

# Progress Bar component - screen reader issues



[Component page](#)

[Component discussion on github](#)

[Demonstration page](#)

## Notes

1. Completed sections are not announced as completed to a screen reader as the visual content (filled circle and tick icon) is added through CSS.
2. Current step ("Passport details" in this example) is programmatically indicated using `aria-current`. Quick testing shows support in Mac VoiceOver and Android TalkBack. iOS VoiceOver doesn't seem to support this so there's no announcement this is the current step.

## Questions

- There are a number of ways for addressing note 1. Possible options are revisiting the design to add a visible text label in addition to the tick icon, moving the tick icon into the HTML and providing alt text or adding visually hidden text. `aria-label` is not an option I think as it would be against the specification to add it to a `span` element (which is the current markup). Reference - <https://w3c.github.io/html-aria/#el-span>.
- How big of a deal is `aria-current` not being supported in iOS? Should we consider not using that technique because of that?
- Martin - are the icons sufficiently different for low vision? - they seem OK but not brilliant. I wonder if the circles need to be a bit bigger - or use different shapes - or even colours?



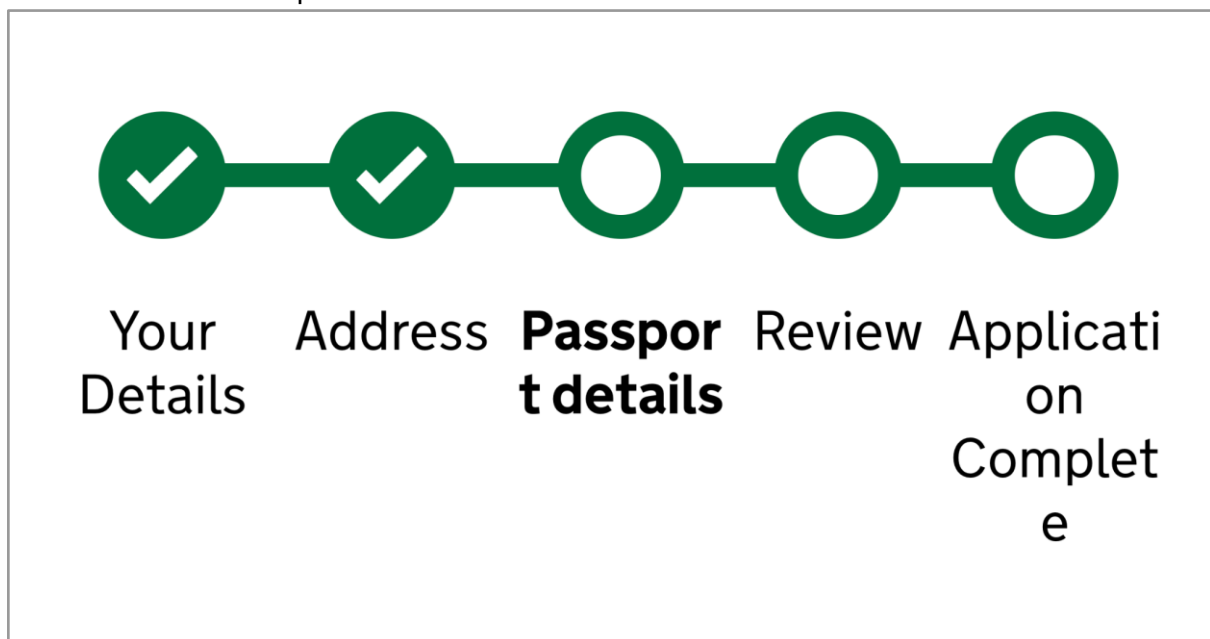
- Martin - where should this component sit in the page order and does it need a landmark? And where does the skip link take you? For example:

<main>

H1 heading  
Progress bar  
Questions  
</main>

<progress-bar>  
Progress bar  
<progress-bar>  
<main>  
H1 heading  
Questions  
</main>

- Martin - reflow poor:



## Team notes:

- Should this component exist?
- When do the PL team come in? Because it does seem like it could be reviewed
- GDS does not recommend Progress bar implementation like this
- Is this a user need? Have they done user research?

## Technical bits -

- Can we avoid use of ARIA? By using text (not just bolded text) notification
- Use of page title for instance
- Have we looked at that before (the team?)
- How would it work with branching (if it's not linear)
- Is this realistic, a 5 step process?
- There is a real benefit for people with short term memory loss for such a component

