



COLOR CONTRAST:

- Text must have a 4.5:1 contrast difference between text color and background color
- graphics/icons must have a 3:1 contrast difference between icon and background color
- For INLINE LINKS - must have a 3 : 1 color contrast difference between **link** text and non-link text and 4.5 : 1 on background
- For INLINE LINKS - color cannot be your only indicator that this is a link. Must supplement with underline, bold or some other visual *along with color*.
- must use a non-color cue on hover and focus (can be underline, bold, box around, etc.)

LEGIBLE TEXT:

- Paragraphs - space between must be 2x the font size
- Lines - space between must be 1.5x the font size
- Words - space between must be 0.16x the font size
- Letters - space between must be 0.12x the font size

TEXT ALTERNATIVES:

- All **informative**, non-text content (images, etc.) presented to the user have a text alternative that serves an equivalent purpose. Alt text should be accurate and short. (if the image component is not informative, or is represented by a label nearby, it does not need alt text)

BUTTONS & LINKS:

- If clicking on it takes the user to another page - it should have role=link (no matter what it looks like, even if styled like a button)
- If clicking on it opens an action within the page (opens a modal) it should have role=button (no matter what it is styled like)
- Label in the name - title in the CTA seen by users must match identically to the title of the CTA in the code

SENSORY ORIENTATION / TEXT WRAP:

- Text fits completely within the view of the screen in both portrait and landscape
- Text will wrap around when enlarged through settings or through the zoom feature up to 400%

KEYBOARD NAVIGATION / FOCUS ORDER:

- Webpages should have a 'Skip To Main' upon using keyboard navigation that allows the user/screen reader to skip reading over the global navigation and go directly to content

on the page

- Users can tab forward and backwards through the page programmatically. Ensure keyboard users do not become trapped in a subset of the content that can only be exited using a mouse or pointing device.
- Focusable components receive focus in an order that preserves meaning and operability (focus state moves in a sequential and logical order).
- When a modal/drawer is open, using keyboard navigation, user should not be able to 'tab' out of a modal while the modal is open (meaning focus should stay within the modal only, and will not focus on page content outside of the modal until the modal/drawer is closed)

FOCUS STATE:

- The focus state is in a high contrast color and surrounds the object to clearly show where the user is on the screen.
- Focus indicator must have a 3:1 contrast with adjacent colors and be at least 2px wide.
- The focus state does not trigger an action until the user activates the focus state with a specific action
- The focus indicator should be the same size on all four sides and should remain when an accordion is open

PAGE TITLE:

- The title of the web pages should: identify the subject of the web page, make sense when read out of context, be short, identify the site or other resource to which the web page belongs, and be unique within the site

PAGE STRUCTURE:

- Only ONE H1 heading tag per page. Each page MUST have an H1. It should be the first heading you encounter on the page
- There can be multiples of other heading levels.
- There will likely be multiple H2's on every page. Screen readers can 'scan' H2's the same way a sighted person's eyes scan headings to decide what they want to read.
- Do not skip heading levels - ex: H2 and next heading is an H4
- Anything with a role=tab has to have a tablist in the parent
- Make sure required fields have REQUIRED attributes so the screen reader reads that it is required* (otherwise it will just read * as a 'star')

FORMS AND ERROR MESSAGES:

- Do NOT use placeholder text inside a form field - it is inaccessible since it disappears

once focus is inside the field. Helper text should live below/outside the form field.

- Error messages should appear both at the page level (top of screen) as well as inline (under the form field where the error occurred).
 - Page level error messages where more than one error occurred, should have a list of all errors on the page.
 - Each error in the list should be clickable/focusable. Upon clicking, it should take the focus to the field where that error occurred.
 - ARIA label 'assertive' so it interrupts what the screen reader was reading and immediately starts reading the error message with focus immediately moving up to the page level error.

INPUT TYPES:

- Don't alter input type
- Check boxes are for making several selections from a list
- Radio buttons are for making a single selection from a list
- Becomes inaccessible if the input type is altered from what a user expects (ex: writing java code to alter a checkbox to only allow for single selection)
- Use HTML5 input types
- The browser can provide a natively accessible control/interface

ARIA: Accessible Rich Internet Applications

- A collection of attributes that get added to HTML tags that expand the vocabulary of HTML - mostly for screen reader users
- No reason to have both the HTML region and ARIA landmark both
 - All content in the page should be within a region
 - More doesn't always mean better. More regions = more noise for screen readers.
- Does not change functionality; it only changes the roles/properties that are presented to a screen reader.
- If you can use HTML, then do so
- All interactive ARIA controls must be usable with the keyboard
- Do not use role="presentation" or aria-hidden="true" on visible, focusable elements
- All interactive elements must have an accessible name (which is conveyed to the screen reader)
 - recommend using a label instead of title
 - Using the <span id violates the first rule of ARIA because you can solve with HTML

MOBILE SPECIFIC:

- Don't lock orientation
- Allow users to disable or remap single key shortcuts
- Don't rely on multipoint or path-based gestures (swipe to navigate, pinching two fingers to zoom out)
- Pointer functionality can be canceled on the up event (no down-event to trigger)
- Label in Name - if something is triggerable (link, button), it corresponds with what I hear on the screen reader and contains the text presented in the label
- Don't rely on device motion (shake, tilt or pan)
- Clickable targets should be 44px x 44px
- Don't restrict input type (touch only)

Page-Level Error:

Occurs at the top of the page, above content, below headline. When error occurs, this should have ARIA label = 'assertive' so focus goes immediately to this error, and a screen reader will interrupt what it was reading to read this instead. All errors should be listed. Each error should contain a link back to where the error occurred.

Error Messages & Forms

Fill out the form below and click the submit button to complete.

* Required field.

The following errors have occurred:

- **First Name** is required.
- A valid **Email Address** is required.

*First Name

First name is required.

*Last Name

Phone Number

Include area code.

Field Label

Field Label

*Email Address

A valid email address is required.

Inline Error:

Occurs under the field where the error occurred. Should give an indication of expectations/ rules for the field so user knows how to complete the form accurately.

SUBMIT