



LocalSEO.Ltd - Web Development - Accessibility

The Four Principles of Accessibility - & Their Guidelines



Definition Defined:

Web accessibility refers to the inclusive practice of removing barriers that prevent interaction with, or access to websites, by people with disabilities. When sites are correctly designed, developed and edited, all users have equal access to information and functionality. - **WIKI**

Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0 (WCAG 2.0) - Introduced in 2008.
 Consists Of 12 Guidelines (untestable) (Organised Under the 4 Principles). NOTE: Each Guideline has testable success Criteria (Only 38 out of 61 are applicable as 23 are AAA)
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG 2.1) - Introduced 5th June 2018.
 Backwards Compatible with WCAG 2.0 - Extended via a further 17 Success Criteria NOTE: (Only 12 Listed Below as 5 are AAA)

These guidelines are organized around the following four principles. These provide the foundation for Web accessibility to allow anyone to access and use Web content.

Anyone who wants to use the Web must have content that is **'POUR':...PERCEIVABLE / OPERABLE / UNDERSTANDABLE / ROBUST**

1) Principle 1 - Perceivable:

(All About The Senses) "Information and user interface components must be presentable to users in ways they can perceive."

WCAG 2.0 (4 Guidelines)

TOGGLE (WCAG 2.0)

INFO

- # **Guideline 1.1:** Provide text alternatives for any non-text content so that it can be changed into other forms people need, such as large print, braille, speech, symbols or simpler language.
- # **Guideline 1.2:** Time-based media: Provide alternatives for time-based media.
- # **Guideline 1.3:** Create content that can be presented in different ways (for example simpler layout) without losing information or structure
- # **Guideline 1.4:** Make it easier for users to see and hear content including separating foreground from background.

WCAG 2.1 (Added Success Criteria for 2.1) (6 NEW)

TOGGLE (WCAG 2.1)

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- # **Guideline 1.3.4 Orientation Level AA:** Content does not restrict its view and operation to a single display orientation, such as portrait or landscape, unless a specific display orientation is essential.
- # **Guideline 1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose Level AA:** The purpose of each input field collecting information about the user can be programmatically determined...
- # **Guideline 1.4.10 Reflow Level AA:** Content can be presented without loss of information or functionality, and without requiring scrolling in two dimensions for...
- # **Guideline 1.4.11 Non-text Contrast Level AA:** The visual presentation of the following have a contrast ratio of at least 3:1 against adjacent color(s)...
- # **Guideline 1.4.12 Text Spacing Level AA:** In content implemented using markup languages that support the following text style properties, no loss of content or functionality occurs by setting all of the following and by changing no other style property:
- # **Guideline 1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus Level AA:** Where receiving and then removing pointer hover or keyboard focus triggers additional content to become visible and then hidden, the following are true...

2) Principle 2 - Operable:

(About ACTIONS People Take Whilst Browsing) "User interface components and navigation must be operable." Create content that can be presented in different ways (for example simpler layout) without losing information or structure.

WCAG 2.0 (4 Guidelines)

TOGGLE (WCAG 2.0)

INFO

- # **Guideline 2.1:** Make all functionality available from a keyboard.
- # **Guideline 2.2:** Provide users enough time to read and use content.
- # **Guideline 2.3:** Do not design content in a way that is known to cause seizures.
- # **Guideline 2.4:** Provide ways to help users navigate, find content, and determine where they are.

WCAG 2.1 (Added Success Criteria for 2.1) (5 NEW)

TOGGLE (WCAG 2.1)

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- # **Guideline 2.1.4: Character Key Shortcuts Level A:** If a keyboard shortcut is implemented in content using only letter (including upper- and lower-case letters), punctuation, number, or symbol characters, then at least one of the following is true:
- # **Guideline 2.5.1 Pointer Gestures Level A:** All functionality that uses multipoint or path-based gestures for operation can be operated with a single pointer without a path-based gesture, unless a multipoint or path-based gesture is essential.
- # **Guideline 2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation Level A:** For functionality that can be operated using a single pointer, at least one of the following is true:
- # **Guideline 2.5.3 Label in Name Level A:** For user interface components with labels that include text or images of text, the name contains the text that is presented visually.
- # **Guideline 2.5.4 Motion Actuation Level A:** Functionality that can be operated by device motion or user motion can also be operated by user interface components and responding to the motion can be disabled to prevent accidental actuation, except when:

3) Principle 3 - Understandable:

(All About Being CLEAR in instruction and in function) "Information and the operation of user interface must be understandable."

WCAG 2.0 (3 Guidelines)

TOGGLE (WCAG 2.0)

INFO

- # **Guideline 3.1:** Make text content readable and understandable.
- # **Guideline 3.2:** Make web pages appear and operate in predictable ways.
- # **Guideline 3.3:** Help users avoid and correct mistakes.

4) Principle 4 - Robust:

(Meeting third-party technology) "Maximize compatibility with current and future user agents, including assistive technologies."

WCAG 2.0 (1 Guideline)

TOGGLE (WCAG 2.0)

INFO

- # **Guideline 4.1:** Maximize compatibility with current and future user agents, including assistive technologies.

WCAG 2.1 (Added Success Criteria for 2.1) (1 NEW Guideline)

TOGGLE (WCAG 2.1)

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- # **Guideline 4.1.3 Status Messages Level AA:** In content implemented using markup languages, status messages can be programmatically determined through role or properties such that they can be presented to the user by assistive technologies without receiving focus.

WCAG 2.0 / 2.1 levels

The Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0 are organised into three levels of conformance:

- Level A** – the most basic web accessibility features
- Level AA** – deals with the biggest and most common barriers for disabled users
- Level AAA** – the highest (and most complex) level of web accessibility

		SUCCESS CRITERIA		
LEVEL		WCAG 2.0	WCAG 2.1	Total
A	The most basic web accessibility features	25	5	30
AA	Deals with the biggest and most common barriers for users with disabilities	13	7	20
AAA	The highest (most complex) level of web accessibility	23	5	28
		61	17	78

Full Guidelines for Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 <https://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG21/>
 How to Meet WCAG (Quick Reference) <https://www.w3.org/WAI/WCAG21/quickref/>

NOTE: We only have to deal with 50 SUCCESS CRITERIA as 28 are AAA rated, NON-APPLICABLE

Above - "In A Nutshell" - A Concise Definition & The 4 Guiding Principles / Guidelines That Underpin Web Accessibility (WCAG 2.0 & 2.1)

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"The most important blind visitor to your website is Google! In the same way that creating accessible web pages helps disabled person access your content, it also helps Google index your pages so that the right people can find your service or product."

- JIM BYRNE, Founder of Guild of Accessible Web Designers

Accessibility - WCAG 2.1

Web developers

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