Website Accessibility Checkers: Resource List & Toolbar Checks

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Accessibility Toolbars

- WAVE Toolbar
 - For Firefox
 - o Internet, Intranet, Password Protected, Dynamically Generated
 - Evaluates rendered version of your page
 - Locally displayed styles
 - Dynamically generated content from scripts or AJAX
- Web Accessibility Toolbar (WAT)
 - o For IE and Opera
 - Many options including check CSS, HTML Validator, Color Contrast Analyser, etc.
- <u>Firefox Web Developers Toolbar</u> + Accessibility Extension
 - o Use with Firefox Accessibility Evaluation Toolbar

Automated checkers

- WAVE
 - Check single pages
 - o Free
- Functional Accessibility Evaluator (FAE)
 - o Evaluate multiple pages via web crawling
 - Free account
- SortSite Accessibility Checker and Validator
 - o 30-day Trial
- HiSoftware Compliance Sheriff and Compliance Deputy
 - Vendor Demo

Resources

- W3C Easy Checks A First Review of Web Accessibility
 - Includes <u>Before-and-After Demo</u> for checking website accessibility

Considerations for Selecting a Representative Sample

- Pages relevant to entire site
 - o Homepage
 - o Login Page
 - Contact information
 - Feedback forms
 - Search
 - Sitemap
 - Navigation elements
 - o Help
 - Accessibility Statement
- Most popular pages (based on Web Analytics)
- Pages required by people with disabilities (ex: Accessibility Policy)

- Pages with common functionality
- Pages with common types of accessibility concerns
 - o PDF, Flash, Forms, Multimedia, MSOffice, etc.
- Interactive components
- All pages in a process (ex: Registration, Shopping, Form completion
- Templates
- Typical content pages
- Dynamic vs. Static Pages

Toolbar Checklist for Section 508 (with WCAG 2.0 mapping)

Utilizing the Web Accessibility Toolbar (WAT) for IE, Opera

Section 508 Standards: 1194.22 (a) through (p), and 1194.21 (a).

The WCAG 2.0 mapping is provided in parentheses after each Section 508 Standard Note: After conducting a toolbar test, refresh your browser

- alt text (1.1.1 and 1.4.5): Images>List Images (check ALT text is correctly provided for all non-text elements); or Images>Remove Images (visual check of ALT text on website instead of actual images; does ALT text make sense)
- multimedia/synchronized captions (1.2.1): Requires manual check: do all videos (embedded and/or linked) include: synchronized captions, text transcripts and descriptive video (text description of key visual elements
- color and contrast (1.4.1 and 1.4.3): Colour>Juicy Studio Colour Contrast Analyser (review for Pass/Fail); or Colour>Colour Contrast Analyser (to use eyedroppers to select foreground/background colors for WCAG 2.0 Level AA and AAA Pass/Fail).
- **readable without style sheets (n/a):** CSS>Disable CSS (separates content (text, images, etc.) from presentation (manner in which content is displayed); does your page use proper semantic markup (headings, lists, etc.) so the style-less page appears in the proper order and is readable, logically presented).
- **server-side image maps:** server side image maps are mostly obsolete; use client-side maps instead.
- client-side image maps (multiple): Images>Show Image Maps
- row/column headers (1.3.1): Tables>use all features in this menu to test tables
- markup, table cells assoc with headers (1.3.1): Tables>use all features in this menu to test data tables
- frames have titles (4.1.2): Frames>Frame Name/Title (use all features in this menu)
- screen flicker (2.3.1): Requires manual check; view your page for animated gifs, text
 that has been formatted using <bli>blink> or <marquee>, and other animations. Remove. If
 necessary, provide a means to stop the flicker. Download Photosensitive Epilepsy
 Analysis Tool (PEAT) from TRACE, University of Wisconsin.
- **text-only version (n/a):** obsolete; ensure primary website is accessible for all visitors
- scripting languages (multiple): review WebAIM Accessible JavaScript
- applets, plugins (multiple): review WebAIM <u>Section 508 Checklist</u> and <u>WCAG 2.0</u> Checklist
- forms have text labels (multiple): Review WebAIM <u>Creating Accessible Forms</u>, and W3C Easy Checks A First Review of Web Accessibility, <u>Forms</u>, <u>Labels and Errors</u>
- **skip repetitive navigation (2.4.1):** DocInfo>List Links (New Window); this is a good time to review all links ensure the hyperlink text (here listed as "Content") is descriptive and succinctly describes the link destination (avoid Click Here, Read More, or URL text). For

- Skip Navigation, review list of links and near top be sure you have a Skip To Content or Skip Navigation link. Review WebAIM's Skip Navigation Links.
- **timed response (2.2.1):** Requires manual check. Review for any elements that require timed response (quiz, auto-refresh, redirects, etc.). Ensure visitors are warned before the time limit expires. Ensure method provided for visitors to indicate more time is needed (before the time limit is reached). For more information, review WebAIM WCAG 2.0 Checklist and select hyperlinked Success Criteria 2.2.1 for W3C information on Understanding and How to meet this guideline.
- Section 508 (Software): a) keyboard accessible (2.1.1 and 2.1.2): unplug mouse and ensure navigation of website, forms and all functionality is possible with keyboard alone. For testing guidelines, review W3C Easy Checks A First Review of Web Accessibility, Keyboard Access, Focus Order and Visual Focus. (expand all sections indicated by +)