**WCAG 2.1 Checklist support**

This document has been created to support your use of the WebAIM’s WCAG Checklist as a method of checking your web site’s conformance to the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0.

The checklist can be viewed from <https://webaim.org/standards/wcag/checklist> and downloaded from <https://webaim.org/standards/wcag/WCAG2Checklist.pdf>

Please note that WebAIM says about the checklist “The following is NOT the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2. It is a checklist that presents our recommendations for implementing accessibility principles and techniques for those seeking WCAG conformance. The language used here significantly simplifies and condenses the official [WCAG 2.1 specification](https://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG21/) and supporting materials to make it easier to implement and verify for web pages.”

**Perceivable**

**Web content is made available to the senses - sight, hearing, and/or touch**

**Guideline 1.1 Text Alternatives: Provide text alternatives for any non-text content**

Check all elements - may be relative to your site.

**Guideline 1.2 Time-based Media: Provide alternatives for time-based media**

Relevant only if you have used video or audio.

Notes: It is beyond the scope of the assignment to comply fully with these requirements. However, any audio or video should at the very least be accompanied by a short textual description of the content. This can either be in a linked document (not counted as one of your 10 pages) or situated on the actual web page.

**Guideline 1.3 Adaptable: Create content that can be presented in different ways (e.g., simpler layout) without losing information or structure**

Check all elements - may be relative to your site.

New for WCAG 2.1 – 1.3.4 Orientation – try your site on a mobile/tablet for this.

New for WCAG 2.1 – 1.3.5 Identify input purpose – beyond most of our projects but worth understanding.

New for WCAG 2.1 – 1.3.6 Identify purpose – simply make sure you are using the semantic tags correctly, e.g. your navigation sits inside the <nav> element.

**Guideline 1.4 Distinguishable: Make it easier for users to see and hear content including separating foreground from background**

Check all elements - may be relative to your site.

Note: 1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum)

You can check contrast between text and background colours by using the online tools at: <https://contrast-ratio.com/> or <https://webaim.org/resources/contrastchecker/>

New for WCAG 2.1 – 1.4.10 Reflow – an example would be to ensure your navigation is usable at smaller screen sizes (avoiding having to scroll horizontally to reach menu options).

New for WCAG 2.1 – 1.4.11 Non-text contrast – this is about ensuring good colour contrast for all elements, rather than just thinking about text/background colours.

New for WCAG 2.1 – 1.4.12 Text spacing – an example would be an aside, which contains a short item of text that just fits the box. The user increases the font size, and now the text no longer fits/is legible.

New for WCAG 2.1 – 1.4.13 Content on hover or focus – Tooltips created by title attributes can be escaped by default. Worth reading up on, especially how an Aria tooltip can be used.

**Operable**

**Interface forms, controls, and navigation are operable**

**Guideline 2.1 Keyboard Accessible: Make all functionality available from a keyboard**

Note: Ensure that using the tab key and the enter key you can navigate and select the links on you page.

Can you see where you are on the page when tabbing? Read this article and watch what happens when you tab through it. - https://webaim.org/techniques/keyboard/

New for WCAG 2.1 – 2.1.4 Character key short-cuts – beyond our projects but relates to dangers of assigning single character key shortcuts to your web pages. If the letter I for example takes a user back to the homepage, think what would happen as they were speaking naturally.

**Guideline 2.2 Enough Time: Provide users enough time to read and use content**

Note: Take special notice of 2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide (Level A) if you have added any animation to your pages. This includes animated banners.

New for WCAG 2.1 – 2.2.6 Timeouts – beyond our projects. An example from W3C - While making a purchase on an e-commerce Web site, the information input by the user is stored for more than 20 hours. This helps ensure that if they need to stop working for a while that they are more likely to be able to continue the purchase when they return.

**Guideline 2.3 Seizures: Do not design content in a way that is known to cause seizures**

Note: The same applies regarding animations.

New for WCAG 2.1 – 2.3.3 Animations from interactions – can the user stop any non-essential animation and movement that is triggered by user interaction that you have created?

**Guideline 2.4 Navigable: Provide ways to help users navigate, find content, and determine where they are**

**2.4.1 Bypass Blocks** (Level A) and **2.4.7 Focus Visible** Investigate skip links (http://webaim.org/techniques/skipnav/), Aria Roles (http://www.webteacher.ws/2012/04/16/improve-accessibility-in-html5-with-wai-aria-landmark-roles/) and Link Focus (http://webaim.org/techniques/hypertext/link\_text#hover)

**2.4.5 Multiple Ways** (Level AA) goes beyond the scope of this project as you are only allowed 25 web pages.

Check all remaining elements – they may be relative to your site.

**Guideline 2.5 Input Modalities: Make it easier for users to operate functionality through various inputs beyond keyboard.**

All new for WCAG 2.1, all of these points are relevant to your projects. Think about interaction with your product beyond just a mouse and keyboard. Think about touch, voice, movement, keyboard only, restricted keys (mobile) etc.

**Understandable**

**Content and interface are understandable**

**Guideline 3.1 Readable: Make text content readable and understandable**

Check all elements - may be relative to your site.

**Guideline 3.2 Predictable: Make Web pages appear and operate in predictable ways**

Check all elements - may be relative to your site.

Notes: In student terms these mean ‘never launch new windows or tabs from a link’ and ‘make sure your navigation menu remains consistent, e.g. when on the *contact page*, don’t remove the *contact us* link from the menu’.

**Guideline 3.3 Input Assistance: Help users avoid and correct mistakes**

(Probably) not applicable to your project web pages.

**Robust Content can be used reliably by a wide variety of user agents, including assistive technologies**

**Guideline 4.1 Compatible: Maximize compatibility with current and future user agents, including assistive technologies**

Check all elements - may be relative to your site.

Notes: This means ‘stick to standards, use semantic mark-up and validate your code’.

New for WCAG 2.1 – 4.1.3 Status messages – beyond most of our projects but worth understanding. An example from the W3C - After a user activates a process, an icon symbolizing 'busy' appears on the screen. The screen reader announces "application busy".