# Accessibility Standard: WCAG 1.0

Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 1.0 (WCAG 1.0 - 1999)

The WCAG 1.0 guidelines were published in 1999, and explain how to make web content accessible to people with disabilities.

## Rules

This section lists the 87 rules covering 43 checkpoints for WCAG 1.0 supported by the current version of the product.

## 1. Provide equivalent alternatives to auditory and visual content

1.1 A Text equivalents - 12 rules

applet elements must contain alternative content.

area elements must have an alt attribute.

img elements must have an alt attribute.

alt text should not be an image file name.

<u>input type=image</u> <u>elements must have a descriptive</u> <u>alt</u> <u>at...</u>

object elements should contain alternative content.

<u>Links in Flash movies should be duplicated as plain text links.</u>

<u>img alt</u> <u>text must not use ASCII art (which includes smileys).</u>

alt text should not contain placeholders like 'picture' or...

Figures and images in PDF documents should have non blank ALT...

button elements containing only an img must have an alt ...

Word document contains a graphic without ALT text.

**1.2 A** Server-side image maps - 1 rule

Provide redundant text links for each active region of a server-side...

1.3 A Auditory description - 1 rule

<u>Provide an audio description of the important information</u> of...

1.4 A Captions - 1 rule

This MPEG video has no audio track or captions.

**1.5 AAA** Client-side image maps. Obsolete, the «until user agents» condition has been met - No rules

## 2. Don't rely on color alone

- 2.1 A Color only information No rules
- 2.2 AAA Contrast 2 rules

If you set any of the colors on the body or a elements you...

Ensure that text and background colors have enough contrast.

## 3. Use markup and style sheets and do so properly

3.1 AA Use markup rather than images - 1 rule

Equations rendered as images should be marked up with MathML....

3.2 AA Use valid markup - 1 rule

<u>Create pages that validate to W3C recommendations. This</u> document...

## 3.3 AA Use style sheets - 2 rules

The basefont element should not be used in accessible docu...

The font element should not be used in accessible documents.

#### **3.4 AA** Avoid absolute units - 2 rules

Use relative units in CSS property values when zoom is disabled...

Use relative rather than absolute units in HTML attributes.

### **3.5 AA** Use headings - 3 rules

Headings must be nested correctly. For example, h2 must appear...

Headings should not contain other headings.

Headings should not be empty.

## **3.6 AA** Mark up lists - 1 rule

Mark up lists and list items properly. Avoid using images as...

## 3.7 AA Mark up quotations - No rules

## 4. Clarify natural language usage

## 4.1 A Identify changes in language - 1 rule

Phrases in a different language should be in a span or div ...

## 4.2 AAA Expand acronyms - 1 rule

Specify the expansion of each abbreviation or acronym in a document...

4.3 AAA Identify document language - 1 rule

Use the lang attribute to identify the language of the page.

## 5. Create tables that transform gracefully

5.1 A Table headers - 2 rules

<u>Identify row and column headers in data tables using the elements,...</u>

<u>Identify row and column headers in Word tables.</u>

5.2 A Multi-level table headers - 1 rule

For data tables that have two or more logical levels of row or...

- **5.3 AA** Ensure layout tables can be linearized No rules
- **5.4 AA** Avoid structural markup in layout tables 1 rule

If a table is used for layout, do not use any structural markup...

**5.5 AAA** Provide summaries for tables - 2 rules

Provide a caption element or title attribute or summary ...

Do not provide a summary attribute or caption for layout...

**5.6 AAA** Provide abbreviations for table headings - 1 rule

Include abbr attributes in th elements.

## 6. Ensure that pages featuring new technologies transform gracefully

**6.1 A** Ensure pages are readable without stylesheets - 1 rule

Absolute CSS positioning can make pages unreadable when style...

**6.2 A** Update equivalents when dynamic content changes - 1 rule

Ensure that equivalents for dynamic content are updated when...

**6.3** A Ensure pages are usable when scripts turned off - 1 rule

<u>Ensure that pages are usable when scripts, applets, or other...</u>

**6.4 AA** Use device independent event handlers - 1 rule

For SCRIPTs and APPLETs, ensure that event handlers are input...

**6.5 AA** Ensure dynamic content is accessible - 1 rule

<u>frameset</u> <u>elements should contain a non-empty</u> <u>noframes</u> el...

# 7. Ensure user control of time-sensitive content changes

7.1 A Avoid flicker - 3 rules

Scrolling marquee text is very hard to read for low vision...

Web pages must not contain large images that flash more than...

Web pages must not contain any images that flash more than three...

7.2 AA Avoid blinking - 1 rule

The blink element can trigger epileptic seizures and cause...

7.3 AA Avoid movement - 3 rules

Avoid animated images over 5 seconds long that can't be paused...

Avoid using Flash movies that run for more than 5 seconds and...

A video plays longer than 5 seconds, without a way to pause it.

7.4 AA No auto refresh - 1 rule

Do not use the meta tag to automatically refresh a page as...

7.5 AA No auto redirect - 1 rule

Do not use meta refresh with a non-zero timeout to automatically...

## 8. Ensure direct accessibility of embedded user interfaces

8.1 A Accessible applets - No rules

## 9. Design for device-independence

9.1 A Client-side image maps - 1 rule

<u>Use client-side image maps instead of server-side image maps,...</u>

9.2 AA Device-independent elements - 1 rule

This page has a Flash movie which references Flash version 5...

**9.3 AA** Logical event handlers - 8 rules

<u>All onmouseup handlers should have an equivalent onkeyup...</u>

<u>All onmouseover handlers should have an equivalent onfocus ...</u>

All onmouseout handlers should have an equivalent onblur...

All onmousedown handlers should have an equivalent onkeydown ...

All onclick handlers should have an equivalent onkeypress ...

All ondblclick handlers should have an equivalent onkey ... select lists cannot be operated from the keyboard if they have...

This form automatically submits when focus changes making it...

- 9.4 AAA Logical tab order No rules
- **9.5 AAA** Provide keyboard shortcuts No rules

## 10. Use interim solutions

10.1 AA No popups - 3 rules

Avoid specifying a new window as the target of a frame with ...

Avoid specifying a new window as the target of a link with \_\_\_\_\_.

Avoid specifying a new window as the target of a link using ...

- **10.2 AA** Label position. Obsolete, the «until user agents» condition has been met No rules
- **10.3 AAA** Side-by-side text. Obsolete, the «until user agents» condition has been met No rules
- **10.4 AAA** Empty controls. Obsolete, the «until user agents» condition has been met No rules
- **10.5 AAA** Adjacent links. Obsolete, the «until user agents» condition has been met No rules

## 11. Use W3C technologies and guidelines

11.1 AA Use W3C technologies - No rules

### 11.2 AA Avoid deprecated features - 3 rules

The basefont element should not be used in accessible docu...

The font element should not be used in accessible documents.

Avoid deprecated features of W3C technologies.

### 11.3 AAA Content negotiation - No rules

## 11.4 A Text only page - No rules

## 12. Provide context and orientation information

#### 12.1 A Frame titles - 4 rules

<u>iframe</u> and <u>frame</u> <u>elements</u> <u>must have title</u> <u>attributes</u>.

<u>Frame title</u> <u>must not be the same as the frame src file</u> <u>name</u>.

<u>frame title</u> <u>must describe function rather than visual relationship...</u>

No TITLE attributes found for the FRAMESETs on these pages.

## **12.2 AA** Frame descriptions - 1 rule

A frameset with three or more frames should have a longdesc ...

#### **12.3 AA** Divide blocks - 3 rules

Each section of content should begin with a heading element (h1,...

All radio button groups should be contained in a fieldset ...

All fieldset elements should be labeled with legend elements.

#### 12.4 AA Control labels - 3 rules

label elements should be attached to the controls they label.

The label element is blank.

The label for attribute refers to a non-existent control.

## 13. Provide clear navigation mechanisms

#### 13.1 AA Link labels - 3 rules

Each a element must contain text or an img with an alt... Link uses general text like 'Click Here' which doesn't explain...

Several links on a page share the same link text, but go to different...

#### 13.2 AA Metadata - 3 rules

Document must have a title.

Document title must not be blank.

<u>Document title must not contain placeholder text like</u> 'Untitled'...

### **13.3 AA** Site maps - 1 rule

Provide information about the general layout of a site using...

- **13.4 AA** Consistent navigation No rules
- 13.5 AAA Navigation bars No rules
- 13.6 AAA Group related links 3 rules

<u>Include a TITLE attribute for MAP elements.</u>

Provide a way to skip repetitive navigation links.

This skip link is broken. The target anchor does not exist or...

#### 13.7 AAA Search - No rules

#### 13.8 AAA Front load content - No rules

- 13.9 AAA Document collections No rules
- 13.10 AAA Skip ASCII art No rules

## 14. Ensure that documents are clear and simple

**14.1 A** Clear and simple language - 1 rule

This page is hard to read for users with learning disabilities...

- 14.2 AAA Supplement text No rules
- 14.2 AAA Consistent style No rules