Our Auditing Tool - OARC

OARC

The Open Accessibility Review Checker

OARC

Open Accessibility Review Checker

A

TEXT FEATURES

Aspects of accessibility requirements that apply to the text only.



B

NON-TEXT FEATURES

Aspects of accessibility requirements that apply to everything else.



C

SEMANTIC TAGGING

Ensuring the document is structured, tagged and marked up to maximise accessibility.



D

READING ORDER AND NAVIGATION

Some additional considerations that support navigation.



E

METADATA

Metadata about the accessibility of the document.



Our custom auditing tool has been developed by Open Book Futures to help small presses audit their static eBook files for accessibility. There are 40 points on the checklist, split into 5 sections: Text Features, Non-Text Features, Semantic Tagging, Reading Order and Navigation, and Metadata. There is an optional 6th section for if your book involves Pre-recorded Media, and for that there are 2 points. To determine these checklist points, we took out just the elements of WCAG that apply to static eBook files, removing those that apply to dynamic and interactive web pages, and adding in some additional EPUB or PDF specific points. Therefore the checklist is not suitable for auditing websites.

You can also access OARC formatted as a spreadsheet: OARC [Google Sheets]

On the spreadsheet you can find some additional context including whether each feature can be audited by a machine or needs to be done manually, and our approximation of how complicated each task is. Therefore, below, we present the checklist 3 times, in section order, and then split by human or machine audit and then by complexity.

View this information as a video.

OARC

A Text Features

1. Text is actual text; not images of text.
2. Colours of text has contrast ratio of at least 4.5:1
3. Headings are descriptive of the content they contain
4. Text is reflowable without causing horizontal scrolling or other problems
5. Text can be resized without causing horizontal scrolling or other problems
6. Line height and spacing, letter spacing and word spacing can all be changed without problems
7. Orientation can be changed without problems
8. Fonts are coded correctly

B Non-Text Features

1. Non-text features (figures, graphics, captions, links, mathematical expressions) have meaningful ALT text
2. Colours of non-text features (figures, graphics) has contrast ratio of at least 3:1
3. Non-text features (figures, graphics, captions, links, mathematical expressions) have multiple ways of conveying meaning
4. Links are accessible and meaningful

5. Other clickable elements are 24 x 24 pixels
6. Other clickable elements have visible text that matches the text in the underlying code
7. A list's numbers, letters or bullets are displayed and tagged correctly
8. A tables's headers, rows and columns are tagged correctly

C Semantic Tagging

1. Non-decorative/real and decorative/artefact content is all tagged correctly
2. Non-text features (figures, graphics, captions, links, mathematical expressions) are tagged and grouped correctly
3. Lists, tables and TOCs are tagged correctly
4. Headers, footers, notes and references are tagged correctly
5. Headings are tagged as headings
6. Headings have just 1 <H1>, at the beginning
7. Headings <H2>-<H6> don't skip levels
8. No headings <H7> or higher
9. Other non-PDF structure elements tagged correctly (EPUBs)
10. PDF tags support the separate reading order (PDFs)
11. PDF role mapping is correct (PDFs)
12. Other structure elements in PDF tagged correctly (PDFs)

D Reading Order and Navigation

1. Multiple ways to navigate
2. Static page breaks are present (EPUBs)
3. Static page breaks are navigable (EPUBs)
4. Navigation consistent throughout
5. Reading/focus order retains meaning when using tabs or a screenreader
6. Repeating blocks of content can be skipped

E Metadata and Conformance reporting

1. File has metadata
2. File metadata has a title that is used instead of file name
3. File metadata has a valid language
4. Where the language changes, individual parts have a valid language
5. Source of static page breaks/pagination is identifiable (EPUBs)
6. File metadata includes full accessibility conformance information

F Pre-recorded Media (optional)

1. All audio only content has an alternative suitable for individuals with a hearing impairment
2. All video only content has an alternative suitable for individuals with a visual impairment

OARC by auditing type

Machine/Automated Auditing

A2. Colours of text has contrast ratio of at least 4.5:1
A8. Fonts are coded correctly

B2. Colours of non-text features (figures, graphics) has contrast ratio of at least 3:1
B5. Other clickable elements are 24 x 24 pixels
B6. Other clickable elements have visible text that matches the text in the underlying code

C6. Headings have just 1 <H1>, at the beginning
C7. Headings <H2>-<H6> don't skip levels
C8. No headings <H7> or higher
C10. PDF tags support the separate reading order
C11. PDF role mapping is correct
C12. Other structure elements in PDF tagged correctly

D1. Multiple ways to navigate
D2. Static page breaks are present
D3. Static page breaks are navigable

E1. File has metadata
E2. File metadata has a title that is used instead of file name
E3. File metadata has a valid language
E4. Where the language changes, individual parts have a valid language
E6. File metadata includes full accessibility conformance information

Human/Manual Auditing

A1. Text is actual text; not images of text
A3. Headings are descriptive of the content they contain
A4. Text is reflowable without causing horizontal scrolling or other problems
A5. Text can be resized without causing horizontal scrolling or other problems
A6. Line height and spacing, letter spacing and word spacing can all be changed without problems
A7. Orientation can be changed without problems

B1. Non-text features (figures, graphics, captions, links, mathematical expressions) have meaningful ALT text
B3. Non-text features (figures, graphics, captions, links, mathematical expressions) have multiple ways of conveying meaning
B4. Links are accessible and meaningful
B7. A list's numbers, letters or bullets are displayed and tagged correctly
B8. A tables's headers, rows and columns are tagged correctly

C1. Non-decorative/real and decorative/artefact content is all tagged correctly
C2. Non-text features (figures, graphics, captions, links, mathematical expressions) are tagged and grouped correctly
C3. Lists, tables and TOCs are tagged correctly
C4. Headers, footers, notes and references are tagged correctly
C5. Headings are tagged as headings
C9. Other non-PDF structure elements tagged correctly

D4. Navigation consistent throughout
D5. Reading/focus order retains meaning when using tabs or a screenreader
D6. Repeating blocks of content can be skipped

E5. Source of static page breaks/pagination is identifiable

F1. All audio only content has an alternative suitable for individuals with a hearing impairment
F2. All video only content has an alternative suitable for individuals with a visual impairment

OARC by complexity

Easy wins

A1. Text is actual text; not images of text
A2. Colours of text has contrast ratio of at least 4.5:1
A4. Text is reflowable without problems
A5. Text can be resized without problems
A6. Line height and spacing, letter spacing and word spacing can all be changed without problems
A7. Orientation can be changed without problems

B5. Other clickable elements are 24 x 24 pixels
B6. Other clickable elements have visible text that matches the text in the underlying code
B7. A list's numbers, letters or bullets are displayed and tagged correctly

C1. Non-decorative/real and decorative/artefact content is all tagged correctly
C2. Non-text features (figures, graphics, captions, links, mathematical expressions) are tagged and grouped correctly

C3. Lists, tables and TOCs are tagged correctly
C4. Headers, footers, notes and references are tagged correctly
C5. Headings are tagged as headings
C6. Headings have just 1 <H1>, at the beginning
C7. Headings <H2>-<H6> don't skip levels
C8. No headings <H7> or higher
C9. Other non-PDF structure elements tagged correctly

D1. Multiple ways to navigate
D4. Navigation consistent throughout
D6. Repeating blocks of content can be skipped

Medium

A3. Headings are descriptive of the content they contain
A8. Fonts are coded correctly

B2. Colours of non-text features (figures, graphics) has contrast ratio of at least 3:1
B4. Links are accessible and meaningful
B8. A tables's headers, rows and columns are tagged correctly

D2. Static page breaks are present
D3. Static page breaks are navigable
D5. Reading/focus order retains meaning when using tabs or a screenreader

E1. File has metadata
E2. File metadata has a title that is used instead of file name
E3. File metadata has a valid language
E5. Source of static page breaks/pagination is identifiable
E6. File metadata includes full accessibility conformance information

Complicated

B1. Non-text features (figures, graphics, captions, links, mathematical expressions) have meaningful ALT text
B3. Non-text features (figures, graphics, captions, links, mathematical expressions) have multiple ways of conveying meaning
B10. PDF tags support the separate reading order
B11. PDF role mapping is correct
B12. Other structure elements in PDF tagged correctly

Variable

E4. Where the language changes, individual parts have a valid language

F1. All audio only content has an alternative suitable for individuals with a hearing impairment
F2. All video only content has an alternative suitable for individuals with a visual impairment

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