

WCAG 2.0 CHECKLIST FOR UX DESIGNERS

Section 1: Make Site Perceivable

- 1. Do primary images have alt attributes?**
Primary images that convey content or important information should have an alt attribute content that conveys the same content or information as the image in written form. Be descriptive but concise.
- 2. Does video content have captioning or a transcript?**
All captioning or transcripts should convey all information and content included in the video.
- 3. Is color alone used to convey meaning or information?**
Color alone should never be used to convey meaning or information. Be careful using color for error handling.
- 4. Does the site have at least a 5:1 contrast ratio between text color and background color?**
At least a 5:1 contrast ratio is necessary to allow partially visually impaired users to read text. I recommend using available tools to test this.
- 5. Have you disabled Auto-Play?**
You should disable all autoplay for audio and video

Section 2: Make Site Operable

- 1. Is it possible to navigate to all links on a page using the keyboard only?**
Passing keyboard navigation tests is an important threshold making your site accessible. It is easily testable as well.
- 2. For pages with a search form, is it possible to navigate to all search form field and submit a search using only the keyboard?**
Just like navigating through a site its equally (if not more important) that users be able to navigate through forms and check-out procedures.
- 3. Does the cursor get trapped anywhere on the page when attempting to navigate by keyboard only?**
Make sure can do anything with a keyboard that you can do with a mouse and make sure your place on a site is easily identified.
- 4. Is there any flashing content on the site?**
Flashing content may present a seizure risk and is not consider good UX practice. Flashing content should be completely avoided.
- 5. Is there any "Timed" content or tasks on your site?**
There should be no timed tasks on the site. If it's absolutely necessary then you should provide and alternative to those with disabilities.

Section 3: Make Site Understandable

1. **Does the site contain any jargon, unusual words, acronyms, or abbreviations without providing a mechanism to identify and define each?**

These elements can be difficult to discern and retain for those with learning disabilities or other cognitive impairments, such as short-term memory loss. If these pieces are used, a mechanism to define the meaning of each should be used, such as linking to a dictionary definition.

2. **Is the page content written at no more than a 9th grade reading level?**

Run the page copy through a readability checker such as readability.io. If the readability level is higher than 9th grade, revise the content by reducing the number of words per sentence and number of sentences per paragraph.

3. **Did you use standard form layouts?**

Labels should be above forms and instructions should be below. Don't be tempted by aesthetics to place labels inside the form field.

4. **If your site requires tasks or workflows do you have a help system?**

Always provide help when requiring users to complete a task.

Section 4: Make Site Robust

1. **Is the destination and context of each link clear when read out of context?**

Links text should be descriptive of destination and content to allow for ease of use with screen readers and assistive technology

2. **Is the content of each section clearly defined with a header that makes sense when read out of content?**

Many screen readers and assistive technology allow navigation by jumping from header to header. Each content section should have a header that is descriptive of the content when read out of context.)

3. **Do the first two sentences of each paragraph make sense when read out of context?**

Many screen readers and assistive technology allow navigation by jumping from paragraph to paragraph. Each content paragraph should have solid topic sentences that are descriptive of the paragraph content when read out of context.

4. **Are buttons used only to complete an action, such as submitting a form?**

Buttons should only be used to complete actions and never for navigation.

5. **Are links only used for navigation?**

Links should never be used to complete a task. This can cause errors in assistive web browsers.