

# WCAG Accessibility Checklist (With Bad & Good Examples)

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## 1. Text Alternatives (Alt Text)

### Checklist

- All images must have meaningful alt text.
- Decorative images must have empty alt (`alt=""`).

### Bad Example

```

```

### Good Example

```

```

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## 2. Color Contrast

### Checklist

- Text must have **4.5:1** contrast ratio (normal text).
- Large text must have **3:1** contrast.
- Never rely on color alone to convey information.

### Bad Example

```
<p style="color:#aaa;">Important notice</p>
```

### Good Example

```
<p style="color:#000;">Important notice</p>
```

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## 3. Headings & Structure

### Checklist

- Use proper HTML heading levels (**h1** → **h2** → **h3**).
- Avoid skipping heading levels.

### Bad Example

```
<h1>Page Title</h1>  
<h3>Section Title</h3>
```

### Good Example

```
<h1>Page Title</h1>  
<h2>Section Title</h2>
```

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## 4. Keyboard Accessibility

### Checklist

- All buttons, links, menus must be usable with **Tab / Enter / Space**.
- No keyboard traps.

### Bad Example

```
<div onclick="openModal()">Open</div>
```

### Good Example

```
<button onclick="openModal()">Open</button>
```

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## 5. Focus Visible

### Checklist

- All interactive elements must show a visible focus outline.

### Bad Example

```
button:focus {  
  outline: none;  
}
```

### Good Example

```
button:focus {  
  outline: 2px solid #005fcc;  
}
```

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## 6. Form Labels

### Checklist

- Every input must have a label.
- Use `for` attribute and `id` mapping.

### Bad Example

```
<input type="email" placeholder="Enter email">
```

### Good Example

```
<label for="email">Email</label>  
<input id="email" type="email">
```

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## 7. Error Messages & Validation

### Checklist

- Errors must be clearly described.
- Do not rely on color alone.

### Bad Example

```
<p style="color:red;">Error</p>
```

### Good Example

```
<p class="error">Email is required to continue.</p>
```

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## 8. Link Purpose

### Checklist

- Link text must describe the action/destination.

### Bad Example

```
<a href="/report">Click here</a>
```

### Good Example

```
<a href="/report">Download report</a>
```

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## 9. ARIA Use

### Checklist

- Use ARIA only when necessary.

- Prefer semantic HTML.

### Bad Example

```
<div role="button">Submit</div>
```

### Good Example

```
<button>Submit</button>
```

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## 10. Responsive & Reflow

### Checklist

- Content must reflow without requiring horizontal scrolling.
- Font must be readable at 200% zoom.

### Bad Example

```
.page {  
  width: 1200px;  
}
```

### Good Example

```
.page {  
  max-width: 100%;  
}
```

---

## 11. Semantic HTML

### Checklist

- Use proper tags: `<nav>`, `<main>`, `<header>`, `<footer>`.

### **Bad Example**

```
<div class="menu"></div>
```

### **Good Example**

```
<nav></nav>
```

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## **12. Timing Controls**

### **Checklist**

- Users should be able to pause, extend, or disable time limits.

### **Bad Example**

```
<form id="session" data-timeout="30">
```

### **Good Example**

Provide a "Extend session" button.

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## **13. Multimedia Accessibility**

### **Checklist**

- Videos need:
  - Captions
  - Transcripts
  - Audio descriptions (when required)

### **Bad Example**

```
<video src="intro.mp4" controls></video>
```

### Good Example

```
<video src="intro.mp4" controls>  
  <track kind="captions" src="captions.vtt" srclang="en">  
</video>
```

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## 14. Skip Navigation

### Checklist

- Provide a "Skip to main content" link.

### Bad Example

No skip link.

### Good Example

```
<a href="#main" class="skip">Skip to main content</a>
```

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## 15. Flashing Content

### Checklist

- Avoid content flashing more than **3 times/second**.

### Bad Example

Animation flashes repeatedly.

### Good Example

Smooth transitions, non-flashing animations.