Every Image Element Has An alt Attribute

Overview

Informative images should have an `alt` attribute that includes a text description of the contents of that image. Screen readers enable visually-impaired users to use your site by converting text content to forms they can use, such as synthesized speech or Braille. Screen readers can't convert images. So if your images include important information, that information is not accessible to visually-impaired users.

See Text Alternatives for Images for more information.

Recommendations

Below the audit, Lighthouse displays something like `1 element fails this test`. The number varies depending on how many elements are failing. Click this label to expand the list. You can find each element in your DOM by running the $(), $$(), and $x() functions from the Chrome DevTools Console.

Add an `alt` attribute to `img` elements. The value of the `alt` attribute should be text describing the content of the image. If an image is *not* informative, if it's purely a decorative element, you can tell a screen reader to ignore it using an empty `alt=""` attribute. You can run the following command in the DevTools Console to find the elements:

```
$$('img:not([alt])');
```

Note: `$$()` is equivalent to `document.querySelectorAll()`.

DevTools returns an array. Expand the array and then hover over each `img` to highlight it in the viewport.

When writing a description for each image, keep in mind that this is all the information that visually-impaired users have to go by, so try to make it as useful as possible for them. You don't need to explain every detail of the image, instead consider the context in which the image is being used, and try to convey the gist of the scene as efficiently as possible.

More information

This audit is powered by the aXe Accessibility Engine. See <u>Images must have alternate text</u> for more information.

Feedback

Was this page helpful?

YES   NO

Great! Thank you for the feedback.

Sorry to hear that. Please <u>open an issue</u> and tell us how we can improve.

Last updated July 24, 2018.