Based on W3C,

**“Accessibility** (acronym a11y)" addresses discriminatory aspects related to equivalent user experience for people with disabilities. Web accessibility means that people with disabilities can equally perceive, understand, navigate, and interact with websites and tools. **Usability** is about designing products to be effective, efficient, and satisfying. Usability includes user experience design. This may include general aspects that impact everyone and do not disproportionally impact people with disabilities.”

In short answer, accessibility relates to how a disabled individual access and navigate the website and usability relates to the how easy things are to use.

Most of the time the web designers create websites based on “the average user” which is not disabled user. It is important that web designers combine usability procedures and accessibility needs to make sure that the website they created is easy to understand and navigate for all individuals.

The World Wide Web Consortium published a collection of web accessibility standards, that describes what features an accessible website should have. The key goal of web accessibility is to guarantee that disabled people (with visual, mobility, auditory, intellectual and cognitive issues) can understand and navigate the website.

Accessibility is focused on ensuring that people can view a website easy with a text to speech reader (which entails for instance using the alt tag on all images), have stylesheets which will work if the user wants to change the color contrast  ratio of the text or its size, and that has an interface which will work well even if a person is color blind or has movement problems which might make it hard for them to click on a small button or tap a small area of the screen. Another example is to add subtitles to any video content as well as adding transcripts.

Usability, back in 1980s before the World Wide Web, referred to a set of vague characteristics of user-friendly product.  Over time, standards were developed. ISO9241, for example, defines usability as the effectiveness, efficiency, and satisfaction that users enjoy when attempting to achieve a specific goal.

The idea of usability is to make the website that will make it as easy as possible for users to do the things that they need to do, accomplish tasks fast and without delays , and also to ensure that they find it pleasant as well by lowering the time it takes to learn page navigation systems.

The difference between usability and accessibility is that accessibility emphasis on having an equal access for people with incapacities while usability focus on the access to website considering ease of learning, efficiency of use, ease of memorization, error trapping, and satisfaction of user. Accessibility is a part of usability. The website can’t be usable if there is no assess to it. But while usability involve accessibility, the accessibility doesn’t involve usability.

Source:

1) <https://www.w3.org/WAI/fundamentals/accessibility-usability-inclusion/#:~:text=Accessibility%2C%20usability%2C%20and%20inclusion%20are,and%20developing%20websites%20and%20applications>.

2) <https://www.usability.gov/get-involved/blog/2013/01/accessibility-and-usability.html>

3) <https://www.rouge-media.com/blog/what-is-the-difference-between-web-usability-and-accessibility/#>

4) <https://salterrasite.com/web-design-usability-and-accessibility/>

5) <http://www.apaddedcell.com/what-s-the-difference-between-usability-and-accessibility#:~:text=Usability%20is%20a%20measure%20of%20how%20easy%20it%20is%20to,can%20be%20accessed%20by%20anybody>.