

/Title (5 Steps to Start WCAG and Section 508 Compliance) /Author (Kaffeinated Kodemonkey) /Subject (WCAG and Section 508 Accessibility Checklist)

# 5 Steps to Start WCAG and Section 508 Compliance

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## Introduction

Welcome to your free checklist for starting your accessibility journey with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) and Section 508! This checklist provides five practical steps to ensure your website aligns with WCAG 2.0 Level A/AA (the baseline for Section 508) and prepares you for WCAG 2.1/2.2 compliance. Whether you're a developer, designer, or federal contractor, these beginner-friendly tasks will help you make your digital content inclusive. Complete these steps and contact Kaffeinated Kodemonkey for a free consultation to take your accessibility to the next level!

## Your Accessibility Checklist

- 110 **Identify content types on your site.** Check for text, images, videos, and code (e.g., HTML forms). This helps you understand what needs WCAG compliance (e.g., alt text for images, captions for videos). For Section 508, include non-web content like PDFs.
- 110 **Run an automated accessibility check.** Use free tools like WAVE (<https://wave.webaim.org>) or axe (<https://www.deque.com/axe>) to identify WCAG 2.0 A/AA issues, such as missing alt text or low contrast, which are required for Section 508 compliance.
- 110 **Test one page with a screen reader.** Download a free screen reader like NVDA (<https://www.nvaccess.org>) or use VoiceOver (Mac) to test a page. Ensure content like images and forms is accessible to screen reader users (WCAG 1.1.1, 2.1.1).
- 110 **Check if your site serves federal clients.** If you work with U.S. federal agencies, confirm Section 508 applicability. Review contracts or create a Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) to document WCAG 2.0 A/AA compliance.
- 110 **Document one accessibility fix.** Fix a simple issue, like adding alt text to an image (e.g., alt="A smiling dog on grass"), and log it in a report or VPAT. This builds a foundation for WCAG and Section 508 conformance.

## Take the Next Step

Ready to make your site fully accessible? Contact Kaffeinated Kodemonkey's DHS Trusted Testers for a free consultation to meet WCAG and Section 508 requirements under ADA Title II & III or federal contracts.

**Schedule your free consultation today!**