Designing for
accessibility

For more information, contact:
access@digital.homeoffice.gov.uk
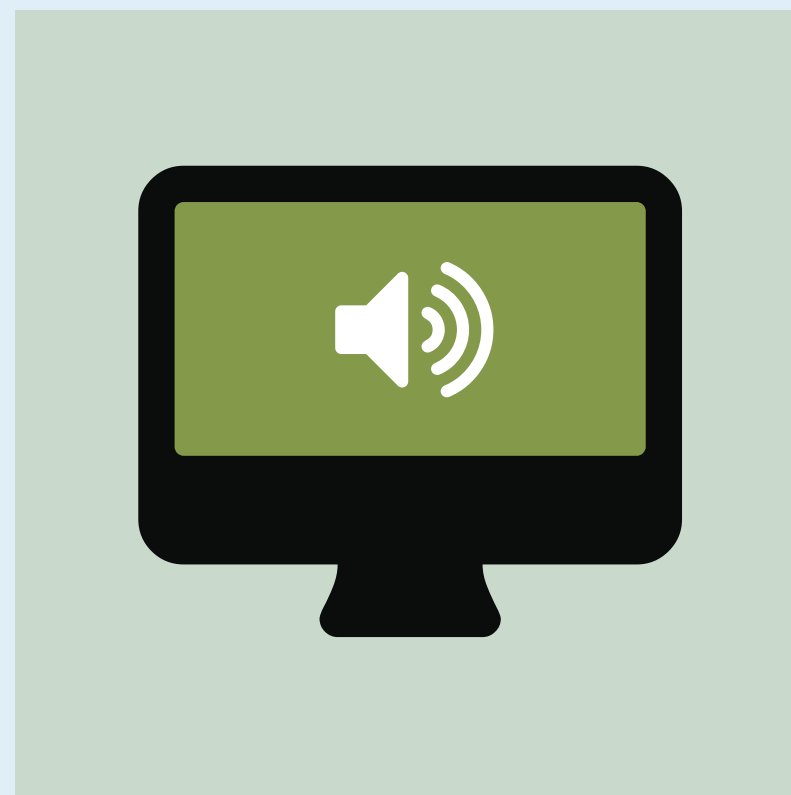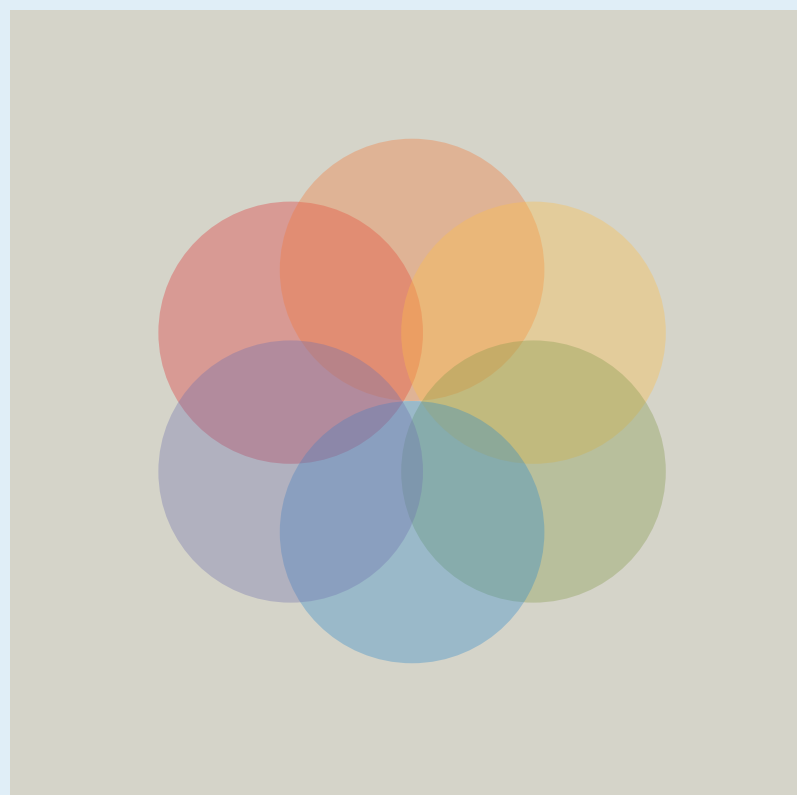
Designing for users on the autistic spectrum

Do...

Don't...

Do...		Don't...	
use simple colours		use bright contrasting colours	
write in plain language	**Do this**	use figures of speech and idioms	
use simple sentences and bullets		create a wall of text	
make buttons descriptive	**Attach files**	make buttons vague and unpredictable	**Click here!**
build simple and consistent layouts		build complex and cluttered layouts	

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Designing for users of
screen readers

Do...

Don't...

describe images and provide transcripts for video

<alt>

only show information in an image or video

follow a linear logical layout

spread content all over a page

structure content using HTML5

<h1>
<nav>
<label>

rely on text size and placement for structure

36pt, bold
Header

build for keyboard use only

force mouse or screen use
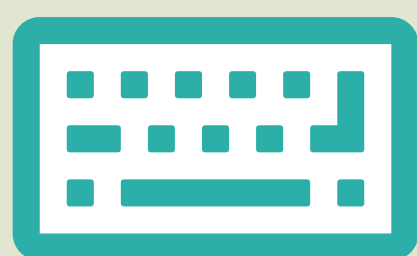
write descriptive links and headings

Contact us

write uninformative links and headings

Click here

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Designing for users with low vision

Do...

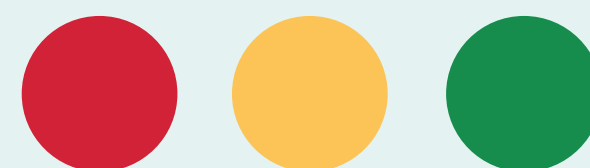|	
use good colour contrasts and a readable font size	**Aa**
publish all information on web pages	HTML
use a combination of colour, shapes and text	**Start**
follow a linear, logical layout	200% magnification
put buttons and notifications in context	Submit

Don't...

use low colour contrasts and small font size	Aa
bury information in downloads	
only use colour to convey meaning	
spread content all over a page	200% magnification
separate actions from their context	Submit

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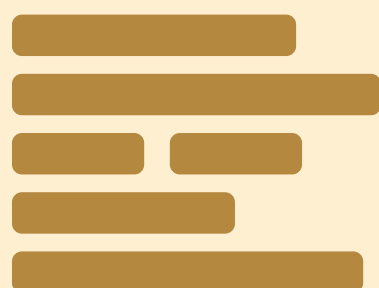# Designing for users with dyslexia
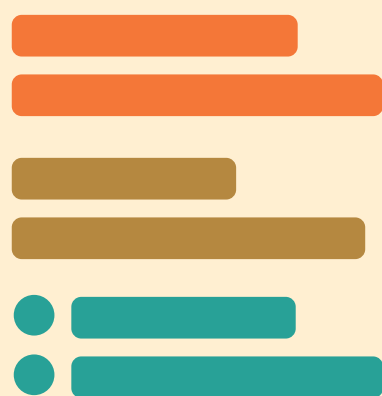
Do...

use images and diagrams to support text

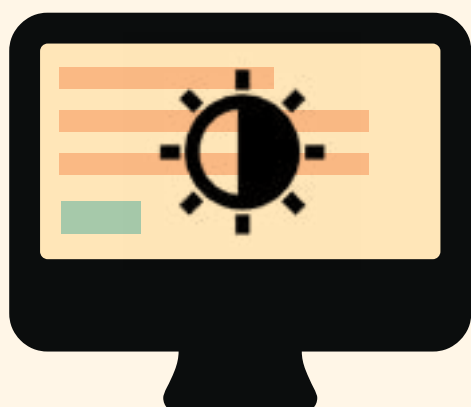align text to the left and keep a consistent layout

consider producing materials in other formats (for example audio or video)

keep content short, clear and simple

let users change the contrast between background and text

Don't...
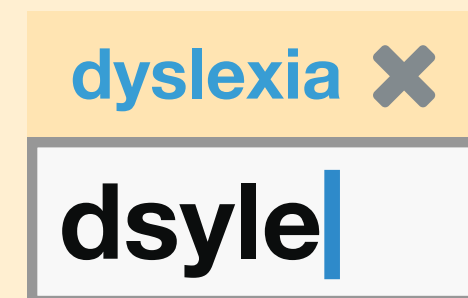
use large blocks of heavy text

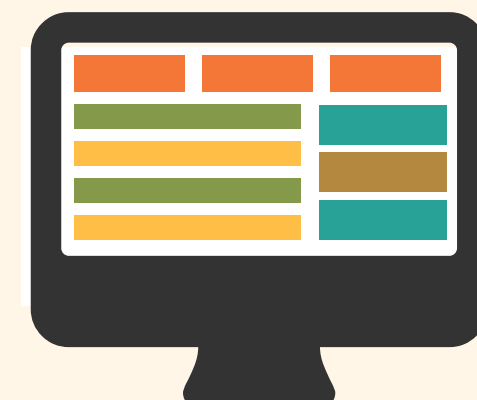underline words, use italics or write in capitals

DON'T DO THIS

force users to remember things from previous pages - give reminders and prompts

rely on accurate spelling - use autocorrect or provide suggestions

dyslexia ✖

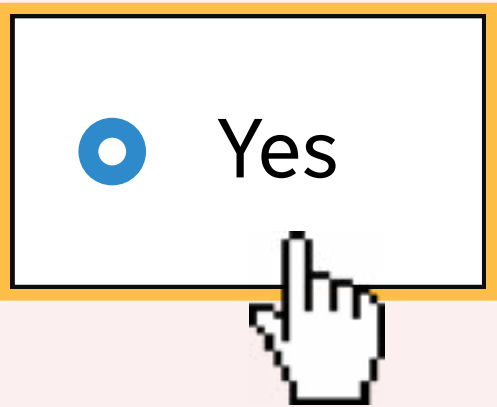**dsyle|**

put too much information in one place

Designing for users with physical or motor disabilities
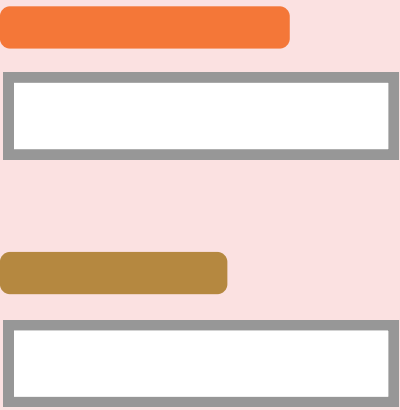
Do...

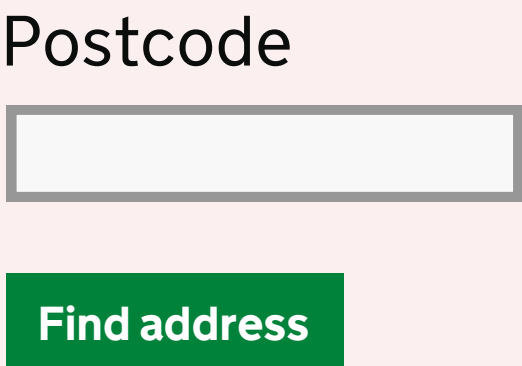**make large clickable actions**

Yes

give form fields space

design for keyboard or speech only use
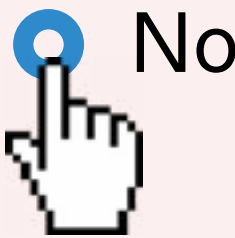
Tab

design with mobile and touchscreen in mind

provide shortcuts

Postcode
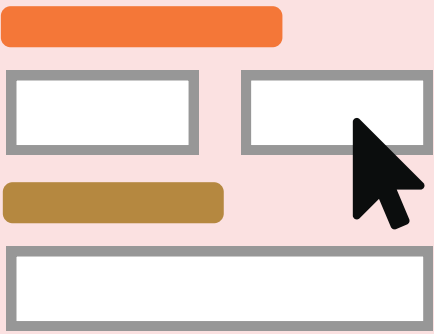
Find address

Don't...

demand precision

No

bunch interactions together

make dynamic content that requires a lot of mouse movement

1
2   2a
3   2b
    2c
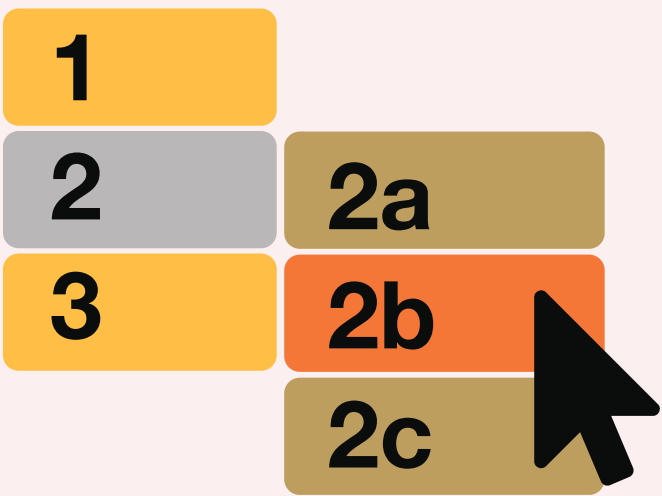
have short time out windows

⚠ Your session has timed out
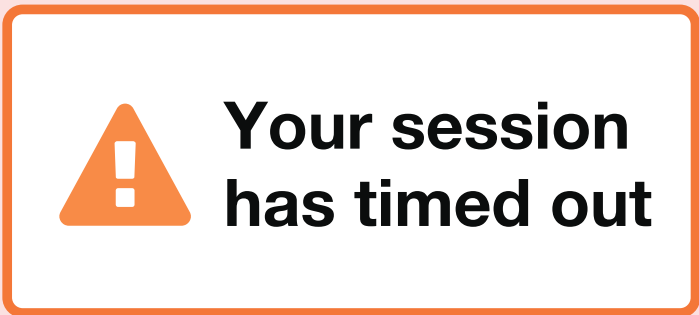
tire users with lots of typing and scrolling

Address

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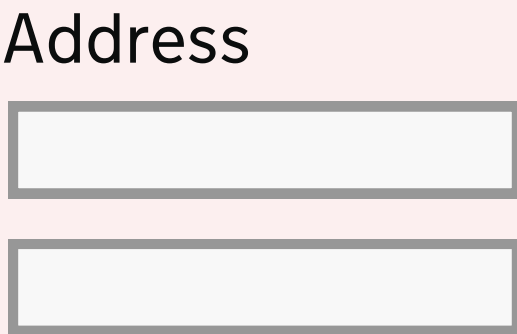
Designing for users who are deaf or hard of hearing

Do...

write in plain language	Do this
use subtitles or provide transcripts for videos	CC
use a linear, logical layout	
break up content with sub-headings, images and videos	
let users ask for their preferred communication support when booking appointments	

Don't...
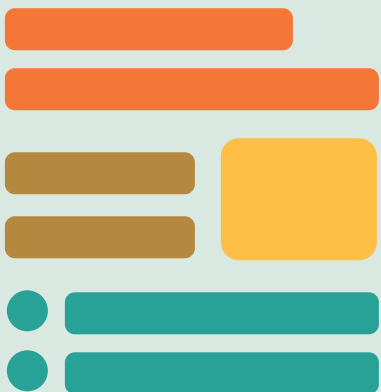
use complicated words or figures of speech	
put content in audio or video only	
make complex layouts and menus	
make users read long blocks of content	
make telephone the only means of contact for users	

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Home Office Digital's goal is to make exceptional services for everyone.

Understanding accessibility means we can build services that work for everyone, whatever their access need.

These posters show how you can make your service accessible for different access needs.

Email access@digital.homeoffice.gov.uk to get involved and help make Home Office Digital services accessible by default

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