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Experience IT: Testing IT For Accessibility

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Ability on a continuum



See

Hear

Walk

Read print

Write with pen or pencil

Communicate verbally

Tune out distraction

etc.

Old School Technologies



Today: Technological Diversity



IT Accessibility Standards

- W3C Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0
- Section 508 Electronic and Information Technology Accessibility Standards
- W3C Accessible Rich Internet Applications (ARIA)

How do you know whether your
website is accessible?

Terrill's Top 5½ Quick Tests

Test #1: Test page without a mouse

- Is there clear visible focus? (i.e., Can you tell where you are?)
- Can you access all features and controls?



Test #2: Check headings

- Use “Outline” button on WebAIM Toolbar:
<http://wave.webaim.org/toolbar>
- Use “Structure” button in Web Accessibility Toolbar for IE:
<http://paciellogroup.com/resources/wat-ie-about.html>
- Check source code with Firebug:
<http://getfirebug.com>

Test #3: Check images for alt text

- Do all informative images have alt text?
- Does the alt text provide access to the message that's being communicated by the image?
- Do all decorative images have alt=""? (or are they background images using CSS?)

Test #3: How to check images

- Use “Images” button on Web Developer Toolbar:

<http://bit.ly/AaanJC>

- Use “Images” button in Web Accessibility Toolbar for IE:

<http://paciellogroup.com/resources/wat-ie-about.html>

- Check source code with Firebug:

<http://getfirebug.com>

Test #4: Check color contrast

- Use The Paciello Group Contrast Analyser:
<http://paciellogroup.com/resources/contrast-analyser.html> (comes with WAT for IE)
- Use Juicy Studio Contrast Analyser:
<http://juicystudio.com/services/luminositycontrastratio.php>
(comes with Juicy Studio Accessibility Toolbar:
<http://bit.ly/yxLIXX>)

Test #5: Check everything else

- WAVE:

<http://wave.webaim.org>

- Functional Accessibility Evaluator:

<http://fae.cita.uiuc.edu/>

- AChecker:

<http://achecker.ca/checker>

Test #5½: Check with Assistive Technology

- Two great WebAIM articles:
 - Using NVDA to test web pages:
<http://webaim.org/articles/nvda>
 - Using VoiceOver to test web pages:
<http://webaim.org/articles/voiceover>
- Whenever possible, ask *users* to test your site

For more information...

- These slides:

<http://staff.washington.edu/tft>

- University of Washington IT Accessibility

<http://uw.edu/accessibility>

- AccessComputing

<http://uw.edu/accesscomputing>