The Accessible Website: If You Build It, Everyone Can Come!

An Infopeople Webinar

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June 6, 2013

# **Recommended Reading**

**Introduction to Web Accessibility**

This is a good introduction and overview for anyone interested in accessibility issues.

<http://webaim.org/intro/>

**Accessibility**

Another good overview, this page includes links to many useful resources.

<http://www.w3.org/standards/webdesign/accessibility>

**Guidelines for Accessible and Usable Web Sites: Observing Users Who Work With Screen Readers**

This classic article is cited often; it reports on a study of blind users: the behaviors, experiences, and frustrations that blind people experience when using screen readers to access web content.

 <http://redish.net/content/papers/interactions.html>

# **For Administrators**

# **Leading the Charge: Ensuring Your Institution’s Web Presence Works for Everyone**

<http://ncdae.org/goals/actionpaper.php>

# **Budgeting for Your Web Accessibility Plans**

[http://ncdae.org/resources/tips/budget.php](http://ncdae.org/resources/tips/budget.php%22%20%5Co%20%22Budgeting%20for%20Accessibilty)

# **Organizations and Initiatives**

**National Center on Disability and Access to Education (NCDAE)**

<http://ncdae.org/index.php>

**WebAIM – Web Accessibility in Mind**

<http://webaim.org/>

**W3C: The World Wide Web Consortium**

[http://www.w3.org/](http://www.w3.org/%22%20%5Co%20%22World%20Wide%20Web%20Consortium)

**Web Accessibility Initiative**

[http://www.w3.org/WAI/](http://www.w3.org/WAI/%22%20%5Co%20%22Web%20Accessibility%20Initiative)

# **Standards and Laws**

**WCAG 2.0 Web Content Accessibility Guidelines**

Broadly accepted guidelines include recommendations for making Web content accessible to a wide range of people with disabilities, including blindness and low vision, deafness and hearing loss, learning disabilities, cognitive and physical limitations, and other disabilities.

[http://www.w3.org/TR/2008/REC-WCAG20-20081211/](http://www.w3.org/TR/2008/REC-WCAG20-20081211/%22%20%5Co%20%22Web%20Content%20Accessibility%20Guidelines%202.0)

**Section 508**

Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act (29 U.S.C. 794d), as amended by the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (P.L. 105-220), August 7, 1998.

[http://www.section508.gov/index.cfm?fuseAction=1998Amend](http://www.section508.gov/index.cfm?fuseAction=1998Amend" \o "Section 508 Law)

# **Tools**

**WAVE Tool (web-based)**

Check any web page to quickly identify accessibility errors or other issues that might cause a problem for users with disabilities.

[http://wave.webaim.org/](http://wave.webaim.org/%22%20%5Co%20%22Wave%20web-based%20tool)

## **WAVE Toolbar for Firefox**

The WAVE toolbar is similar to the WAVE tool above, but has the advantage of being able to evaluate a page as it is dynamically rendered on the local machine. It works for scripted content and private, password-protected and intranet pages.

[http://wave.webaim.org/toolbar/](http://wave.webaim.org/toolbar/%22%20%5Co%20%22WAVE%20Toolbar)

**FANGS Screen Reader Emulator – Firefox Add-on**

This tool presents text as a screen reader would read it, allowing developers to see exactly how the user will hear the content as it is read aloud. It also has the ability to show just the headers and a list of links.

[https://addons.mozilla.org/en-us/firefox/addon/fangs-screen-reader-emulator/](https://addons.mozilla.org/en-us/firefox/addon/fangs-screen-reader-emulator/%22%20%5Co%20%22FANGS%20add%20on%20download%20page)

# **WCAG Contrast Checker – Firefox Add-on**

The contrast between text and background should be at least 4.5:1; analyze your pages with this tool.

[https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/wcag-contrast-checker/](https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/wcag-contrast-checker/%22%20%5Co%20%22Contrast%20checker%20add%20on%20download%20page)

# **Functional Accessibility Evaluator (FAE)**

This tool developed at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign analyzes web pages for markup based on a defined set of best practices (defined by the Illinois Center for Information Technology and Web Accessibility.)

[http://fae.cita.uiuc.edu/](http://fae.cita.uiuc.edu/%22%20%5Co%20%22Functional%20Accessibility%20Evaluator%20tool)

<http://html.cita.illinois.edu/>

## **Google Accessibility Tools for Developers**

Links to tools for checking that your site is accessible on the Chrome browser, a list of Chrome extensions that improve accessibility, and information about YouTube captioning.

[http://www.google.com/accessibility/building/](http://www.google.com/accessibility/building/%22%20%5Co%20%22Google%20Accessibility%20Tools)

# **Tutorials and Help Materials**

**Web Accessibility and Section 508 Tutorials – Jim Thatcher**

See this site for excellent training tutorials and resources.

[http://www.jimthatcher.com/webcourse1.htm](http://www.jimthatcher.com/webcourse1.htm%22%20%5Co%20%22Jim%20Thatcher%20Tutorials)

**Cheatsheets**

A series of “cheatsheets,” with all the essentials in a concise, one page format. Topics include Microsoft products, Adobe InDesign, Captioning YouTube Videos, PDF Conversion, and more.

[http://ncdae.org/resources/cheatsheets/](http://ncdae.org/resources/cheatsheets/%22%20%5Co%20%22Cheat%20Sheets)

**LibGuides and LibGuides/CMS and 508 Compliance**

Information about accessibility features of LibGuides and tips for content creators.

[http://help.springshare.com/accessibility](http://help.springshare.com/accessibility%22%20%5Co%20%22Lib%20Guides%20Accessibility%20Help%20and%20Info%20)

**Techniques for WCAG 2.0**

An essential guide for web developers, this is a comprehensive listing of general and specific techniques for meeting the standards outlined in WCAG 2.0.

<http://www.w3.org/TR/2012/NOTE-WCAG20-TECHS-20120103/>

**Communicating Web Accessibility to the Novice Developer From User Experience to Application**. Youngblood, S. A. (2013). *Journal of Business and Technical Communication*, *27*(2), 209-232.

This article describes the importance of gaining an appreciation for the user experience by web developers. It includes practical information about validation tools, screen reader emulators, and built-in accessibility checkers in certain software products, and best practices.

# **Videos**

**Accessibility Video “Playlist”**

This blog post is a good compilation of videos about the user experience, the importance of accessibility, and short tutorials on creating accessible content. It includes reader recommendations for even more videos.

<http://ncdae.org/blog/accessibility-video-playlist/>