Screen readers

All screen readers covered here have a special modifier key (or a key combination) that allows to perform some of the operations. This key is configurable, so instead of providing the default, it will be referred to as ModKey.
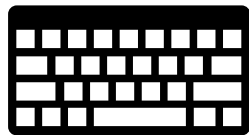
NVDA

To navigate through a website, use the browse mode. Switch to focus mode to fill forms. ModKey + Space switches between browse and focus mode

In browse mode:
H - move forward one heading
Shift + H - move back one heading
F - move to next form element
Shift + F - move to previous form element
ModKey + F7 - Opens navigation window with elements list
Esc - Stop narration

You can choose **NVDA menu, Tools, Speech Viewer** to view the narration as text.

VoiceOver

⌘ **+ F5** - start/stop VoiceOver
ModKey + ⌘ + H - move forward one heading
ModKey + Shift + ⌘ + H - move back one heading
ModKey + ⌘ + J - move to next form element
ModKey + Shift + ⌘ + J - move to previous form element
ModKey + Shift + ↓ - enter structured content (eg. tables)
ModKey + Shift + ↑ - exit structured content
ModKey + U - opens navigation window (rotor)

ChromeVox

The **>** sign means that the key should be pressed while holding ModKey, but after the previous key was released
ModKey + N > H - move forward one heading
ModKey + P > H - move back one heading
ModKey + N > F - move to next form element
ModKey + N > F - move to previous form element
Ctrl - stop narration
ModKey + Backslash - enter structured content (eg. tables)
ModKey + Backspace - exit structured content
ModKey + D > C - log narration to inspector console

Keyboard navigation

Tab - next focusable element
Shift + Tab - previous focusable element
Enter - click a link or button, submit form
Space - toggle element, click a button, scroll by one page if nothing is in focus
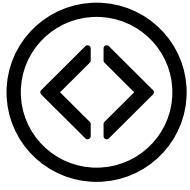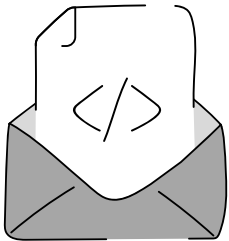**Home / End** - move to the beginning or end of a slider

HTML

1. Use lang attribute in <html>
2. Each view should have a unique <title>
3. Use tags that convey the meaning of the content - <nav>, <main>, <section>, <footer>
4. Keep in mind the logical order of <hX> tags
5. Use only one <h1> tag per section or page
6. For lists, always use <ol>, <ul> or <dl>
7. <a> tag must have the href attribute, it shouldn't be overwriten with onclick function
8. Use <table> tags for tables only, mark headings as <th>
9. To explain the table meaning, use <caption> tag
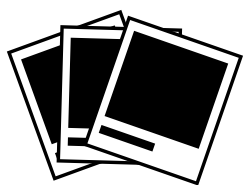
Forms

1. Forms should be contained within <form> tag, each <input> needs a <label>
2. If a form is long and can be split into sections, it should be done using <fieldset>
3. Make sure that errors are shown above the form and they can redirect to the appropriate field
4. Errors should be marked not only with colour, but also with a clear visual or text indicator

Interactive elements

1. Make sure interactive elements have a clearly visible focus indicator
2. User has to be able to navigate through interactive elements using only a keyboard
3. When navigating with keyboard, the order of focus should be aligned with how the text is read (left-to-right, right-to-left)
4. Remove all invisible interactive elements

Images

1. Each image should have alt attribute. It can be left empty for purely decorative elements
2. If an image contains text, make sure it's included in the alt attribute
3. Add aria-hidden="true" attribute for decorations