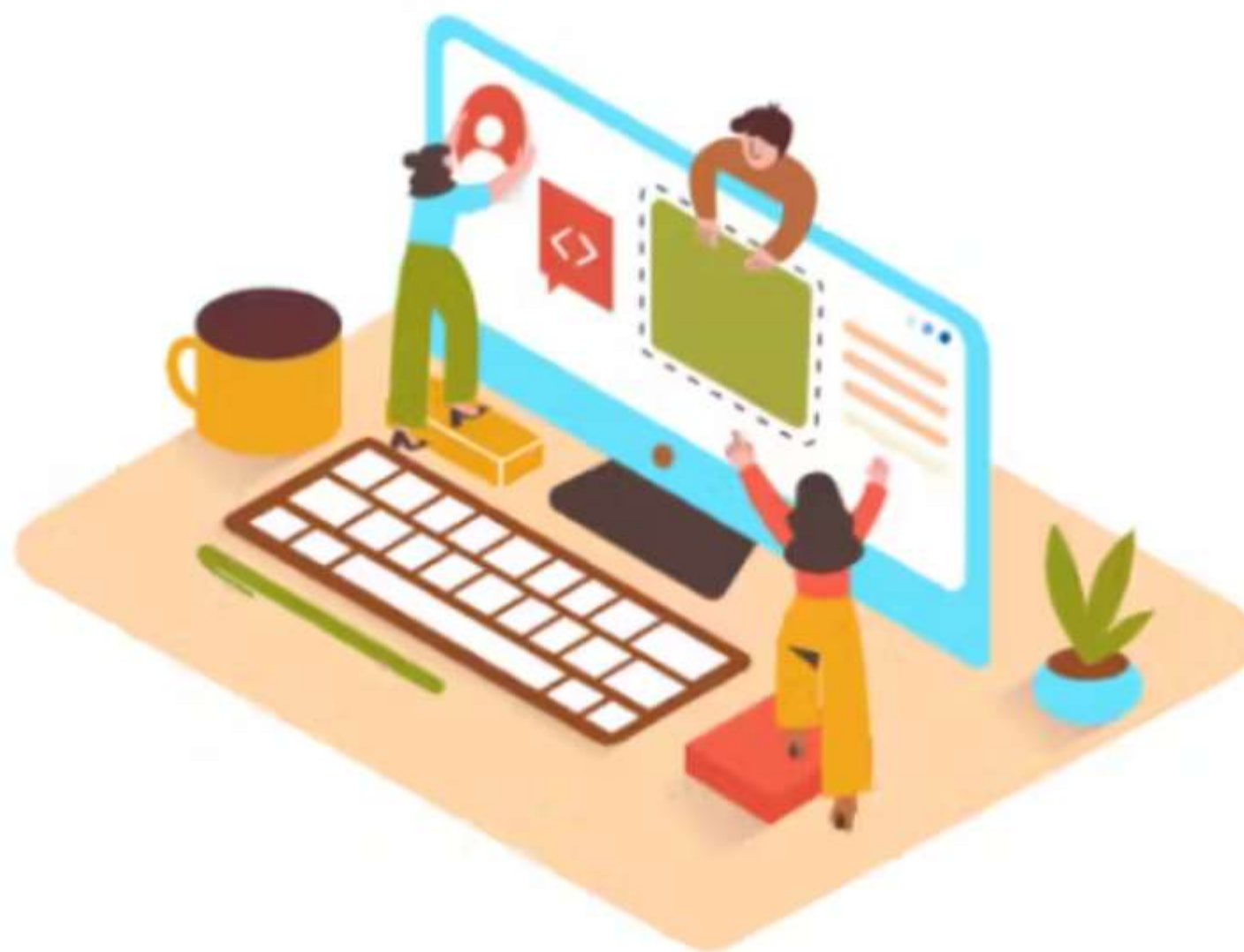# Skip Links

Improving Accessibility & Navigation on Your Website 🔗

Understanding the Problem

Nowadays websites have large headers or navigation. This makes it difficult for screen reader and keyboard users to quickly navigate to the main content. They need to tab through each navigation link before reaching the main content. This results in a bad user experience.

Skip Links: The Solution

To make it easy for screen readers, keyboard users, and other assistive technology users to navigate to the main content, skip links should be built.

- Skip links are present at the top of the website and are visually hidden.

- On the first Tab press, this link gains focus and is visible to the users.

- The users can then navigate directly to the main content by using the link.

Building a Skip Link 🧑‍💻

Following are the steps to build a skip link:

- Create a link that navigates it to the main content.

- Place the link at the top of the website so that it gains focus on the first Tab press.

- Make the link visually hidden.

- Show the link on focus.

0. The basic setup

The body of the HTML has 4 navigation links and then the main content. Screen readers or keyboard users will travel through all these navigation links before going to the main content.

Code

```html
<body>
    <nav>
        <a href="/">Nav link 1</a>
        <a href="/">Nav link 2</a>
        <a href="/">Nav link 3</a>
        <a href="/">Nav link 4</a>
    </nav>
    <main>
        <h1 id="main">Hello world </h1>
        <a href="/">About us</a>
    </main>
</body>
```

1. Creating a link

- Create a link to the main content on the page.

- Place it at the top of the web page.

Code

```html
<body>
  <a href="#main" class="skip-link">Skip to content</a>


    <nav>
        <a href="/">Nav link 1</a>

        <a href="/">Nav link 2</a>

        <a href="/">Nav link 3</a>

        <a href="/">Nav link 4</a>
  </nav>
  <main id="main">
    <h1>Hello world </h1>
    <a href="/">About us</a>
  </main>


</body>
```

2. Hiding the link

Giving the link an absolute position and translating it by the X-axis by -100% will make it hidden

```css
.skip-link {
    position: absolute;
    background: white;
    transform: translateX(-100%);
    overflow: hidden;
    width: 1px;
}
```

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3. Showing link on focus

Translating the skip link to 0% will make the link visible.

```css
.skip-link:focus {
    transform: translateX(0%);
    overflow: auto;
    width: auto;
}
```

Conclusion

Now, on Tab press, the Skip to content link is visible. By clicking on that link, we can skip the navigation links and go directly to the main content.

By providing a quick and easy way for users to navigate directly to the main content, skip links can improve the overall user experience and accessibility of a website.

That' all folks 👋

That's it for today's post on skip link. I hope this has been helpful in understanding the need for skip links and how it will make website accessible 🙌