

WAI-ARIA

a whistle-stop tour

What is WAI-ARIA

The WAI bit is the *Web Accessibility Initiative*¹ at the W3C.

¹ See [Web Accessibility Initiative](#)

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The ARIA bit stands for *Accessible Rich Internet Applications*, first published on 20 March, 2014

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Roles

- ARIA provides a rich role taxonomy that enables you to classify otherwise meaningless tags such as `<div>`, ``, etc.
- Roles are added to HTML tags like any other attribute

Role categories²

- Abstract Roles
- Widget Roles
- Document Structure Roles
- Landmark Roles

² See [Role categories](#) on the W3C website

States and Properties

ARIA states and properties offer the user further information on how to interact with a particular widget.

Using ARIA roles

Using ARIA roles

```
<div class="fancy-button" role="button">Click me</div>
```


Using ARIA roles

```
<div class="fancy button" role="button">Click me</div>
```

Using ARIA roles

```
<div class="fancy button" role="button">Click me</div>
```

```
<button class="fancy-button" role="button">Click  
me</button>
```

Using ARIA roles

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<div class="fancy button" role="button">Click me</div>
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<button class="fancy button" role="button">Click  
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```

Using ARIA roles

~~<div class="fancy button" role="button">Click me</div>~~

~~<button class="fancy button" role="button">Click me</button>~~

<button class="fancy-button">Click me</button>

Using ARIA properties and states

Using ARIA properties

```
<ol>
  <li id="link-one">
    <a href="#panel-one">Chapter 1</a>
  </li>
  <li id="link-two">
    <a href="#panel-two">Chapter 2</a>
  </li>
</ol>
<div id="panel-one">Chapter 1 content goes here</div>
<div id="panel-two">Chapter 2 content goes here</div>
```

Using ARIA properties

```
<ol role="tablist">
  <li id="link-one" role="tab">
    <a href="#panel-one">Chapter 1</a>
  </li>
  <li id="link-two" role="tab">
    <a href="#panel-two">Chapter 2</a>
  </li>
</ol>
<div id="panel-one" role="tabpanel" aria-labelledby="link-one">Chapter 1 content goes here</div>
<div id="panel-two" role="tabpanel" aria-labelledby="link-two">Chapter 2 content goes here</div>
```

Using ARIA states³

- attributes for declaring the current state of a UI widget.
- Some examples:
 - **aria-checked:** indicates the state of a checkbox or radio button
 - **aria-disabled:** indicates that an element is visible, but not editable or otherwise operable

³ See [Supported states and properties](#) for a full list

Using ARIA states

```
<ol role="tablist">
  <li id="link-one" role="tab" aria-checked="true">
    <a href="#panel-one">Chapter 1</a>
  </li>
  <li id="link-two" role="tab" aria-checked="false">
    <a href="#panel-two">Chapter 2</a>
  </li>
</ol>
<div id="panel-one" role="tabpanel" aria-labelledby="link-one" aria-hidden="false">Chapter 1 content goes here</div>
<div id="panel-two" role="tabpanel" aria-labelledby="link-two" aria-hidden="true">Chapter 2 content goes here</div>
```

Styling ARIA states

```
li[aria-checked="true"] {  
  background-color: rgb(200, 100, 100);  
  color: white;  
  font-weight: 400;  
  text-align: center  
  ...  
}
```

Styling ARIA states

```
div[aria-hidden="true"] {  
  display: none;  
  visibility: hidden;  
}
```

