

Understanding the WCAG



WCAG 2.1 & WCAG 2.2

WCAG 2.0

W3C Recommendation 11 December 2008

WCAG 2.1

W3C Recommendation 05 June 2018

WCAG 2.2

W3C Editor's Draft 03 October 2022

WCAG 2.2 (What's New)

1.3.4 Orientation

Orientation of web content is not restricted to only portrait or landscape, unless a specific orientation is necessary.

1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose

Input fields that collect certain types of user information have an appropriate autocomplete attribute defined.

“I love websites that can automatically fill it all in (personal info) for me. Then I don’t have to work so hard to get the numbers and spelling right.”

Note: This works because the fields use autocomplete.

WCAG 2.2 (What's New)

1.4.10 Reflow

Basically requires Responsive design

Users with low vision who need to make things larger.

The content will wrap inside the viewport instead of causing horizontal scroll.

1.4.11 Non-Text Contrast

Extends 3:1 contrast minimums to important graphical information, visible focus indicators and other interactive controls.

The various states (focus, hover, active, etc.) of author-customized interactive components must all present 3:1 contrast.

1.4.12 Text Spacing

Line height (line spacing) to at least 1.5 times the font size;

Spacing following paragraphs to at least 2 times the font size;

Letter spacing (tracking) to at least 0.12 times the font size;

Word spacing to at least 0.16 times the font size.

WCAG 2.2 (What's New)

1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus

Requires hover effects like custom tooltips etc, not to obscure the trigger that activated them, and helps users move into the hover box without having it close on them.

2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts

If a keyboard shortcut uses printable character keys, then the user must be able to disable the key command, change the defined key to a non-printable key (Ctrl, Alt, etc.), or only activate the shortcut when an associated interface component or button is focused.

2.4.11 Focus Appearance - WCAG 2.2

When the keyboard focus indicator is visible it's clearly visible by being thick enough and by having good contrast between itself and the background.

WCAG 2.2 (What's New)

2.4.12 Focus Not Obscured - WCAG 2.2

When a user interface component receives keyboard focus, the component is not entirely hidden due to author-created content.

2.5.1 Pointer gestures

Requires authors to ensure the user can perform touch functions with assistive technology or one finger. If multipoint or path-based gestures (such as pinching, swiping, or dragging across the screen) are essential to the functionality, then the functionality can also be performed with a single point activation (such as activating a button).

2.5.7 Dragging Movements - WCAG 2.2

All functionality that uses a dragging movement for operation can be achieved by a single pointer without dragging, unless dragging is essential or the functionality is determined by the user agent and not modified by the author.

WCAG 2.2 (What's New)

2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation

To help avoid inadvertent activation of controls, avoid non-essential down-event (Ex: onmousedown) activation when clicking, tapping, or long pressing the screen. Use onclick, onmouseup, or similar instead.

If onmouseup (or similar) is used, you must provide a mechanism to abort or undo the action performed.

2.5.3 Label in Name

If an interface component (link, button, etc.) presents text (or images of text), the accessible name (label, alternative text, aria-label, etc.) for that component must include the visible text.

2.5.4 Motion Actuation

Functionality that is triggered by moving the device (such as shaking or panning a mobile device) or by user movement (such as waving to a camera) can be disabled and equivalent functionality is provided via standard controls like buttons.

WCAG 2.2 (What's New)

2.5.5 Target Size - WCAG 2.2

Addresses hand tremors and mobile environments

Clickable targets are at least 24 by 24 pixels in size unless an alternative target of that size is provided, the target is inline (such as a link within a sentence), the target is not author-modified (such as a default checkbox), or the small target size is essential to the functionality.

3.2.6 Consistent Help - WCAG 2.2

If a web page contains any help mechanisms, and those mechanisms are repeated on multiple web pages within a set of web pages, they occur in the same relative order to other page content

3.3.7 Accessible Authentication - WCAG 2.2

**Support for password entry by password managers to reduce memory need, and
Copy and paste to reduce the cognitive burden of re-typing.**

WCAG 2.2 (What's New)

3.3.9 Redundant Entry - WCAG 2.2

**Information previously entered by or provided to the user that is required to be entered again in the same process is either:
auto-populated, or available for the user to select.**

Except when: re-entering the information is essential,

4.1.3 Status Messages

For HTML pages, when there is a visible status message, this requires authors to use aria-live roles or attributes to notify the users when something on the page changes.

If an important status message is presented and focus is not set to that message, the message must be announced to screen reader users, typically via an ARIA alert or live region.

Understanding the WCAG



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| **Creating Accessible Documents in MS Office 365, Accessible PDFs with WCAG 2.2**

| **InDesign: Accessible PDFs with WCAG 2.2**

Technical Officers

| **WCAG Techniques for Web Pages**

| **WCAG Techniques for Web Applications and Forms**

| **Accessible PDFs with WCAG 2.2**

QA/Testing

| **WCAG Testing for Web Pages, Web Applications and Forms, PDF Documents, PDF Forms**