INTRODUCTION TO WEBSITE ACCESSIBILITY

A Project Enable Webinar
Hosted by Infopeople
June 1, 2021
THERE IS SO MUCH MORE!
IN PROGRESS...
Agenda

FOUNDATIONS
Accessibility matters. Here’s what it is and why.

STANDARDS & VALIDATORS
What are the rules, and how can you know if you’ve met them?

CODE EXAMPLES
That basic HTML course you had probably didn’t cover this stuff, but should have
FOUNDATIONS

The useful & the scary
What is web accessibility?

“Web accessibility means that websites, tools, and technologies are designed and developed so that people with disabilities can use them.”

WC3
Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI)
NOT JUST BLIND/VISUALLY IMPAIRED
Web accessibility encompasses all disabilities that affect access.

https://www.w3.org/WAI/fundamentals/accessibility-intro/
Accessibility vs. usability

Not the same, but they can overlap.
Legal issues
ADA Lawsuits for websites on the rise
Lots of lawsuits
And this is just a sampling
What about libraries?
Payan
vs.
Los Angeles Community College District
(July 2019),

https://www.leagle.com/decision/infdco20190522816
Statement from the Department of Justice
Via a letter from the assistant U.S. attorney general, on September 25, 2018

“The Department first articulated its interpretation that the ADA applies to public accommodations’ websites over 20 years ago. This interpretation is consistent with the ADA’s title III requirement that the goods, services, privileges, or activities provided by places of public accommodation be equally accessible to people with disabilities.”
Any sufficiently advanced neglect is indistinguishable from malice.

Deb Chachra, reappropriating Clarke’s third law
What are the rules, and how can you know if you’ve met them?

Standards & validators
Section 508
U.S. only. The bare minimum.

World Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG)
International standard. Significantly more comprehensive than Section 508.
Section 508
Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Government Agencies
Federally Funded Organizations

U.S. only
Not a stringent standard
Purchasing of Accessible Electronic Resources Resolution

URI: http://hdl.handle.net/11213/1061
Date: 2009-07-15

Abstract:

Files in this item

- Name: 07-15-09-CD52rev.pdf
  Size: 412.3Kb
  Format: PDF

This item appears in the following Collection(s)
- Resolutions
  Resolutions authored by or of interest to ALA's Committee on Legislation
Automated checkers
The beginning, not the end

ACHECKER
https://achecker.achecks.ca/
Automated checkers aren’t all that.
The real numbers are worse.
CODE EXAMPLES

That basic HTML course you had probably didn’t cover this stuff, but should have
The alt attribute

```html
<img src="dog.jpg" alt="Young boy reading a children’s book to a therapy dog"/>
```

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NvqasTVoW98&list=WL&index=65&t=0s
HOW?

<img src="http://www.oplin.org/panda.jpg" alt="Panda bear relaxing on a large rock" />

<img src="http://www.oplin.org/panda.jpg" alt="Panda" />
Don’t confuse **alt** and **title** attributes

```
<a href="events.html" title="View all posts feed under Events">Events</a>
```

Image from [https://www.rankwatch.com/learning/content/215-is-title-attribute-really-important](https://www.rankwatch.com/learning/content/215-is-title-attribute-really-important)
Use meaningful images
Get rid of the cutsey clipart stuff already.
How you size your fonts matters

BAD:
  Font-size: 12px;
  Font-size: 12pt;

GOOD:
  Font-size: 1.3em;
  Font-size: .78em;
This helps everyone

"Click here"

versus

"More bestsellers"
**February Events**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. All Day-Job Help Center</td>
<td>2. All Day-Job Help Center - Open PC's</td>
<td>3. All Day-Job Help Center</td>
<td>4. All Day-Job Help Center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM-Job Help Center</td>
<td>9:00 AM-Job Help Center - Hands on Help</td>
<td>9:00 AM-Job Help Center</td>
<td>9:00 AM-Job Help Center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM-Job Help Center - Open PC's</td>
<td>9:00 AM-Job Help Center - Open PC's</td>
<td>9:00 AM-Job Help Center</td>
<td>9:00 AM-Job Help Center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM-Job Help Center- Hands on Help</td>
<td>9:00 AM-Job Help Center- Open PC's</td>
<td>9:00 AM-Job Help Center</td>
<td>9:00 AM-Job Help Center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM-Job Help Centers</td>
<td>9:00 AM-Job Help Centers Hands on Help</td>
<td>9:00 AM-Job Help Centers</td>
<td>9:00 AM-Job Help Centers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM-Open computers and hands-on help</td>
<td>9:00 AM-Open computers and hands-on help</td>
<td>9:00 AM-Open computers and hands-on help</td>
<td>9:00 AM-Open computers for job help.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 AM-ABL/GED Classes</td>
<td>9:30 AM-ABL/GED Classes</td>
<td>9:30 AM-ABL/GED Classes</td>
<td>10:00 AM-ABLE / GED Classes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 AM-Preschool Storytime</td>
<td>9:30 AM-Preschool Storytime</td>
<td>9:30 AM-Preschool Storytime</td>
<td>10:00 AM-Free English/ESOL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 AM-Free English/ESOL</td>
<td>9:30 AM-Free English/ESOL</td>
<td>9:30 AM-Free English/ESOL</td>
<td>10:00 AM-Ancestry Genealogy Lab</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tables are **not** for layout

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FRUIT</th>
<th>VEGETABLES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bananas</td>
<td>Celery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apples</td>
<td>Lettuce</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table **markup** is also important

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fruit</th>
<th>Vegetables</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bananas</td>
<td>Celery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apples</td>
<td>Lettuce</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BAD table markup:**
```html
<table>
  <tr>
    <td><strong>Fruit</strong></td>
    <td><strong>Vegetables</strong></td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <td>Bananas</td>
    <td>Celery</td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <td>Apples</td>
    <td>Lettuce</td>
  </tr>
</table>
```

**GOOD table markup:**
```html
<table summary="Fruits & vegetables table">
  <tbody>
    <tr>
      <th>Fruit</th>
      <th>Vegetables</th>
    </tr>
    <tr>
      <td>Bananas</td>
      <td>Celery</td>
    </tr>
    <tr>
      <td>Apples</td>
      <td>Lettuce</td>
    </tr>
  </tbody>
</table>
```
How you use color is essential
Learn to check contrast

https://webaim.org/resources/contrastchecker/
One last thing...

You can use a screen reader, too!
NVDA

- Download: http://www.nvda-project.org/
- Windows only
- It takes a lot of time to get familiar with it!
- The page may not scroll while the reader is reading
- Getting started guide: http://webaim.org/articles/nvda/