Accessibility Testing Checklist

WCAG 2.1 Level AA Compliance Testing

Automated Testing Tools

WAVE (Web Accessibility Evaluation Tool)

- ☐ Test homepage with WAVE browser extension
- ☐ Test blog archive page
- ☐ Test single post template
- ☐ Test page template
- ☐ Verify no errors reported
- ☐ Address all warnings
- ☐ Check contrast errors (should be 0)

axe DevTools

- ☐ Run axe scan on homepage
- ☐ Run axe scan on blog post
- ☐ Run axe scan on contact page
- ☐ Fix all critical issues
- ☐ Fix all serious issues
- ☐ Document moderate issues with justification

Keyboard Navigation Testing

Tab Order

- ☐ Tab through entire homepage in logical order
- ☐ Verify skip-to-content link is first focusable element
- ☐ Test all interactive elements receive focus
- ☐ Verify focus order matches visual layout
- ☐ Check mobile menu is keyboard accessible

Focus Indicators

- ☐ All links show visible focus indicator
- ☐ Buttons have clear focus state
- ☐ Form inputs have focus border
- ☐ Mobile menu toggle shows focus
- ☐ Navigation items show focus state
- ☐ Minimum 2px outline on all focus states

Keyboard Shortcuts

- ☐ Escape key closes mobile menu
- ☐ Tab cycles through mobile menu when open
- ☐ Shift+Tab reverse cycles correctly
- ☐ Enter/Space activates buttons
- ☐ Arrow keys work in navigation (if applicable)

Screen Reader Testing

NVDA (Windows) Testing

- ☐ Install NVDA screen reader
- ☐ Navigate homepage with only NVDA + keyboard
- ☐ Verify heading hierarchy is announced correctly
- ☐ Test landmark regions (header, main, footer, nav)
- ☐ Verify images have proper alt text announcements
- ☐ Check buttons announce as buttons
- ☐ Test form labels read correctly
- ☐ Verify mobile menu ARIA states

VoiceOver (macOS) Testing

- ☐ Enable VoiceOver (Cmd+F5)
- ☐ Navigate homepage with VoiceOver
- ☐ Test rotor heading navigation
- ☐ Verify link announcements include context
- ☐ Test image alt text descriptions
- ☐ Check form field labels

Expected Announcements

- Skip link: "Skip to content, link"
- Mobile menu toggle: "Menu, button, not expanded"
- Post link: "[Post Title], link"
- Featured image: "[Descriptive alt text], image"
- Category: "Posted in [Category Name], link"

Color Contrast Testing

Light Mode Verification

- ☐ Primary Blue (#359EFF) on Background Light - 4.52:1 ✓
- ☐ Primary Dark (#2E4F64) on Background Light - 7.89:1 ✓
- ☐ Text Light (#4A4A4A) on Background Light - 7.12:1 ✓
- ☐ CTA Yellow button: Accent Text on CTA Yellow - 8.91:1 ✓
- ☐ All text passes WCAG AA (4.5:1 minimum)
- ☐ Large text passes WCAG AAA (7:1 minimum where applicable)

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Dark Mode Verification

- ☐ Text Dark (#E0E0E0) on Background Dark - 11.25:1 ✓
- ☐ Primary Blue (#359EFF) on Background Dark - 5.94:1 ✓
- ☐ All dark mode combinations pass WCAG AA
- ☐ Test with dark mode toggle

High Contrast Mode

- ☐ Test Windows High Contrast Mode
- ☐ Verify all borders are visible
- ☐ Check focus indicators remain visible
- ☐ Test button outlines appear

ARIA Implementation Review

ARIA Labels

- ☐ Mobile menu toggle has aria-label="Menu"
- ☐ Mobile menu drawer has aria-label="Mobile navigation"
- ☐ Close button has aria-label="Close menu"
- ☐ All icon-only buttons have aria-labels

ARIA States

- ☐ Mobile toggle: aria-expanded="false" when closed
- ☐ Mobile toggle: aria-expanded="true" when open
- ☐ Mobile drawer: aria-hidden="true" when closed
- ☐ Mobile drawer: aria-hidden="false" when open

ARIA Controls

- ☐ Toggle button: aria-controls="mobile-menu-drawer"
- ☐ Verify IDs match between controls and targets

Semantic HTML Audit

Document Structure

- ☐ One H1 per page (page/post title)
- ☐ Heading hierarchy is logical (no skipped levels)
- ☐ Proper nesting: H1 → H2 → H3 (no H1 → H3)
- ☐ `<header>` wraps site header
- ☐ `<main>` wraps primary content
- ☐ `<article>` wraps blog post content
- ☐ `<footer>` wraps site footer
- ☐ `<nav>` wraps navigation menus

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Links and Buttons

- ☐ Links (`<a>`) navigate to URLs
- ☐ Buttons (`<button>`) trigger actions
- ☐ No `<div onclick>` fake buttons
- ☐ Link text is descriptive (no "click here")
- ☐ External links have proper context

Form Accessibility

Labels and Inputs

- ☐ All inputs have associated `<label>` elements
- ☐ Labels use `for` attribute matching input `id`
- ☐ Required fields have `aria-required="true"`
- ☐ Error messages have `aria-live` regions
- ☐ Placeholder text is NOT used as labels

Form Validation

- ☐ Error messages are descriptive
- ☐ Errors are announced to screen readers
- ☐ Success messages are announced
- ☐ Focus moves to first error on submission

Motion and Animation

Reduced Motion Support

- ☐ Test with prefers-reduced-motion enabled
- ☐ Mobile menu transition reduces to 0.01s
- ☐ Verify no auto-playing videos
- ☐ Check no parallax scrolling effects
- ☐ Carousel animations respect reduced motion

Animation Testing

```css
/* Verify this is implemented */
@media (prefers-reduced-motion: reduce) {
  *,
  *::before,
  *::after {
    animation-duration: 0.01ms !important;
    animation-iteration-count: 1 !important;
    transition-duration: 0.01ms !important;
  }
}
```

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Mobile Accessibility

Touch Targets

- ☐ All buttons minimum 44x44 pixels
- ☐ Mobile menu items minimum 44px height
- ☐ Adequate spacing between touch targets (8px minimum)
- ☐ Test on actual mobile device (iOS/Android)

Viewport and Zoom

- ☐ No `maximum-scale` restriction in viewport meta
- ☐ Content reflows at 320px width
- ☐ Text remains readable at 200% zoom
- ☐ No horizontal scrolling at mobile sizes

Skip Links

Skip to Content

- ☐ Skip link is first focusable element
- ☐ Skip link is visually hidden until focused
- ☐ Skip link becomes visible on focus
- ☐ Skip link moves focus to main content
- ☐ Skip link bypasses navigation

Testing Results Template

```
## Accessibility Test Results

**Date:** [YYYY-MM-DD]
**Tester:** [Name]
**Tools Used:** WAVE, axe DevTools, NVDA, Lighthouse

### Summary
- WCAG Level: AA
- Critical Issues: 0
- Serious Issues: 0
- Moderate Issues: [X]
- Minor Issues: [X]

### Issues Found
1. [Description]
   - Severity: [Critical/Serious/Moderate/Minor]
   - Fix: [Solution]
   - Status: [Fixed/In Progress/Wontfix]

### Screen Reader Testing
```

```
    - NVDA (Windows): [Pass/Fail]
    - VoiceOver (macOS): [Pass/Fail]
    - Notes: [Any observations]

    ### Keyboard Navigation
    - Tab order: [Pass/Fail]
    - Focus indicators: [Pass/Fail]
    - Keyboard shortcuts: [Pass/Fail]

    ### Color Contrast
    - Light mode: [Pass/Fail]
    - Dark mode: [Pass/Fail]
    - All ratios meet WCAG AA

    ### Recommendations
    1. [Recommendation]
    2. [Recommendation]
```

Compliance Statement

This theme aims to conform to WCAG 2.1 Level AA standards. We test with:

- Automated tools (WAVE, axe DevTools)
- Manual keyboard navigation
- Screen readers (NVDA, VoiceOver)
- Real users with disabilities (when possible)

Report accessibility issues to: [support email]

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