [ARIA in HTML](#) - These requirements will aid authors in their development of web content, including custom interfaces/widgets, that make use of ARIA to complement or extend the features of the host language [HTML].

User agents

1. Alternative Input devices
 - a. Head pointers
 - b. Motion tracking or eye-tracking
 - c. Single switch entry devices
 - d. Large-print and tactile keyboards
 - e. Speech input software
2. Assistive Technologies and Adaptive Strategies
 - a. Screen Readers
 - b. Screen Magnification
 - c. Eye-tracking
 - d. Accelerators
 - e. Keyboard customization
 - f. Pop-up and animations blockers
 - g. Refreshable Braille display
 - h. Reading assistants
 - i. Page maps

Roles and Responsibilities

1. [ARRM Project - Accessibility Roles and Responsibilities Mapping](#)
 - a. [Developers mapping](#)
 - b. [UX Designers mapping](#)
 - c. [UI Designers mapping](#)
 - d. [Content Authors mapping](#)
2. [Decision tree](#)

Designing for Readability

1. Use visual and semantic space
2. Provide the right amount of space between lines of text
3. Use clean typography
4. Avoid using all caps
5. Don't underline text
6. Use left-aligned text
7. Don't put two spaces after a period
8. Support text resizing



Accessible Content

1. Know your audience - Fit your language to your audience and context.
2. Provide alt text - The purpose is to describe visual content to those who are unable to see it.
3. Use Familiar language - Use familiar words and combinations of words.
4. Use plain language - Language that is difficult to read and understand is a potential barrier for all users.
5. Limit sentence and paragraph length - In general, keep words, sentences, and paragraphs short.

Tools and Resources

Tools

1. [WAVE](#)
2. [aXe](#)
3. [WebAim: Contrast Checker](#)
4. [Siteimprove Accessibility Checker](#)
5. [Tota11y](#)
6. [Funkify](#)
7. [CSS Validation](#)
8. [HTML Validation](#)
9. [Readability](#)
10. [The A11y Project checklist](#)

Resources

1. [W3C Accessibility Standards Overview](#)
2. [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(WCAG\) Overview](#)
3. [ARRM Project - Accessibility Roles and Responsibilities Mapping](#)
4. [Roles Involved in Accessibility](#)
5. [ARIA in HTML](#)
6. [W3C Blog](#)
7. [W3C Twitter](#)