



Building Inclusive

free and open-source software

Company Name

MM/DD/YYYY



The “Building Inclusive Open-Source Software” training

“Despite being deeply based on values of sharing and empowerment, Free and Open-Source Software (FOSS) projects often lack inclusiveness and accessibility.”



This project aims at providing accessibility and inclusiveness knowledge for organizations and individuals who build open-source software.

These modules should not be seen as holding the truth regarding the subjects tackled, but rather as a condensed introduction which goal is to help teams get started with accessibility and inclusiveness for their product.

Navigating the training

A. What is accessibility?

- 🚀 Accessibility starting point
- 🦏 Feeling the need for accessibility
- 🦏 Accessibility & Ableism
- 📖 Brief cartography of today's accessibility landscape
- 🛠️ Assistive technologies – Desktop
- 📱 Assistive technologies – Mobile

B. From accessibility to inclusiveness

- 🗺️ Inclusiveness needs overview
- 🦏 We are all disabled and unique
- 🏛️ Why does FOSS struggle with inclusiveness?
- 🤝 Developer stance & user collaboration
- 🌐 Bring inclusiveness and accessibility to your pipeline

C. Designing inclusive and accessible software

- 🎨 Inclusive design 101
- 🖥️ Inclusive design for Desktop
- 📱 Inclusive design for Mobile

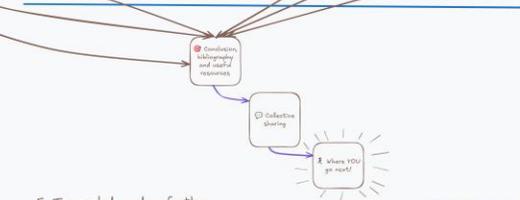
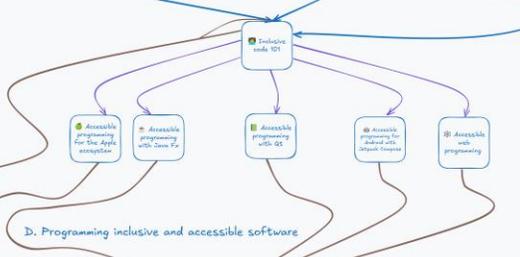
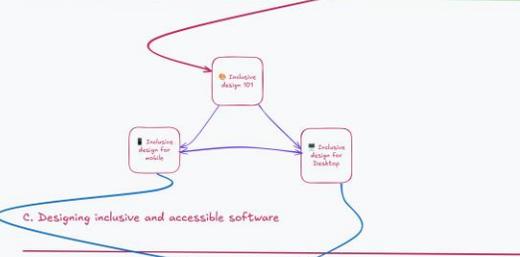
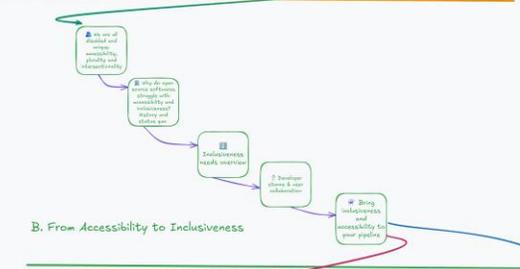
D. Programming inclusive and accessible software

- 🤖 Inclusive code 101
- 🍏 Inclusiveness features and programming for Apple platforms
- 🟩 Inclusive programming with Qt
- ☕ Inclusive programming with Java Fx
- 🤖 Inclusive programming for Android
- 🌐 Inclusive web programming

E. To conclude and go further:

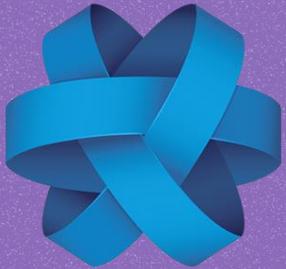
- 🎯 Conclusion, bibliography and useful resources
- 🏃➡️ Where YOU go next!
- 💬 Collective sharing

🌟 Suggested navigation through the "building inclusive open source software" training 🌟



Where does it come from?

A collaboration between
Page Magnier--Slimani ([Jami/Savoir-Faire Linux](#)) and Maxence Vahedi ([Olvid](#))



Using this project's content



A screenshot of a web browser displaying the project's documentation. The page has a dark purple header with a search bar and navigation links. The main content area is divided into three columns. The left column contains a sidebar with various navigation links under categories like 'Building Inclusive Open Source Software', 'What is accessibility?', 'From accessibility to inclusiveness', 'Designing inclusive and accessible software', and 'Programming inclusive and accessible software'. The middle column features a heading 'It all started with a statement:' followed by a quote: 'Despite being deeply based on values of sharing and empowerment, Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) often lack inclusiveness and accessibility.' Below this is a bold statement: 'This project aims at providing accessibility and inclusiveness knowledge for organizations and individuals who build open-source software.' Further down, there are paragraphs of text explaining the training modules and their goals. The right column has a 'Table of contents' section. At the bottom of the main content area, there is a 'Suggested navigation through the "building inclusive open source software" training' section with a flowchart diagram showing a sequence of topics: 'Accessibility starting point', 'Feeling the need for accessibility', 'Accessibility & Ableism', 'Brief cartography of today's accessibility landscape', 'Assistive technologies - Desktop', and 'Assistive technologies - Mobile'.

Online documentation

You can contribute on this project's repository.





Accessibility starting point

What is accessibility?



Accessibility starting point

On a scale from one to ten, how do you evaluate your knowledge about accessibility?

How much time do you typically spend on accessibility issues during a week?

Is there something preventing you from dealing with the topic as much as you would ideally like to?





Feeling the need for accessibility

What is accessibility?



A few numbers about accessibility

27% of all Canadians*, 28% of 15+ French** have at least one disability

16% of the world's population experience significant disability.***

* [World health Organisation: Disability](#)

** [Le handicap en chiffres \(DREES\)](#)

*** [New data on disability in Canada, 2022](#)

Activity

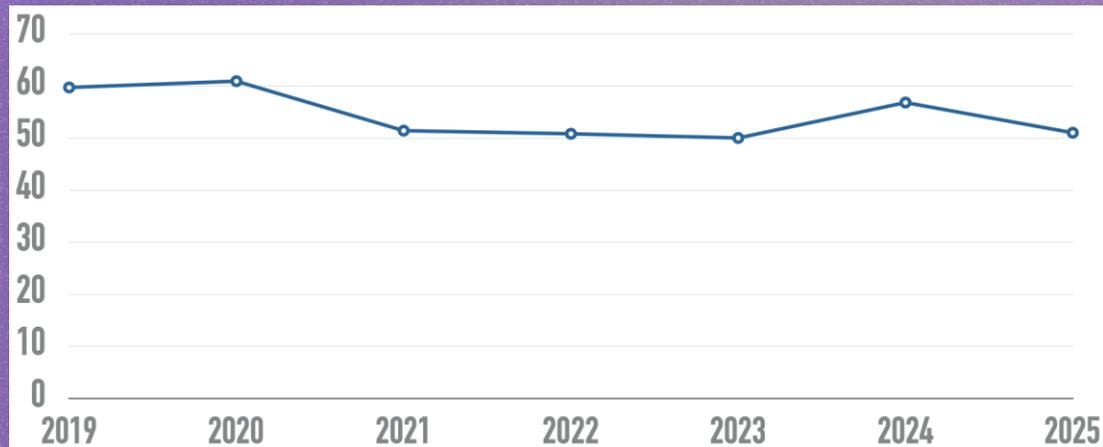
Let's try your app with a screen reader!

How does it feel? What are the blockers?



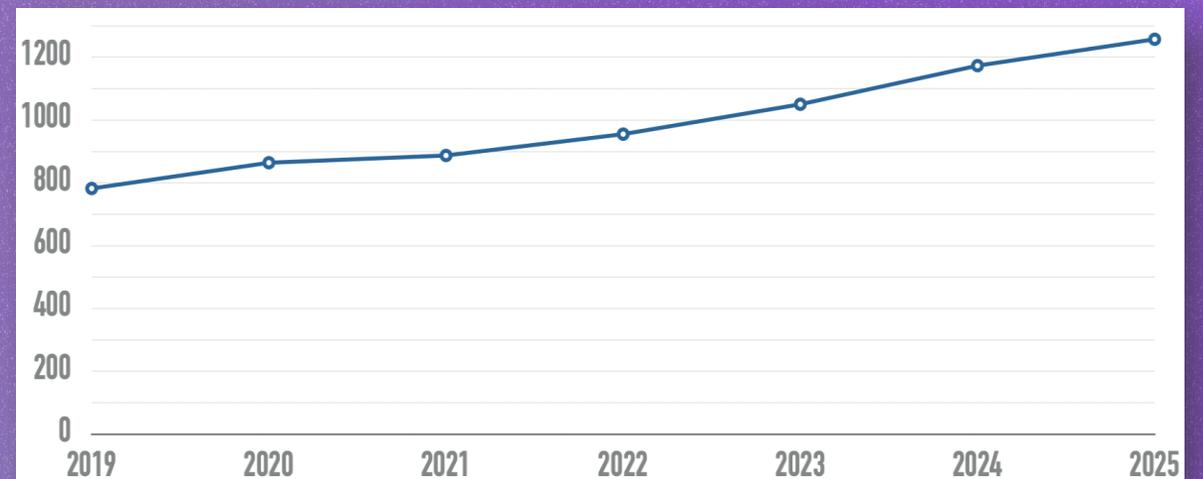
The systemic failure of software accessibility

based on a [WebAIM Million 2025 report](#)



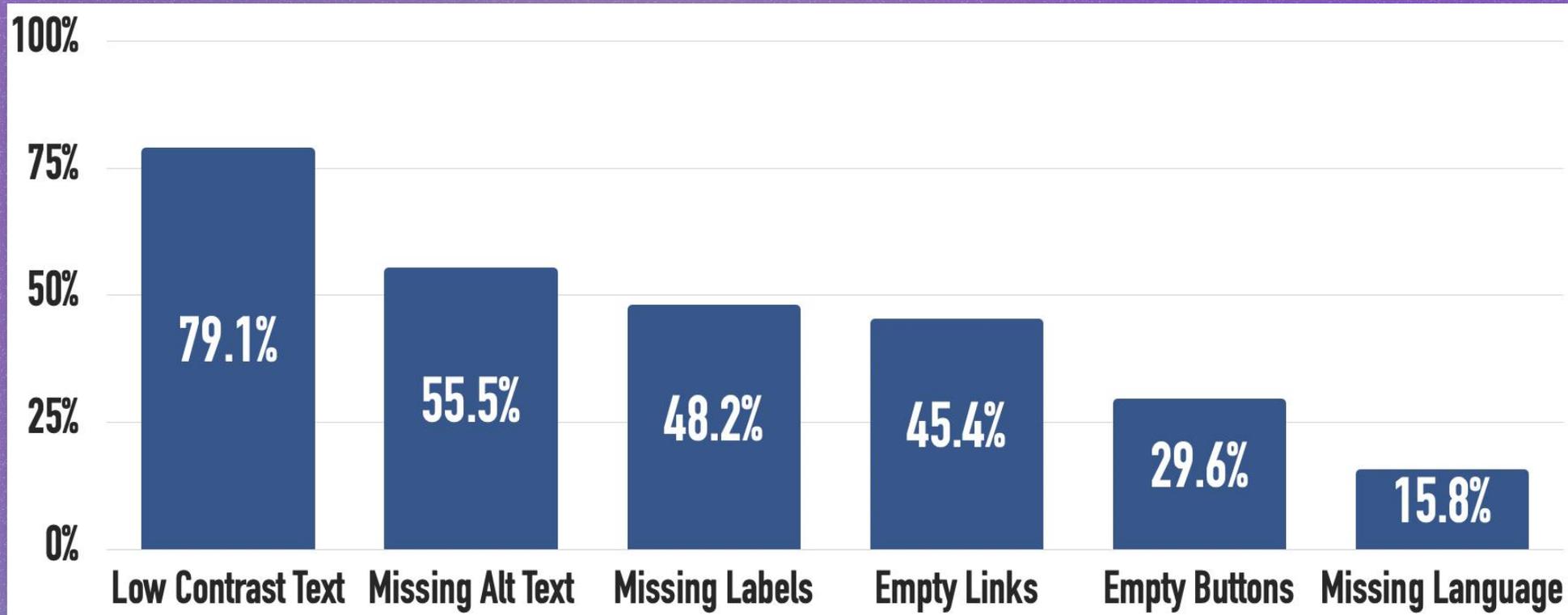
The WebAIM collective states that “Across the one million home pages, 50,960,288 distinct accessibility errors were detected—an average of 51 errors per page”.

Home pages tend to get more and more complex. While some websites are getting more accessible, those who don't tackle the issue tend to get even worse. Examples of greatly accessible websites are rare. Indeed, **“94.8% of home pages had detected WCAG 2 failures.”**



The systemic failure of software accessibility

based on a [WebAIM Million 2025 report](#)



Most common accessibility shortcomings detected on websites

Feeling the need for accessibility

Despite being a crucial need for at least 20% of all users, accessibility as it is implemented on common websites and applications are overwhelmingly insufficient.



With that said, accessibility isn't about lowering those stats of detected failures, it's about making sure that we are not contributing in isolating and marginalizing whole communities.



Accessibility & Ableism

What is accessibility?



Let's define accessibility



Formal definitions of accessibility

From a product design standpoint;

Accessibility is the design of products, devices, services, vehicles, or environments so as to be usable by disabled people.

The concept of accessible design and practice of accessible developments ensures both "direct access" (i.e. unassisted) and "indirect access" meaning compatibility with a person's assistive technology (for example, computer screen readers).

Formal definitions of accessibility

From a legal standpoint

CA Canada

- The overarching goal of the ACA is to realize a barrier-free Canada by 2040. The legislation benefits all Canadians, specially persons with disabilities, through the proactive identification, removal and prevention of barriers to accessibility in 7 priority areas:
 - employment
 - the built environment
 - information and communication technologies (ICT)
 - communication other than ICT
 - the design and delivery of programs and services
 - the procurement of goods, services and facilities
 - transportation

F France

Allowing the autonomy and participation of people with disabilities, by reducing or even removing the gap between their abilities, needs and will - and the physical, organizational and cultural components of their environment.

EU European Union

- The European Accessibility Act states that accessibility "should be achieved by the systematic removal and prevention of barriers, preferably through a universal design or 'design for all' approach, which contributes to ensuring access for persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others."
- Since June of 2025, almost all businesses (excluding microenterprises) are required to comply with the EAA requirements.

Formal definitions of accessibility

From a software standpoint

Can all your users, **with the abilities and senses that they possess**, perceive the information your application presents to them?

Can your users, **with their specific input device or assistive technology**, operate all the controls within your application's user interface?

Can your users understand the information and the user interface controls?

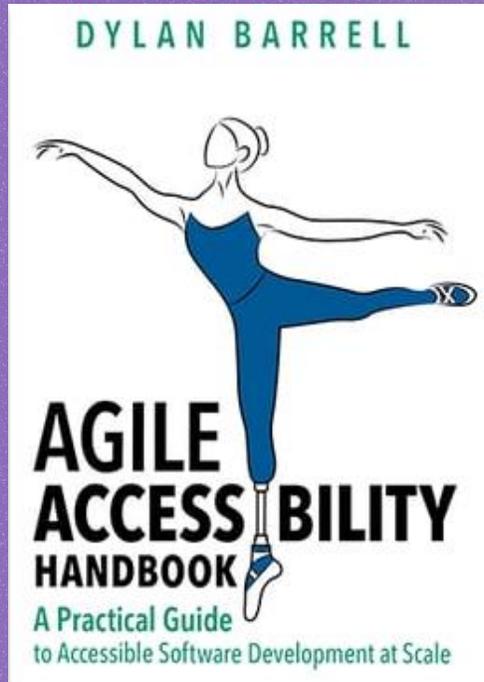
Formal definitions of accessibility

From a political standpoint

Striving to fight back against the structural tendency to exclusion of disabled people and attempting to provide them with a place (virtual or not) where they feel at ease and free to express themselves.



From a business standpoint



- 1. The business opportunity represented by households with a disability. The numbers that are of interest here are:**
 - 20% of people in the United States have a disability, and improvements in usability (or falling behind the competition) represent a major portion of the market;
 - \$490 million is the after-tax disposable income of adults with a disability in the United States (as of 2019). This is comparable in size to the African American or Hispanic market segments; and
 - \$10.3 billion is the e-commerce market size for accessibility.
- 2. The number of disability-related lawsuits increased by 181% in 2019 alone, and the cost of responding to a lawsuit (independent of the settlement costs) is \$350,000. This does not take into account the cost of brand damage or future lawsuits; and**
- 3. Accessibility is a human right, it is the right thing to do, and it probably aligns with the organization's values and its desire to improve digital user experiences.**

Understanding ableism

Ableism is "policies, behaviors, rules, etc. that result in unfair or harmful treatment of disabled people* and in a continued unfair advantage to people who are not disabled".

*people who have an illness, injury, or condition that makes it difficult for them to do things that most other people can do

Understanding ableism

People who are qualified of “disabled” are simply working with a different set of abilities, which is typically more marginal, yet not inferior.

If they can't access your app, it means that your design is broken - not them.

Understanding ableism



Environment - and the way it is designed - plays an equal role as the body when it comes to disability.

The tech tendency to saviorism

According to Ashley Shew in Against Technoableism, Rethinking Who Needs Improvement

“THE TECH GIVING PEOPLE POWER TO DEAL WITH DISABILITY” —BBC NEWS

“HOW TECHNOLOGY WILL CHANGE THE LIVES OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES” —FORBES

“FIRST PROSTHETIC LIMB DESIGNED FOR WOMEN: ‘I FEEL LIBERATED’” —BBC2

“ROBOTIC EXOSKELETONS ARE HERE, AND THEY’RE CHANGING LIVES” —POPSCI

What should be our goal?



Our goal is to try and provide a safe place rather than fix or save people.



Brief cartography of today's accessibility landscape

What is accessibility?



Countries & Institutions

Countries

Countries plays an increasing role in the accessibility landscape.

As awareness rises, the law evolves to guarantee access to technology as a fundamental human right.

Non-profit orgs

Non-profit organizations are at the core of producing resources about accessibility and inclusiveness, especially from a design and platform agnostic perspective.

Consulting firms

There are many consulting firms about accessibility and inclusiveness. The quality of their services vary greatly in quality.

Corporate actors

Corporate actors and especially operating system providers can take an important role in accessibility and inclusiveness measures, either by their good or their bad will.

Countries & Institutions

Countries

Countries play an increasing role in the accessibility landscape.

As awareness rises, the law evolves to guarantee access to technology as a fundamental human right.



this map holds current laws for many countries

Countries & Institutions

EU

The European Union adopted in 2019 the European Accessibility Act (EAA), which requires digital service providers to make their product accessible.

DIRECTIVE (EU) 2019/882 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

of 17 April 2019

on the accessibility requirements for products and services

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 114 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee ⁽¹⁾,

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure ⁽²⁾,

Whereas:

- (1) The purpose of this Directive is to contribute to the proper functioning of the internal market by approximating laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States as regards accessibility requirements for certain products and services by, in particular, eliminating and preventing barriers to the free movement of certain accessible products and services arising from divergent accessibility requirements in the Member States. This would increase the availability of accessible products and services in the internal market and improve the accessibility of relevant information.
- (2) The demand for accessible products and services is high and the number of persons with disabilities is projected to increase significantly. An environment where products and services are more accessible allows for a more inclusive society and facilitates independent living for persons with disabilities. In this context, it should be borne in mind that the prevalence of disability in the Union is higher among women than among men.
- (3) This Directive defines persons with disabilities in line with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, adopted on 13 December 2006 (UN CRPD), to which the Union has been a Party since 21 January 2011 and which all Member States have ratified. The UN CRPD states that persons with disabilities 'include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others'. This Directive promotes full and effective equal participation by improving access to mainstream products and services that, through their initial design or subsequent adaptation, address the particular needs of persons with disabilities.
- (4) Other persons who experience functional limitations, such as elderly persons, pregnant women or persons travelling with luggage, would also benefit from this Directive. The concept of 'persons with functional limitations', as referred to in this Directive, includes persons who have any physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments, age related impairments, or other human body performance related causes, permanent or temporary, which, in interaction with various barriers, result in their reduced access to products and services, leading to a situation that requires those products and services to be adapted to their particular needs.
- (5) The disparities between the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of Member States concerning the accessibility of products and services for persons with disabilities, create barriers to the free movement of products and services and distort effective competition in the internal market. For some products and services, those disparities are likely to increase in the Union after the entry into force of the UN CRPD. Economic operators, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), are particularly affected by those barriers.
- (6) Due to the differences in national accessibility requirements, individual professionals, SMEs and microenterprises in particular are discouraged from entering into business ventures outside their own domestic markets. The national, or even regional or local, accessibility requirements that Member States have put in place currently differ as regards both coverage and level of detail. Those differences negatively affect competitiveness and growth, due to the additional costs incurred in the development and marketing of accessible products and services for each national market.
- (7) Consumers of accessible products and services and of assistive technologies, are faced with high prices due to limited competition among suppliers. Fragmentation among national regulations reduces potential benefits derived from sharing with national and international peers experiences concerning responding to societal and technological developments.

Non-profit collectives

The World Wide Web Consortium (W3C)

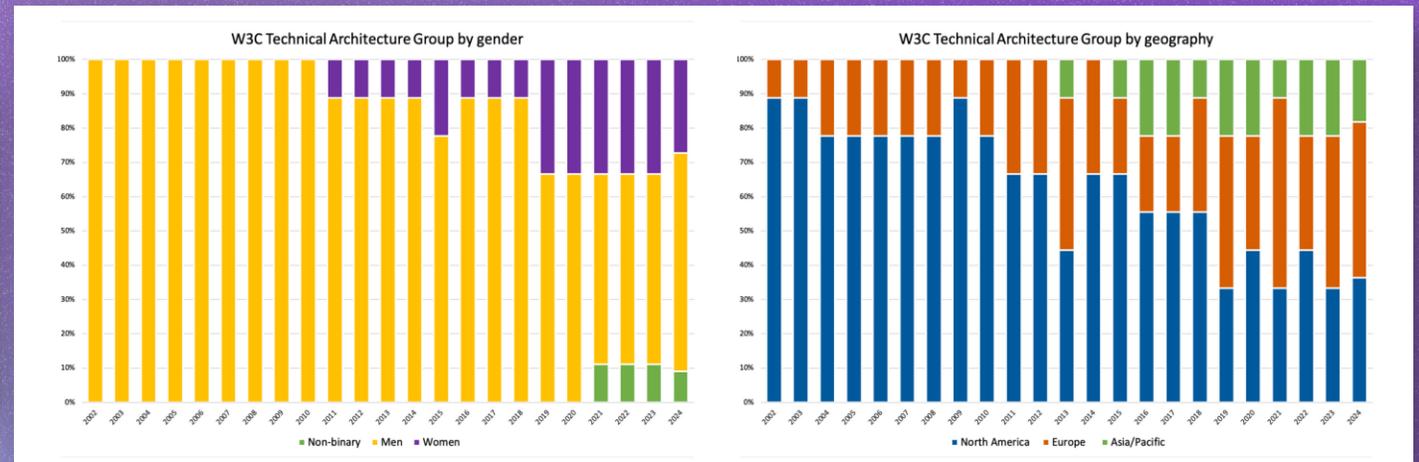
The World Wide Web Consortium is the organization behind multiple accessibility guidelines and standards recognized worldwide. With over 30 years of existence, it's mostly known for its work on the WCAG which are the worldwide standards in term of web accessibility.

They also created and updated a very extensive documentation on how to meet those standards with their Quick Reference on How to Meet WCAG. They are definitely one of the most important organizations providing resources on accessibility.

Making the web work

The World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) develops [standards and guidelines](#) to help everyone build a web based on the principles of [accessibility](#), [internationalization](#), [privacy](#) and [security](#).

[Read more about W3C](#)



Non-profit collectives

The Appt Foundation

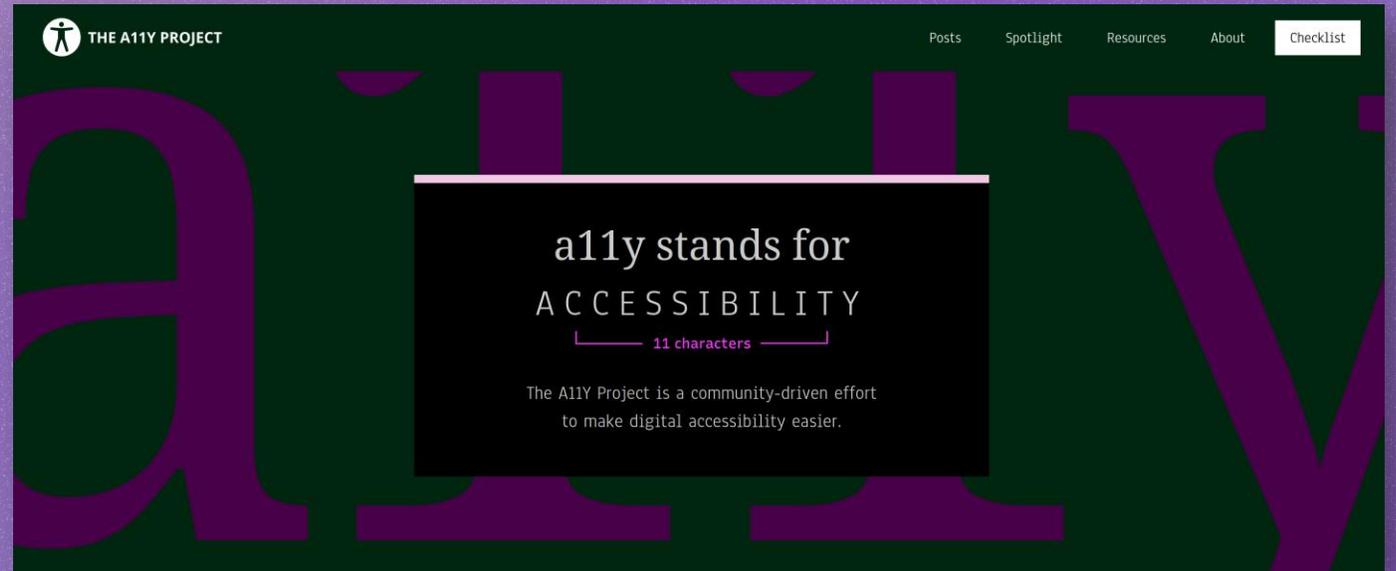
- Non-profit from the Netherlands
- Extensive technical documentation on mobile accessibility
- Great code samples

 Android accessibility <p>Android has an accessibility layer that helps users to navigate their Android devices more easily. By integrating accessibility features, you can improve your app's usability, particularly for users with disabilities.</p> <p>Learn about Android accessibility</p>	 Jetpack Compose accessibility <p>Jetpack Compose offers accessible building blocks to create inclusive interfaces. Key concepts like semantics, traversal and accessibility actions enhance usability for everyone.</p> <p>Learn about Jetpack Compose accessibility</p>
 iOS accessibility <p>iOS has built-in accessibility features, accessibility APIs, and developer tools which provide an extraordinary opportunity to deliver a superior mobile experience to every user, including those with disabilities.</p> <p>Learn about iOS accessibility</p>	 SwiftUI accessibility <p>SwiftUI automatically provides accessibility support for common elements. Developers can use SwiftUI's view modifiers to enhance and customize accessibility.</p> <p>Learn about SwiftUI accessibility</p>
 Flutter accessibility <p>Flutter is committed to supporting developers in making their apps more accessible. It has built-in support for accessibility features provided by the underlying operating system.</p> <p>Learn about Flutter accessibility</p>	 React Native accessibility <p>React Native has accessibility APIs which let your app accommodate all users. You can integrate apps with assistive technologies like the screen readers VoiceOver and TalkBack.</p> <p>Learn about React Native accessibility</p>
 .NET MAUI accessibility <p>.NET MAUI has built-in semantics for accessibility and includes support for accessibility features, allowing developers to build inclusive apps.</p> <p>Learn about .NET MAUI accessibility</p>	 Xamarin accessibility <p>Xamarin has features to create apps which work well with accessibility features such as large type, high contrast, zoom in, screen reading, visual or haptic feedback cues, and alternative input methods.</p> <p>Learn about Xamarin accessibility</p>

Non-profit collectives

The A11Y Project

- **Great resource**
- Mainly (but not only) web accessibility
- Very extensive resources
- “Spotlight” section, dedicated to people working in the field
- List of medias with dozen of carefully selected resources.



Non-profit collectives

The Accessibility Book Club

The Accessibility Book club is a small organization releasing a yearly book list about accessibility.

Great for staying up to date!

2025 Book List

📅 January



[Explore Book Details](#)

📅 February



[Explore Book Details](#)

📅 March



[Explore Book Details](#)

📅 April



[Explore Book Details](#)

📅 May



[Explore Book Details](#)

📅 June

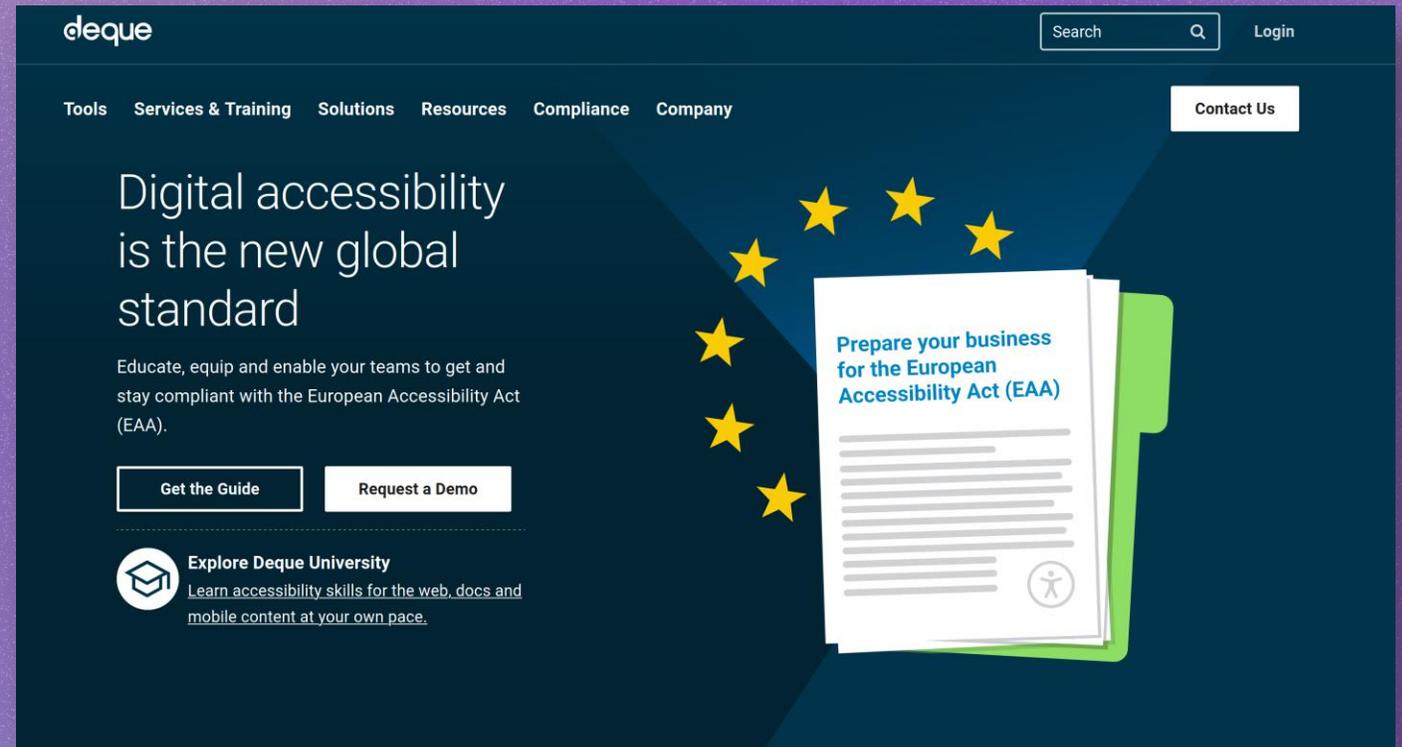


[Explore Book Details](#)

Consulting firms

Deque

- Reference in the field
- Axe, one of the most trusted web accessibility tool with over two billion downloads.
- Audits, trainings, books...
- Behind the accessibility of some of the biggest companies worldwide.



The screenshot shows the Deque website homepage. At the top left is the Deque logo. To the right are search and login fields. A navigation menu includes 'Tools', 'Services & Training', 'Solutions', 'Resources', 'Compliance', and 'Company', with a 'Contact Us' button on the far right. The main content area features the headline 'Digital accessibility is the new global standard' and a sub-headline 'Prepare your business for the European Accessibility Act (EAA)'. Below the headline are two buttons: 'Get the Guide' and 'Request a Demo'. At the bottom left, there is a section for 'Explore Deque University' with a graduation cap icon and a link to learn accessibility skills. The background includes a graphic of yellow stars and a document with a person icon.

deque

Search Login

Tools Services & Training Solutions Resources Compliance Company [Contact Us](#)

Digital accessibility is the new global standard

Educate, equip and enable your teams to get and stay compliant with the European Accessibility Act (EAA).

[Get the Guide](#) [Request a Demo](#)

 **Explore Deque University**
Learn accessibility skills for the web, docs and mobile content at your own pace.

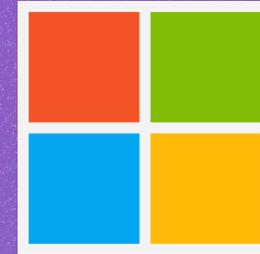
Prepare your business for the European Accessibility Act (EAA)

Corporate actors



Apple

For years, Apple has been the reference for accessibility. Their tools and resources are among the best out there. Unfortunately, these tools and resources are directly targeted for their platforms.



Microsoft

While we do not endorse all of their content, Microsoft has been publishing great extensive design resources about inclusiveness on [their dedicated website](#).

What to look for and what to avoid?

Accessibility and AI-powered tools

400 accessibility advocates state:

- We will **never advocate, recommend**, or integrate an overlay which deceptively markets itself as **providing automated compliance with laws or standards**.
- We will always advocate for **the remediation of accessibility issues at the source of the original error**.
- We will refuse to stay silent when overlay vendors use deception to market their products.
- More specifically, we hereby advocate for the removal of accessiBe, AudioEye, UserWay, User1st, MK-Sense, MaxAccess, FACIL'iti, and all similar products and **encourage the site owners who've implemented these products to use more robust, independent, and permanent strategies to making their sites more accessible**.

May 13, 2021 by Sarah Gooding

Accessibility Advocates Sign Open Letter Urging People Not To Use AccessiBe and Other Overlay Products

AccessiBe and other similar tools are coming under fire after more than 400 accessibility advocates and developers signed an [open letter](#) calling on the industry to unite against the use of accessibility overlay products. These overlay "widgets" are technologies that apply third-party code to the front end in an attempt to automate repairs after sites launch without having accessibility baked in from the design phase.

A major part of the complaint is that these products are often marketed as quick-fix solutions that will make a website ADA compliant and immune from legal action. For example, the [accessiBe](#) website advertises the product as: "*The #1 Automated Web Accessibility Solution for ADA & WCAG Compliance...A single line of code for 24/7 automated compliance.*" Similarly, [EqualWeb](#) advertises making sites accessible by inserting "*one line of code*" to gain "compliance with WCAG 2.1, ADA, Section 508, AODA, EN 301549 and IS 5568."

Sponsors and signatories have published a four-part statement condemning the use of these products as anything more than a temporary solution:

What to look for and what to avoid?

Green and red flags for choosing accessibility tools and experts

Look for...

- Structures that have disabled experts or value directly working with disabled people
- Structures that talk about inclusiveness rather than accessibility alone
- Structures that provide transparency about their own diversity distribution

Avoid...

- Automated accessibility overlay products
- Products that claims to have automated AI accessibility fixes
 - Promises of quick fixes
- Structures that delivers a one-time accessibility enhancement without maintenance or knowledge transmission to your team



Assistive technologies: Desktop

What is accessibility?



Using a screen reader and a keyboard

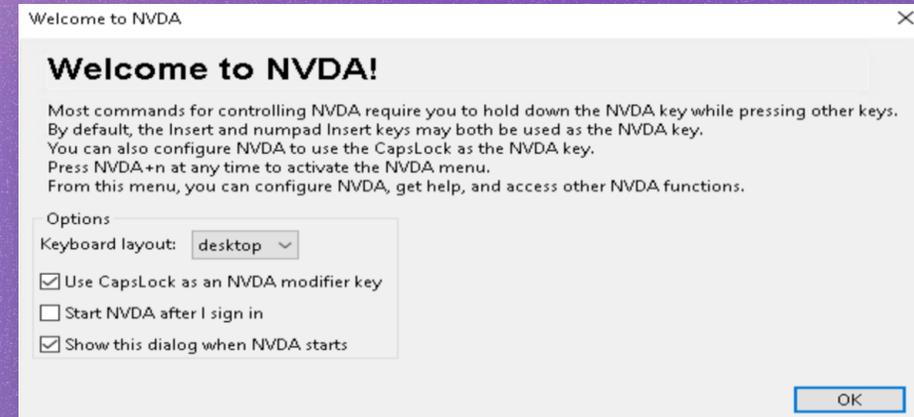
- **Screen readers** are the best way to quickly find and address accessibility issues affecting all assistive technologies.
- **Always check** if your modifications on the UI are **fully accessible only with your keyboard** — not a challenge for our beloved vim users.
- Use system default and, if possible, third-party screen readers. Consider implementing plug-ins.



Screen readers



- **NVDA** is open source and available on Windows.
- It's free and therefore is a very good tool to start testing accessibility.
- Very lightweight and stable.
- Less feature-full in complex apps like Excel.
- Many community plug-ins: consider building your own!



Platform	Pros	Cons
Windows Theoretically Linux (via Wine)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Free and open source• Very lightweight• Doesn't crash much	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plugins for major productivity apps are often not as robust as JAWS

Screen readers



- Jaws is the high-end professional screen reader for Windows.
- Allows for a lot of customization, has a lot of plugins especially for higher education.
- Can be overwhelming to learn
- Less stable than NVDA
- Proprietary and very expensive!

Platform	Pros	Cons
Windows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industry standard • Has a lot of plugins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crashes a lot • Requires a lot of RAM • Very expensive • Hard to learn • Can be confusing

	JAWS Home Perpetual	JAWS Home Subscription
Purchase Price	\$1548	From \$623 per Year
Multi-Year Savings	Not Available	Save 5% each year when you sign up for a 2 year subscription. Save 8% each year when you sign up for a 3 year subscription.
Purchase Now	Upgrade Now	Buy 1 Year Buy 2 Year Buy 3 Year
For Use By	Personal/non-commercial use Install on 3 PCs	Personal/non-commercial use Install on 3 PCs
License Term	Perpetual, version based	Expires on anniversary date
Monthly updates	During license term (2 years)	During license term
Version Upgrades	Included	Included
Technical Support	Included	Included
Remote Desktop/Citrix® Support	Available as optional add-on feature for \$242	Available as optional add-on feature for \$242
License Management	Via web, email, or phone request only	Via web, email, or phone request only
Where to Purchase	Webstore Customer Service Authorized Distributors	Webstore Customer Service

Screen readers



- **VoiceOver** is the native screen reader for Apple products.
- Known for being very easy to learn making for a fluid and intuitive experience.
- Only available on Apple machines, and thus to macOS/iOS users.

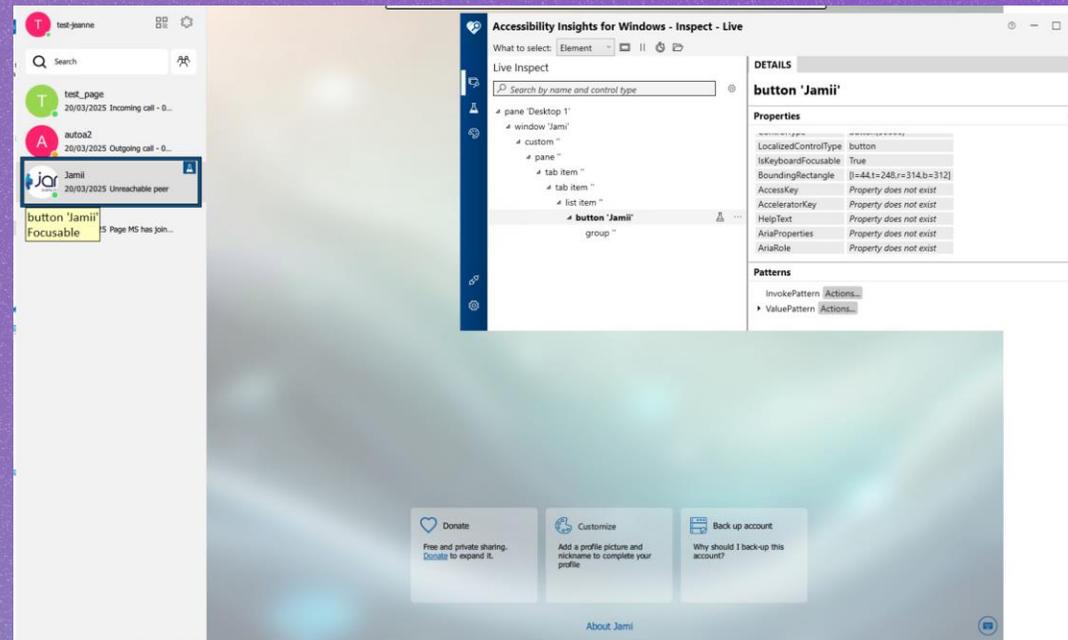
Platform	Pros	Cons
macOS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Very easy to learn• Very fluid and intuitive	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Only available on macOS

Accessibility testing tools



- [Accessibility Insights for Windows](#) is a tool developed by Microsoft.
- Aims at visualizing the object hierarchy of an application.
- Only available on Apple machines, and thus to macOS/iOS users.

Platform	Pros	Cons
Windows	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One of the only tools available to check object tree and labels on desktop apps	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Only works on Windows• Doesn't provide much information about how to fix the issue encountered

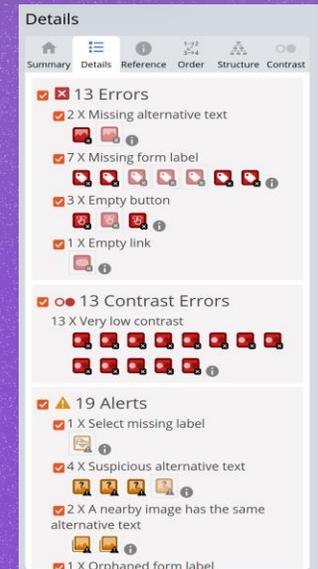
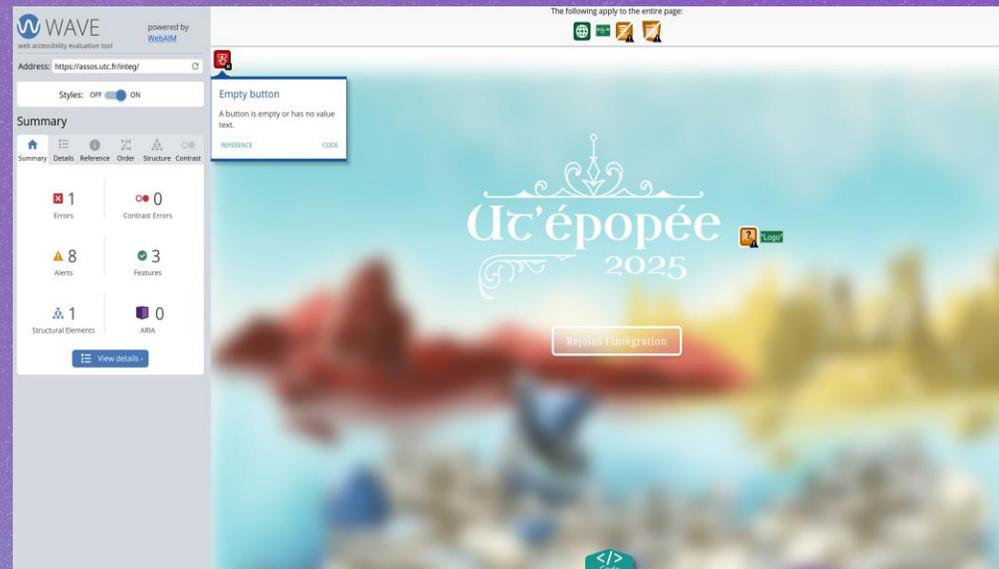


Accessibility testing tools



- Wave is a testing software to automatically detect warnings and errors related to the WCAG Accessibility guidelines.
- As simple as entering your domain to see prevalent issues with your website
- Be careful not to believe blindly the feedback from automated tools like Wave.

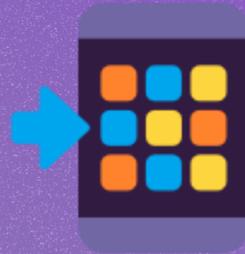
Platform	Pros	Cons
Web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Very easy to use• Completely free	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can be limited• Often misleading



Accessibility testing tools

- **User groups are one of the most reliable ways to build an accessible and inclusive application.**
- You should try and make those user groups as diverse as possible.
- There should be a way of keeping track of the different problems raised by the users and the progress made on fixing them.
- The product and design team should have occasional sessions and calls with some users to discuss precisely how they would want to implement something





Assistive technologies: Mobile

What is accessibility?



Mobile screen readers

- Typically directly built and deeply integrated into the OS, whereas desktop screen readers are typically third-party apps.
- Navigate using specific gestures, whereas desktop screen readers commonly rely on keyboard navigation.

How to use?

- Quickly scan the interface by running your finger through the screen as if you were reading braille.
- Swipe left or right to navigate to the previous or next element in the interface.
- Double-tap to activate an element (e.g. a push button)



Alternative inputs

Switch control

- allows users to interact with app without needing the ability to precisely aim for the touchscreen elements.



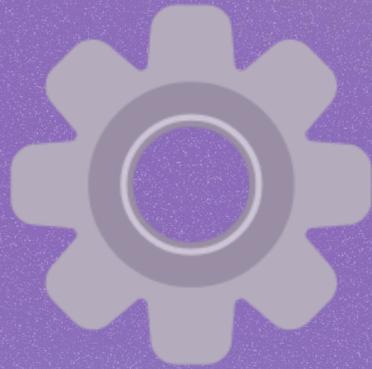
Eye and face control

- Users can look at an element for a certain amount of time or perform a sound, move their head or even tap a switch while looking at an element to take action on it.

Voice control

- Users can also use their voice to choose which elements to select.
- Labeling your app properly allows them to call elements by their name rather than by numbers.

Accessibility settings



- There are many ways users can fine-tune their experience through accessibility settings. Your role as a software builder is to test your interface with many combinations of settings to make sure it works well.
- Check out [this great resource](#) for general information on platform-specific mobile assistive technologies.



Inclusiveness needs overview

From accessibility to inclusiveness



Main disabilities to account for in software



Disability is **not a binary state** but rather refers to a **wide variety of living experiences**, and that a lot of users experience **multiple disabilities at once**.

Consequently, **this list should not be seen as exhaustive**.

Main disabilities to account for in software

Motor disabilities

- affects up to 19% of users
- alternative input devices like switches or audio controlling

Hearing impairments

- affects 18% of users
- Provide redundant access to all auditive information

Motion sickness

Known triggers include:

- Zooms
- Flashing or blinking
- Animations playing automatically without user interaction
- Parallax effects

Speech or language

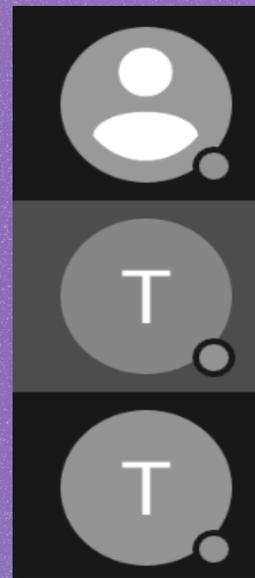
- dyslexia, illiteracy or elocution difficulties
- some of the solutions will include speech-to-text features, support for custom typefaces like Open Dyslexic and spell-checkers

Low vision and blindness

- affects up to 17% of users
- Adaptive font sizes
- Support for assistive technologies like screen-readers or braille displays

Main disabilities to account for in software

Can you guess what is the accessibility issue in this screenshot?



Main disabilities to account for in software

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Low vision and blindness

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- Adaptive font sizes
- Support for assistive technologies like screen-readers or braille displays

Color blindness

- Make sure your UI doesn't rely on color elements alone to convey information

Additional needs and factors to take into consideration

Non-exhaustive list of human characteristics to keep in mind to try and include as many users as possible:

Age
Culture
Digital literacy
Education
Ethnicity
Gender, gender identity
Historical context
Language
Mental health
Nationality
Physical *and* cognitive (dis)abilities
Sexuality
Socio-economic context
...



You need to consider the intersections of all of those categories as well as the disabilities listed previously in the first section of this module.

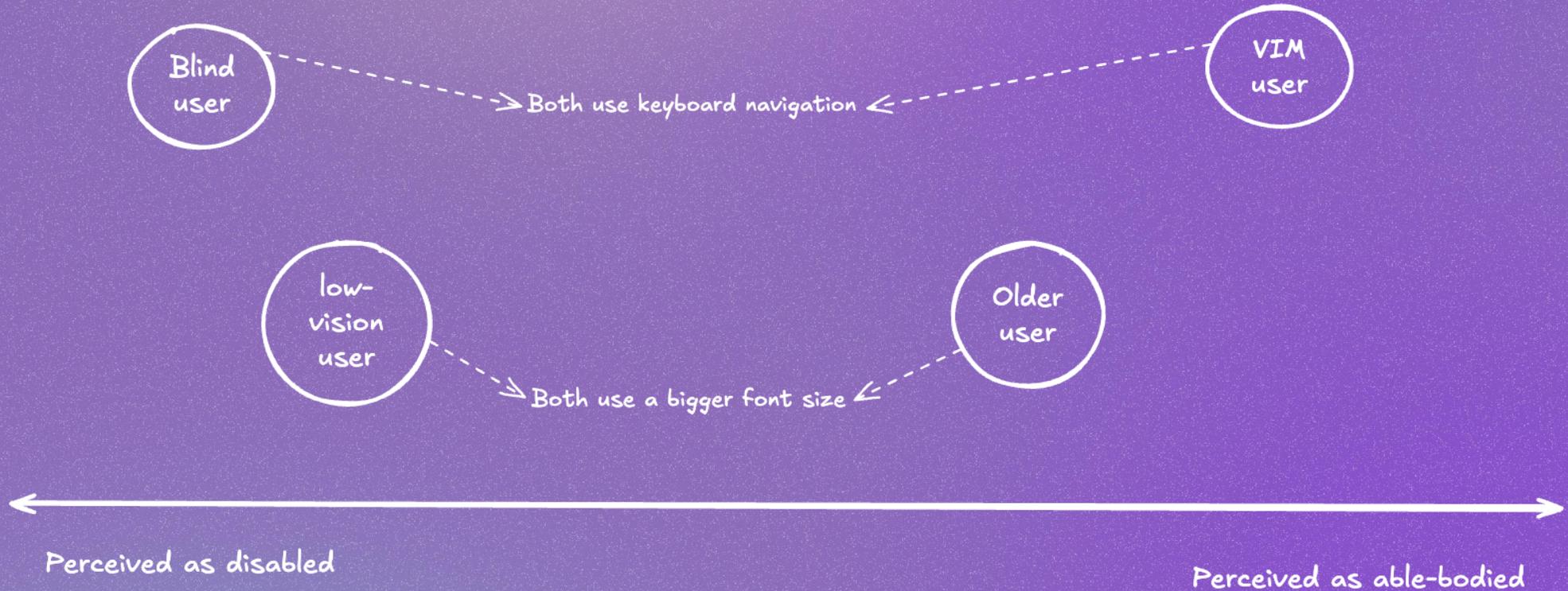


We are all disabled and unique: accessibility, plurality and intersectionality

From accessibility to inclusiveness



Disability is not a binary state



Therefore, it's crucial to not think disabled peoples as a minority but rather as the living diversity in which we all evolve.

What is inclusiveness

"the quality of including many different types of people and treating them all fairly and equally"

In simpler words, not being ableist is not enough. We must make sure that we are also not perpetuating other kinds of oppressions.

There is no inclusiveness without intersectionality.



What is intersectionality?

Crenshaw defined intersectionality as a framework for understanding **specific living experiences of people situated at the intersection of discriminations and privileges.**

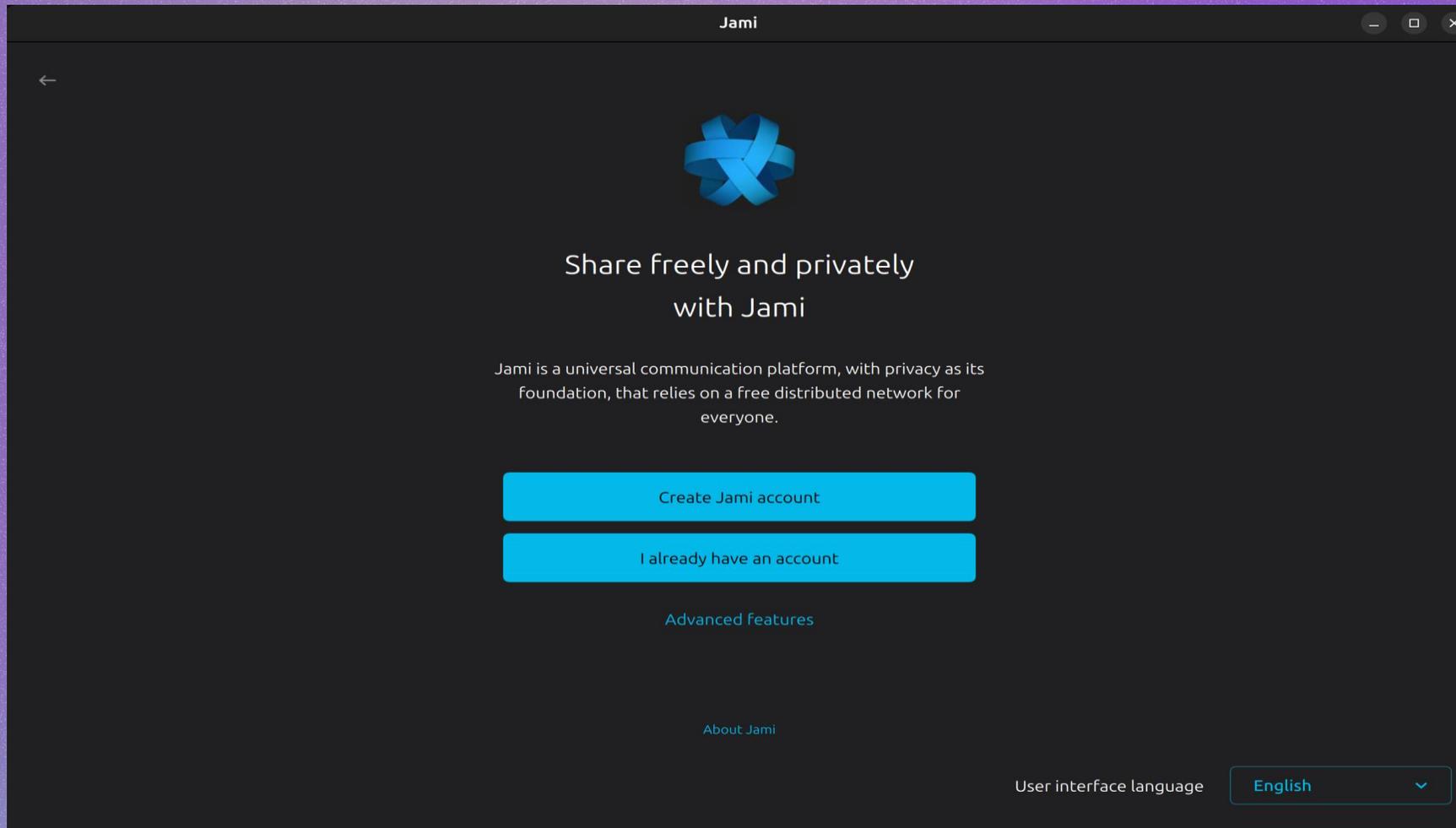


Intersectionality in software

- 17.7% of users with disabilities live with more than one condition (as of 2016).
- Designing for one disability leaves out a blank spot for users having that disability but also other conditions.
- It's a common bias to forget that disabled people are not just disabled, but first and foremost people with their own unique life experiences and specificities.

We need to think about women who rely on wheelchairs, LGBTQIA+ people who don't speak the language of their country they live in, blind users who can't afford an iPhone - and those who are all of that at once!

Intersectionality in software



→ Apple's automatic picture subtitling is another example !



Developer stance & user collaboration

From accessibility to inclusiveness



Understanding bias

Count one point every time you answer with “yes”.

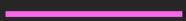
Among the five people you spend the most time with:

1. Are all of them of the same ethnicity as you?
2. Do all of them have the same sexual orientation?
3. Do all of them have the same nationality as you?
4. Are all of them considered able-bodied?
5. Do all of them have a diploma (or, are pursuing one)?
6. Are all of them cisgender?
7. Are all of them working/studying or being retired?
8. Are all of them from the same or higher economic background as you?
9. Are most of them men?
10. Do they all speak the language of the country they live in?

Understanding disability

61% of Dutch Android users and 45% of Dutch iOS users have one or more accessibility settings activated on their phone.

Many people make their fonts larger on iOS.

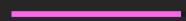
Font-size normal  66%

Font-size larger  22%

Font-size smaller  12%

[More about font size](#)

Many people make their font-size larger on Android.

Font-size normal  63%

Font-size larger  24%

Font-size smaller  13%

[More about font size](#)

Understanding disability

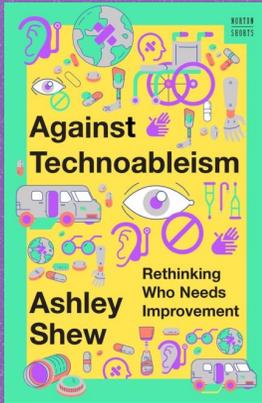
"Disability is not a binary state. We all have abilities and limits to those abilities. Disability happens when we have built something that doesn't work for someone with particular skills."*

"Today, many of our ideas about able-bodiedness and disability come from classifications based on who is suitable for plantation or factory work: **we call people "disabled" when they can't perform "normal" amounts of physical labor.**"**

* Whitaker Rob. *Developing Inclusive Mobile Apps, Building Accessible Apps for iOS and Android*, 2020.

** Shew Ashley, *Against Technoableism: rethinking who needs improvement*. 2023

Users amalgam



“Employing the word “users” can result in falling into the trap of thinking of users as one group – an amalgamation of people who are out there somewhere in the world using your app, a group of people that you’ll never meet and never know. This form of “group think” leads to creating a “one-size-fits-all” solution that, like everything claiming to be “one size fits all,” in reality fits no one.”*



There is no one solution, and if there were, you would probably not be the one to find it. Your role as a software builder is to reach out to the real accessibility experts: those who rely on accessibility and experience its flaws every day, i.e. people with disabilities.

** Shew Ashley, *Against Technoableism: rethinking who needs improvement*. 2023



Why does open-source software struggle with accessibility and inclusiveness?

From accessibility to inclusiveness

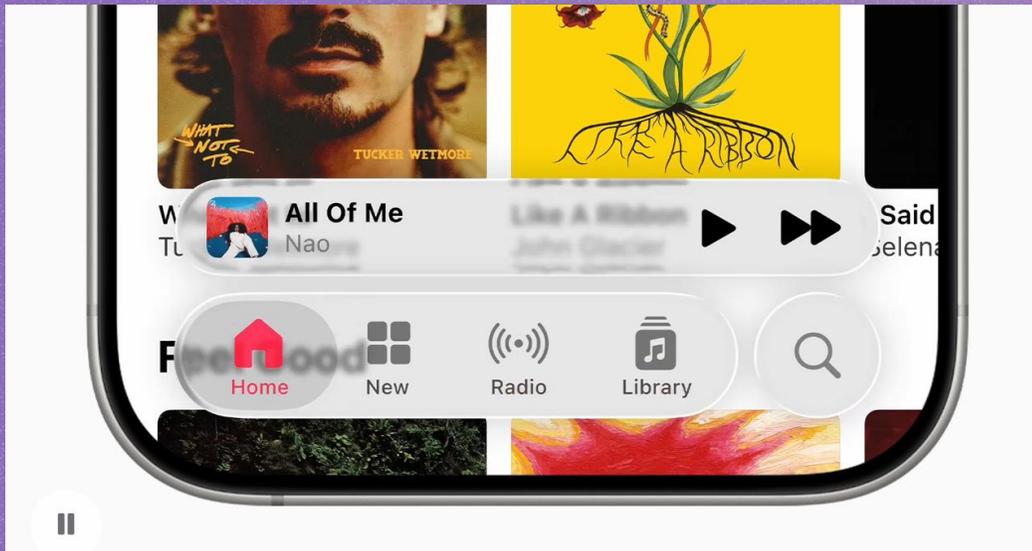


Exclusion vs Accessibility



Exclusion is *automatic*,
Accessibility requires
intentionality.

Apple's liquid glass



The vision of FOSS

FOSS is about “**refus[ing] to break solidarity with other users. [...] Users will no longer be at the mercy of one programmer or company** which owns the sources and is in sole position to make changes.”



FLOSS according to the Free software foundation

“[F]ree software” is a **matter of liberty, not price**. To understand the concept, you should think of “free” as in “free speech,” not as in “free beer.”



The vision of FOSS

“GNU is not in the public domain. Everyone will be permitted to modify and redistribute GNU, but no distributor will be allowed to restrict its further redistribution. That is to say, proprietary modifications will not be allowed. I want to make sure that all versions of GNU remain free.”



The four freedoms

A program is free software if the program's users have the **four essential freedoms**:

- The freedom to run the program as you wish, for any purpose (freedom 0).
- The freedom to study how the program works, and change it so it does your computing as you wish (freedom 1). Access to the source code is a precondition for this.
- The freedom to redistribute copies so you can help others (freedom 2).
- The freedom to distribute copies of your modified versions to others (freedom 3). By doing this you can give the whole community a chance to benefit from your changes. Access to the source code is a precondition for this.



FOSS is everywhere

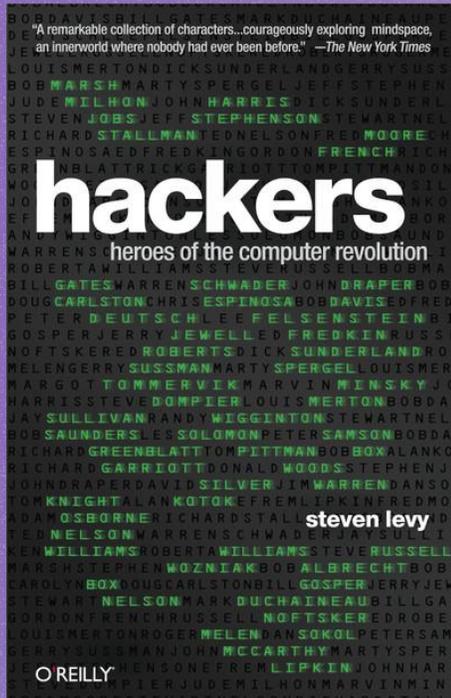
FOSS is not a niche ideology of idealist programmers.

- 96.3% of the top one million web servers are running Linux (the biggest and most advanced FOSS project to this day, with over 27.8 million lines of code)
- 85% of smartphones are Android and therefore Linux-based. When internet and our smartphones run Linux, FOSS runs the world.

* <https://www.zdnet.com/home-and-office/networking/can-the-internet-exist-without-linux/>

** <https://linuxblog.io/85-of-all-smartphones-are-powered-by-linux/>

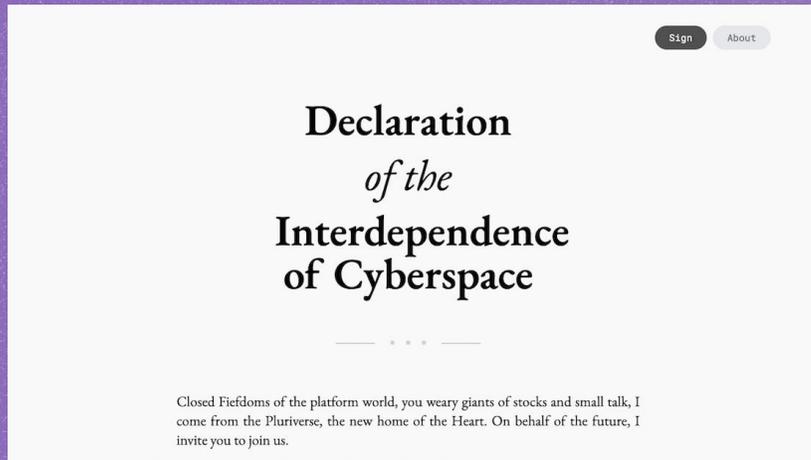
The hackers ethics



“ - **Access to computers**—and anything that might teach you something about the way the world works—**should be unlimited and total.** Always yield to the Hands-On Imperative!

- **All information should be free.**
- **Mistrust Authority**—Promote Decentralization. Hackers should be judged by their hacking, not bogus criteria such as degrees, age, race, or position.
- You can create **art and beauty on a computer.**
- **Computers can change your life for the better.”**

Ideology in the early cyberspace



“Governments of the Industrial World, you weary giants of flesh and steel, I come from Cyberspace, the new home of Mind. On behalf of the future, I ask you of the past to leave us alone. You are not welcome among us. You have no sovereignty where we gather. We have no elected government, nor are we likely to have one, so I address you with no greater authority than that with which liberty itself always speaks. I declare the global social space we are building to be naturally independent of the tyrannies you seek to impose on us. You have no moral right to rule us nor do you possess any methods of enforcement we have true reason to fear.”



Today FOSS ideology

Defy dystopia

In a world where technology is becoming more and more predatory, a dystopian reality seems just around the corner. It can feel like others hold the reins and dictate how we live our lives. Fear not: free software can defy dystopia because you, the user, have full control over the software vital to your daily life.

The FSF has been campaigning for your software freedom for forty years. We can't prevent a dystopian future alone - join us in our crucial work to guard user freedom and defy dystopia. Become an associate member today!

[Read more](#)

[Join](#)

[Renew](#)

[Donate](#)

"Dystopian worlds don't just pop into existence: they are built by the choices of those with substantial power, taking freedom from others. Free software has unlimited power for making our world actually better for people (not Big Tech), but we need to join together and ensure that freedom can thrive."



Motivation for joining the FSF

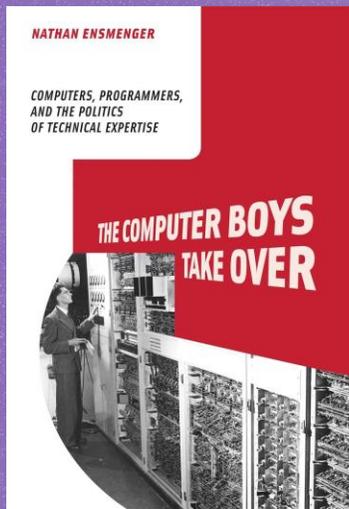
“The world is heading down a dangerous, greedy, closed-source for-profit path. Here's to free software, now and for years to come!” -- Ellie Hayden

“Just to join the people for a free world. Compartir es amor.” -- Francisco Javier Delgado Grande

“I have gotten tired of big tech and unfair intellectual property laws everywhere I turn. I want to participate in and promote a world that I actually want to live in.” -- Isaac Martinolich

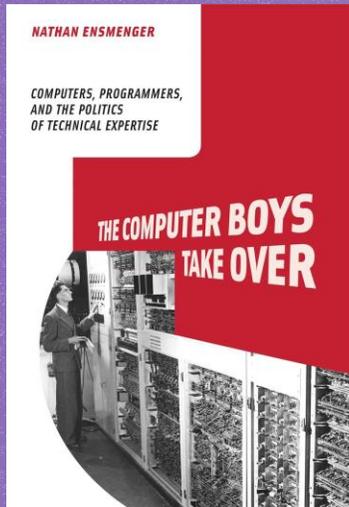
“Let's make the world a better place!” -- Olivia Cimno

Motivations for early software



"It was not until the late 1960s that software became a product that could be purchased separately from a computer, and even then software as code represented only a small component of a larger software system of services and support."

Early software contributors



"It is no coincidence that the first software workers were women. The use of the word software in this context is, of course, anachronistic—the word itself would not be introduced until 1958— but the hierarchical distinctions and gender connotations it embodies— between “ hard ” technical mastery, and the “ softer, ” more social (and implicitly, of secondary importance) aspects of computer work— are applicable even in the earliest of electronic computing development projects (...) it was clearly the male computer engineers who were significant."

Contributors to early software

F/OSS

FOSS is needed for Defense

FOSS is deeply needed by states and other centralized systems of power. Indeed the U.S. Department of Defense states that their security “depends on (OSS) applications and strategies” with at the time of an 2003 survey, 44 examples of FOSS software use in the Departement of Defense”.



"The FOSS communities contribute to DoD security in two ways. Firstly, it has produced infrastructure software such as OpenBSD with low rates of software failure combined with early and rapid closure of security holes, which makes such systems useful as the security linchpins in broader security strategies. Secondly, the FOSS communities have had a long-term fascination with developing more and more sophisticated applications for identifying and analyzing security holes in networks and computers, resulting in FOSS products such as SARA and Snort that are invaluable to in-depth analyses of security risks."

What is innovation?



**There is no natural way
technical innovation is
going.**

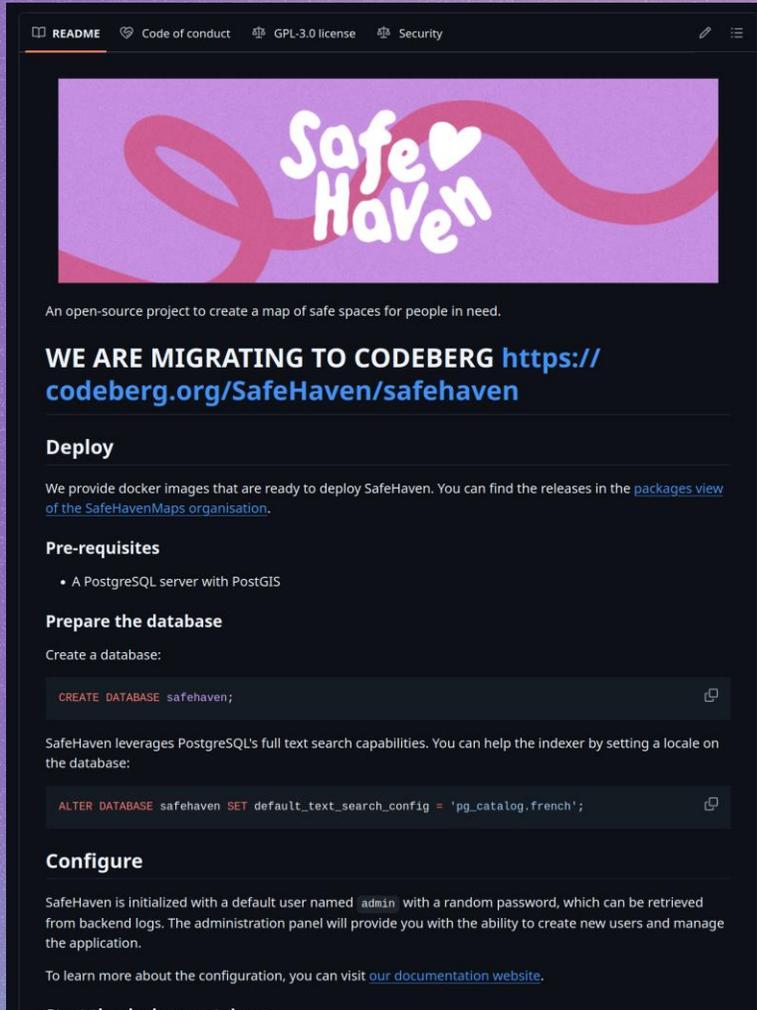
Only technologies
receiving enough time,
effort and therefore money
eventually yield results
that are perceived as
“progress”.

Corporate contributions to FOSS

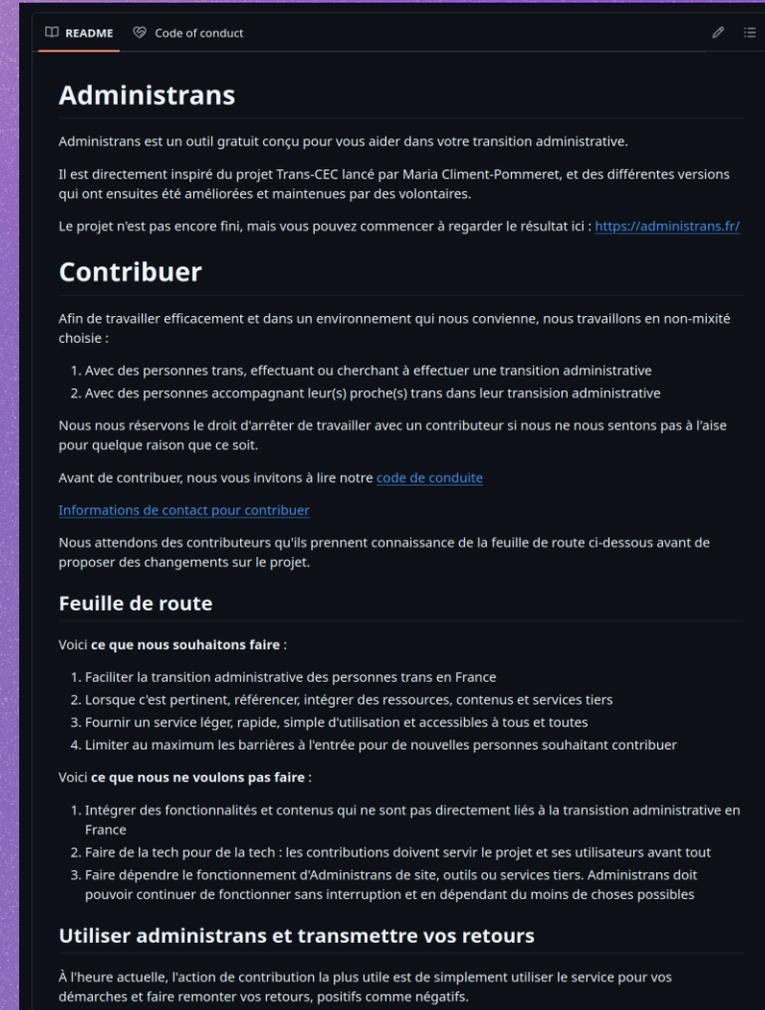
TABLE 3—DISTRIBUTION OF CORPORATE CONTRIBUTORS AS A SHARE OF ALL CONTRIBUTORS

Size of code base		Growth of code base		License type	
Smallest-size quartile	21.4%	Smallest growth quartile	29.9%	Unrestrictive licenses	32.0%
Mid-small size quartile	22.2%	Mid-small growth quartile	26.3%	Restrictive licenses	37.1%
Mid-large size quartile	33.1%	Mid-large growth quartile	26.6%	Highly restrictive licenses	29.0%
Largest-size quartile	44.2%	Largest growth quartile	43.3%		
<i>p</i> -Value, <i>F</i> - (or <i>t</i> -)test	0.000		0.000		0.093
Venture backing		Version			
Venture-backed projects	35.0%	Less than version 4	5.5%		
Nonventure backed	31.6%	Version 4 to 6	24.8%		
		Version 7 to 11	38.4%		
		More than version 12	43.9%		
<i>p</i> -Value, <i>F</i> - (or <i>t</i> -)test	0.398		0.000		

FLOSS projects that are useful to minorities



The screenshot shows the README for the Safe Haven project. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for README, Code of conduct, GPL-3.0 license, and Security. Below that is a banner image with the text "Safe Haven" in a stylized font, where the 'e' in "Safe" has a heart shape. The main text describes it as an open-source project to create a map of safe spaces. A prominent announcement states: "WE ARE MIGRATING TO CODEBERG <https://codeberg.org/SafeHaven/safehaven>". The "Deploy" section explains that Docker images are available and points to a packages view. The "Pre-requisites" section lists a PostgreSQL server with PostGIS. The "Prepare the database" section provides a SQL command to create a database: `CREATE DATABASE safehaven;`. It also mentions that the project leverages PostgreSQL's full text search capabilities and provides a SQL command to set a locale: `ALTER DATABASE safehaven SET default_text_search_config = 'pg_catalog.french';`. The "Configure" section notes that the application is initialized with a default user named 'admin' and a random password, and provides a link to the documentation website.



The screenshot shows the README for the Administrans project. It starts with a navigation bar for README and Code of conduct. The "Administrans" section describes it as a free tool for administrative transitions, inspired by Trans-CEC. It provides a link to the project's website: <https://administrans.fr>. The "Contribuer" section outlines the goals: working effectively in a suitable environment. It lists two main objectives: 1. Assisting trans people in their administrative transition, and 2. Supporting trans people in their transition. It also states that contributors are not to be discriminated against. A "code de conduite" (code of conduct) link is provided. The "Feuille de route" (roadmap) section lists goals: 1. Facilitating administrative transitions in France, 2. Referencing and integrating resources, 3. Providing a light, fast, and accessible service, and 4. Limiting barriers to entry. It also lists things not to do: 1. Integrating unrelated features, 2. Making tech for tech, and 3. Making the application dependent on external services. The "Utiliser administrans et transmettre vos retours" section states that the most useful contribution is to use the service and provide feedback.

The disregard for low-profile tasks

"It is argued that the high-profile, high-prestige tasks get disproportionate attention compared to the low-profile, low-prestige tasks such as application documentation."

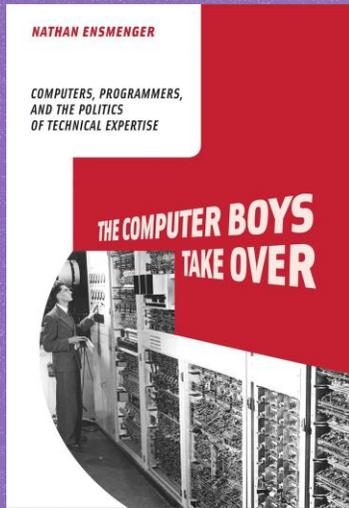
**But is it only the fault of the
economic system?**

OSS and designing "for"



"This is a pattern in OSS even outside of the context of crisis but often exacerbated by crisis. Designers, researchers, product managers, community managers and documentarians are excluded, often not explicitly, but implicitly by the 'coding focussed' culture of OSS. (...)The dangerous gap being that the structures in place currently lack an inclusive, contextually (crisis) relevant and sustainable way of building and maintaining the OSS along with the community itself being inclusive, contextually relevant and sustainable. This can in the most harmful situations, add to a colonisation of crisis, aid relief and technology where communities are designed 'for' not 'by' and 'with'."

Programmers and operators



"the telephone switchboardlike appearance of the ENIAC programming cable-and-plug panels reinforced the notion that programmers were mere machine operators, that programming was more handicraft than science, more feminine than masculine, more mechanical than intellectual"

Women and software development



The Computer Girls

BY LOIS MANDEL

A trainee gets \$8,000 a year
... a girl "senior systems analyst"
gets \$20,000—and up!

Twenty years ago, a girl could be a secretary, a school teacher . . . maybe a librarian, a social worker or a nurse. If she was really ambitious, she could go into the professions and compete with men . . . usually working harder and longer to earn less pay for the same job.

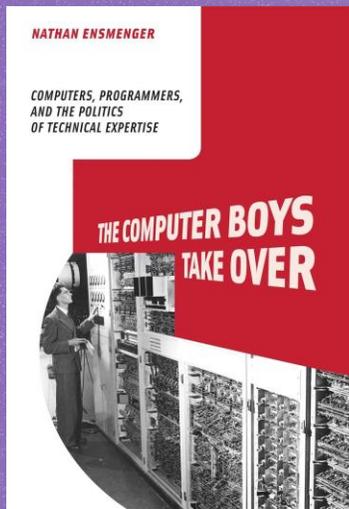
Now have come the big, dazzling computers—and a whole new kind of work for women: programming. Telling the miracle machines what to do and how to do it. Anything from predicting the

computer can solve a problem, and then instruct the machine to do it."

"It's just like planning a dinner," explains Dr. Grace Hopper, now a staff scientist in systems programming for Univac. (She helped develop the first electronic digital computer, the Eniac, in 1946.) "You have to plan ahead and schedule everything so it's ready when you need it. Programming requires patience and the ability to handle detail. Women are 'naturals' at computer programming."

"(Programming) is just like planning a dinner. (...) This is the age of the Computer Girls. There are twenty thousand of them in the United States already. (...) Women are 'naturals' at computer programming."

Programmers recruitment bias



"This bias toward male programmers was not so much deliberate as it was convenient—a combination of laziness, ambiguity, and traditional male privilege. The fact that the use of lazy screening practices inadvertently excluded large numbers of potential female trainees was simply never considered. But the increasing assumption that the average programmer was also male did play a key role in the establishment of a highly masculine programming subculture."

FOSS lack of intersectionality

When one of his colleague was accused of assaulting a 17 years old, he stated in a leaked email that "the most plausible scenario is that she presented herself to him as entirely willing." and that the definition of 'rape' shouldn't "depends on minor details such as which country it was in or whether the victim was 18 years old or 17". He also stated on his blog in 2011 about child pornography that "Having a photo or drawing does not hurt anyone, so and if you or I think it is disgusting, that is no excuse for censorship."

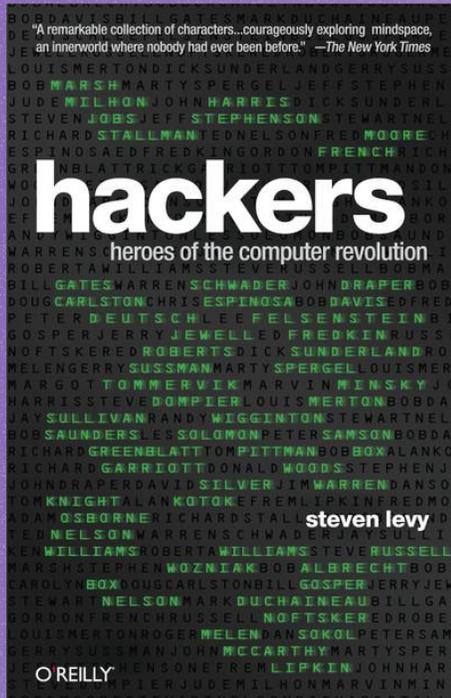


<https://stallman.org/notes/2011-mar-jun.html>

<https://www.vice.com/en/article/famed-computer-scientist-richard-stallman-described-epstein-victims-as-entirely-willing/>

<https://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/2019/09/richard-stallman-leaves-mit-after-controversial-remarks-on-rape/>

The hackers ethics



“ - **Access to computers**—and anything that might teach you something about the way the world works—**should be unlimited and total.** Always yield to the Hands-On Imperative!

- **All information should be free.**
- **Mistrust Authority**—Promote Decentralization. Hackers should be judged by their hacking, not bogus criteria such as degrees, age, race, or position.
- You can create **art and beauty on a computer.**
- **Computers can change your life for the better.”**

Inclusiveness is rethinking what is a good programmer



Inclusiveness cannot happen
in this exclusive culture that
only swears in technical
proficiency.

The freedom ladder



LIBREPLANET

About ▾

Teams ▾

Conferences ▾

Get involved ▾

Login

Group: Freedom Ladder

This list is a work in progress and a result of a collaborative effort between the FSF and the free software community.

Latest updates on the campaign

- Check our recommendations for [free software in the workplace](#).
- We recently expanded step 5 with a list of mobile phone apps that respect the user's freedom and are easily adopted
- We're still collecting [free software stories](#), both fictional and real-life to help us categorize and identify many of the different kinds of free software users. Share yours to help the campaigns team.
- We're also collecting [resources](#), large, small, FSF origin or from other organizations that can help anyone take a step forward with free software, you can add Web sites, forums, videos, graphics, etc.
- Read the [latest blog post](#) 🗨️ from the FSF on the Freedom Ladder

We encourage you to think with us on what this ladder should include, and what else to highlight by [leaving notes on the discussion page](#), by joining us in the [IRC meetings](#) 🗨️, or by emailing campaigns@fsf.org 🗨️ with your thoughts.

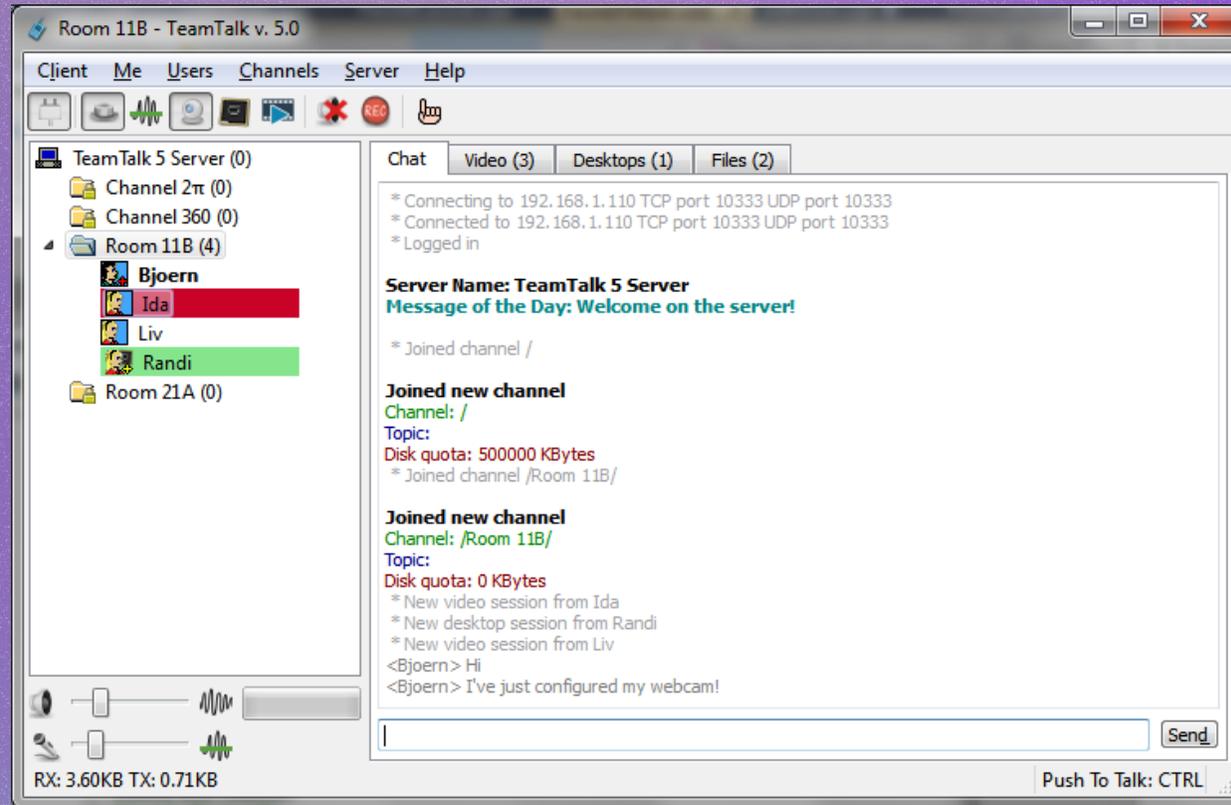
This page is a shared resource, and we encourage others to add to the discussion pages, but it is possible that some entries here may be added by members of the community. We check this resource periodically, and process the comments we receive. We know that others check it too, but it's a wiki, so errors may be added before they're fixed. We encourage you to review licenses and information about resources you add, and to update this page with your findings.

Introduction

The "freedom ladder" is a new method the FSF campaigns team has developed to help users get their first start in software freedom.

One problem with most guides introducing newcomers to GNU/Linux is that they stop them too soon on their "journey to freedom," and end up suggesting that a partially nonfree setup is a desirable outcome. By contrast, our guide's focus is to encourage users to not rest content with nonfree software, while at the same time recognizing that they have other pressures and obligations. We want to help them stay both motivated and determined in their gradual process to eliminate nonfree software from their lives.

TeamTalk5



Advices for open source accessibility projects

1. Associate the software with a trusted brand if possible, such as a university, charity, or software publisher.
2. Ensure a single, certifiable location from which the 'official' installer can be downloaded.
3. Incorporate digital signing of plug-ins so as to ensure they are reviewed before being made available to end users.
4. Make available the necessary technical architecture to support genuinely collaborative community support.
5. Inculcate a good 'civic' mind-set for support by recruiting the most helpful of contributors as moderators.
6. Provide public recognition for contributions that are considered 'high value' for the project in the form of visible achievements"

For and by diversity



**FOSS should be made by a
diversity of people for the
diversity of people called
humanity.**

building inclusive free and open-source software



Bring inclusiveness and accessibility to your pipeline

From accessibility to inclusiveness



Incorporating inclusiveness into your workflows



The structure of your workflows shape the application you are delivering.

By explicitly incorporating accessibility and inclusiveness throughout your design and development pipeline, you are making sure that you and your team are actively working towards an application that will be usable and welcoming to everyone.

Accessibility and inclusiveness essentials

1. **Have inclusiveness in mind since the ideation**
2. **Make it a goal for your designs**
3. **Iterate on implementation**
4. **Test**
5. **Get user feedback**

Having an inclusiveness/accessibility coach



The coaches can be the ones **who monitor with other developers the progress of the current accessibility roadmap**, without doing all of the accessibility-related work themselves.

They are their team's reference on accessibility issues.

Building empathy



We all have a **singular, partial perspective of the world**. These comes with **biases** but also **insights** and **experiences**.

This can lead to an "**empathy gap**" (as called in Barrell's book) where accessibility and inclusiveness feel like remote and niche preoccupations.

- **Share stories of users who took advantage of the inclusiveness of your app**
- **Host events where team members can try and use your app with assistive technologies or simulated disabilities, and reflect on what could be improved.**



Jill's story

“When I was in grad school, [...] I made great friends with my fellow student Jill. [...] She passed away over a decade ago now, but back then, we hung out with a larger group from our cohort, and Jill and I got along especially well. We had classes together, occasionally shopped together, and she’d invite us all to her apartment for group hangs. She was originally from New Jersey but had moved to New Mexico, where the climate was better for her. She loved New Mexico. She was just away to earn a master’s degree: two years in our program in Virginia, then she planned to return home to New Mexico to teach. She was full of jokes, and it was easy to be with her.

On our campus, disability accessibility was . . . shitty, to say the least. [T]he apartment she ended up in wasn’t even truly accessible. It had a bathroom with an appropriate sink and toilet, but the shower wasn’t great, and the kitchen was just the same standard kitchen that was in all the apartments in the complex, so she had to be creative. [...] The parking lot was always overfilled on football game days. On one of those days, we were going to hang out, and then she was going to go over to the library for an event. I drove over, found a parking spot way out in some grass, and trekked over to her apartment.

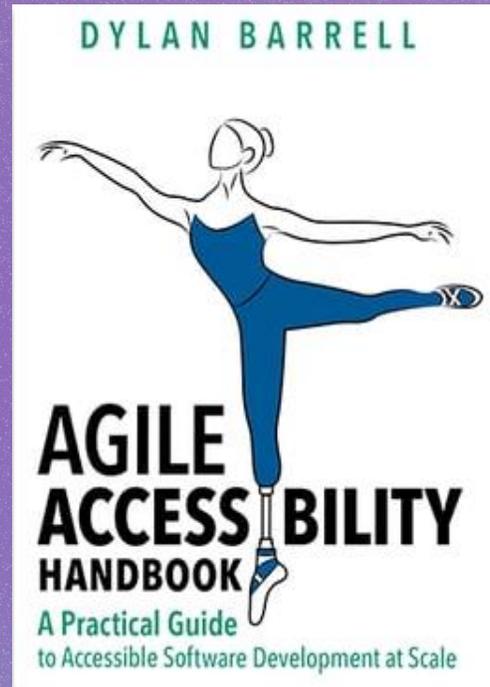
Jill was on the phone when I got there. Someone had parked next to her giant white van in the yellow-slashed area that is the open zone next to her disability parking spot. [...] She could neither get to the side of her van to get in nor open the door to allow the van’s wheelchair lift to fold out. She had already called the apartment complex once that day. Although the complex had signs all around the lot saying that it would tow away non-resident cars (which this one was!), it was game day, so they didn’t want to call a tow company. They said they couldn’t do anything and told her to call the police. She called the non-emergency police line, and they said it was the domain of her apartment complex. And it was game day after all, so the police were busy too. She was shuttled back and forth like a tennis ball. No one was going to do anything.

[...] She encouraged me to let the air out of the car’s tires. I regret that I was too much of a wuss at age twenty-three to actually do it. We already knew the police weren’t going to come about the car, so why didn’t I? Often, past me disappoints my currently disabled self.

I think of all the infrastructure that failed here—that was really built to fail, because it was never built to consider disabled people. It did the bare minimum: the physical complex (and administrators, and the police) met a few legally required standards, but they did not actually enforce the civil-rights law that is the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Few complexes met even the lowest bar, so her housing options were limited—she was glad to even get that dumpy, inconvenient apartment. The systems in place supposedly to give her equal access—including her leasing office and the police—were indifferent to actually ensuring that she had it. Jill missed the event she said she’d help with at our library. Turned out she was accustomed to these system failures. At least that day wasn’t a failure with life-or-death stakes, like the ones that would delay her access to gynecological care and ultimately lead to her death less than two years later.”*

* [Shew Ashley, *Against Technoableism: rethinking who needs improvement*. 2023](#)

The agile accessibility Handbook



If you want to learn further on this topic, **the Agile Accessibility Handbook** mentioned previously is a **very solid starting point, tackling big picture transformation processes as well as small-scale team practices.**

building inclusive free and open-source software



Inclusive Design 101

Designing inclusive and accessible software



What is an inclusive app?

Inclusiveness is

“The quality of including many different types of people and treating them fairly and equally”
(Cambridge Dictionary)



An inclusive app is

one that can not only be used completely, comfortably and safely by all users, but also in which they can all thrive, feel welcome and express themselves.

What is an inclusive app?

Are there human characteristics that could prevent a user from understanding, navigating, interacting with or feeling well with the provided content?

Age
Culture
Digital literacy
Education
Ethnicity
Gender, gender identity
Historical context
Language
Mental health
Nationality
Physical *and* cognitive (dis)abilities
Sexuality
Socio-economic context

...

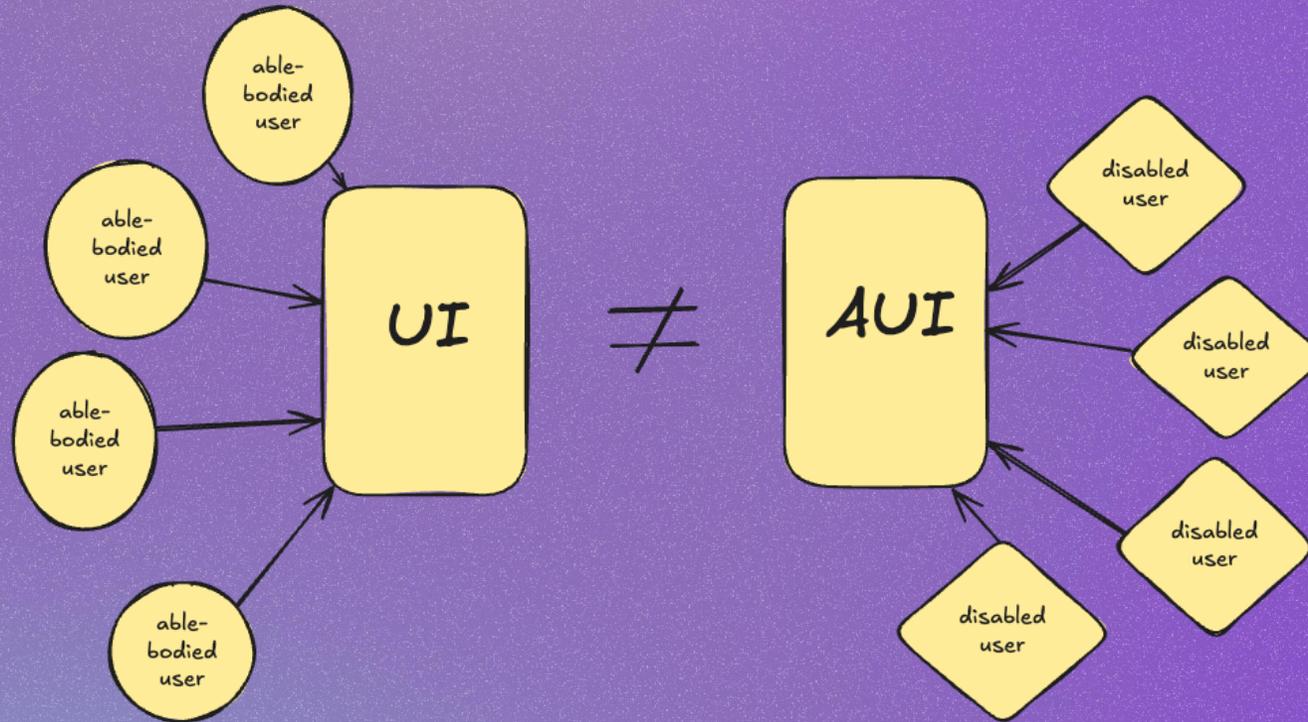
Designing for inclusiveness

- While implementation is important, **design is crucial** to build an inclusive app.
- You and your work are the team's compass towards a great – and inclusive – product!
- Don't ever “make a feature accessible” again. Instead, build it with inclusiveness in mind.
- Is this bridge inclusive?



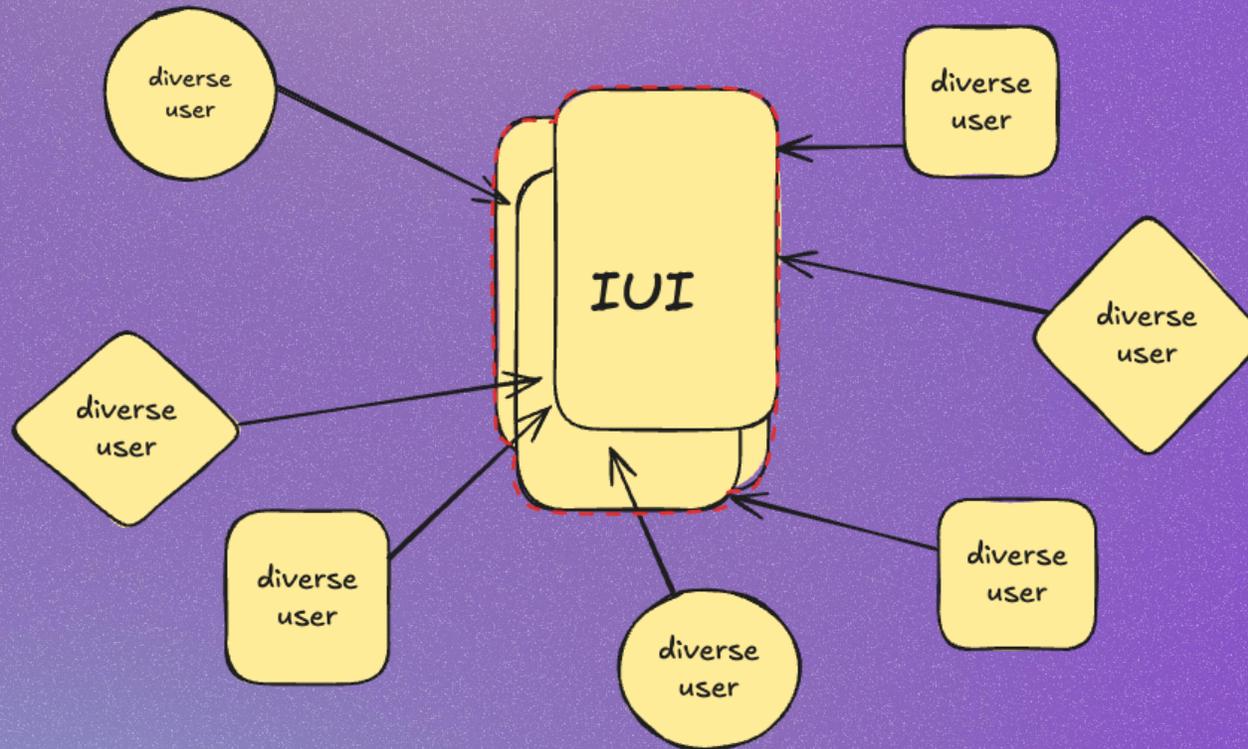
What is an IUI?

Common perspective of accessible UI



What is an IUI?

Our perspective of inclusive UI



Inclusive Design Principles



These Inclusive Design Principles are about putting people first. It's about designing for the needs of people with permanent, temporary, situational, or changing disabilities – all of us really.

Adapted from inclusivedesignprinciples.org/

1 Provide comparable experience

Ensure your interface provides a comparable experience for all so people can accomplish tasks in a way that suits their needs without undermining the quality of the content.



2 Give control

People should be able to access and interact with content in their preferred way.



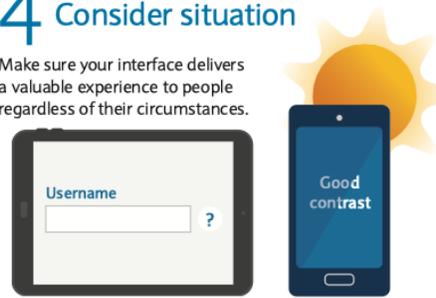
3 Offer choice

Consider providing different ways for people to complete tasks, especially those that are complex or non standard.



4 Consider situation

Make sure your interface delivers a valuable experience to people regardless of their circumstances.



5 Be consistent

Use familiar conventions and apply them consistently.



6 Prioritise content

Help users focus on core tasks, features and information by prioritising them within the content and layout.



7 Add value

Consider the value of features and how they improve the experience for different users.



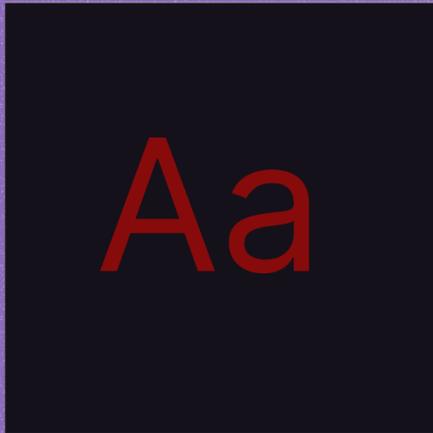
For more information go to barclayscorporate.com/accessibility
This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported License.



 **BARCLAYS**

Now, how do you concretely make an IUI?

The colors are contrasted

A screenshot of a web application titled 'Color Contrast Checker'. The interface includes a navigation bar with 'Products', 'Solutions', 'Community', 'Resources', and 'Pricing'. The main content area shows the checker's results for a red foreground color (#B50202) and a white background color (#FFFFFF). The contrast ratio is 7.06:1, which is highlighted in green. The tool also provides a table of results for different text categories and sizes, all of which are marked as 'Pass'.

Home / Contrast checker

Color Contrast Checker

Easily check your color contrast to make sure your design meets Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) accessibility standards.

Contrast **7.06:1** Swap

Foreground: HEX #B50202 Background: HEX #FFFFFF

Category	AA	AAA
Normal text	Pass	Pass
Large text	Pass	Pass
UI elements	Pass	Pass

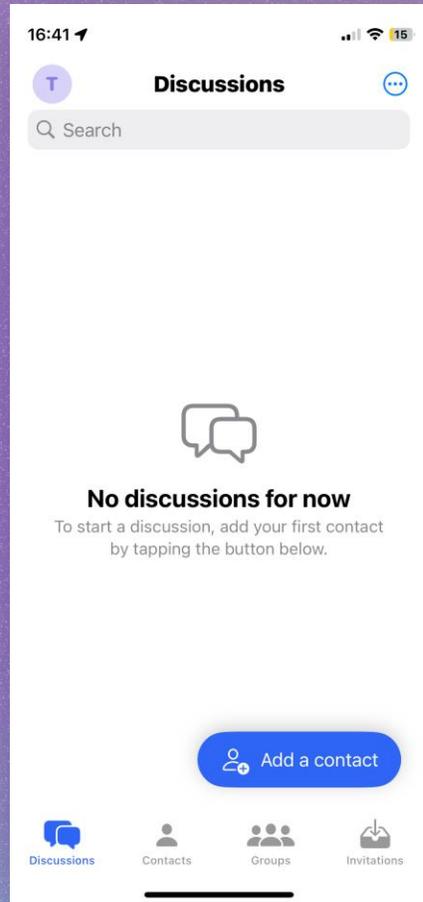
Copy link [Get color palette](#)

Preview: COLOR SIMULATION None

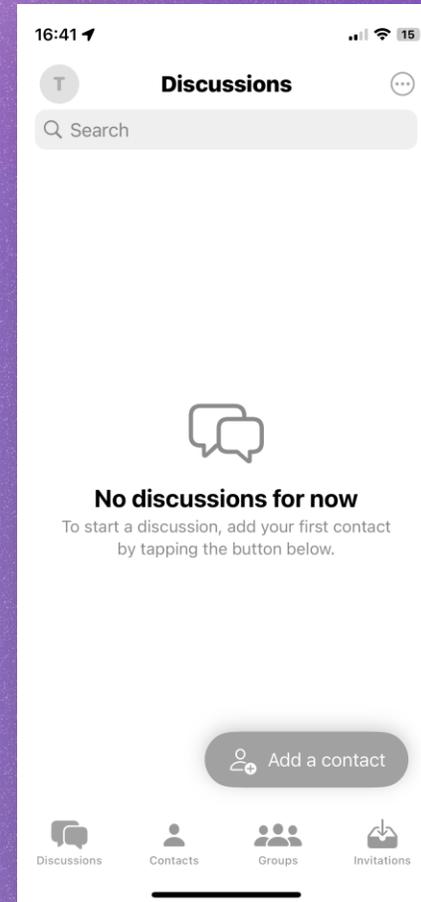
Jam Sesh
Playlist by Figma

- 01 Lo-fi hip hop 4:11
- 02 Acoustic ambient 5:10
- 03 Button smash 3:59
- 04 It's Friday 6:45

The colors are not necessary to understand the UI



VS



The layout is responsive to custom font sizes

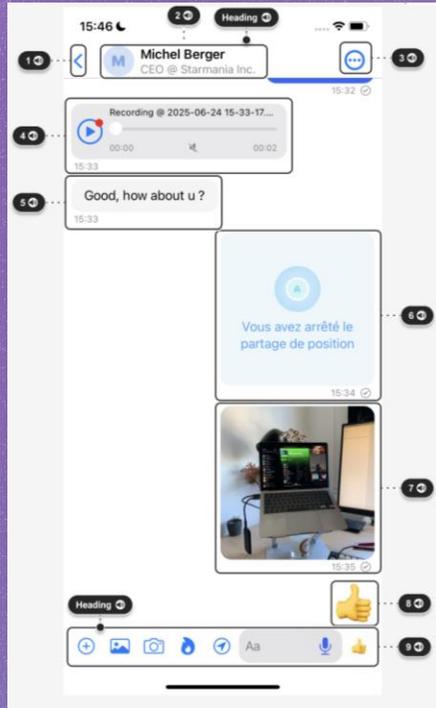


The interactions do not require physical and/or motor abilities

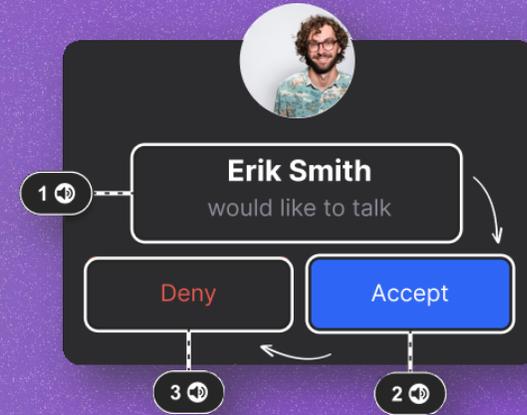
- Avoid **timeouts**
- Provide **shortcuts**
- Tolerate **errors**
- Protect **privacy**
- Support **assistive technologies**



The content can be accessed using assistive technologies



"Michel Berger. 3 unread messages. You said: Thanks ! at 9:07. Message status: sent. Pinned. Actions available."



1. Grouping



2. Labelling



3. Ordering

The UI is simple and intuitive

- Keep the interface as less cluttered and as consistent as possible.
- Moving or animated content should be pausable.
- Limit the number of text font and sizes used.
- Avoid pure black-on-white text.
- Body text should be naturally (not fully) justified.
- Keep written content clear, concise and free of acronyms or idioms.
- Provide alternatives to text (with images, graphs, screen reader support, etc.)
- Limit vivid colors, especially around content.
- “Don’t insist on accuracy for written input. Instead, provide options.” Depending on the platform, implementing auto-completion, spell-checkers, dictation, etc. can be helpful.
- Avoid dark patterns, and moreover, be very clear on the consequences of the action taken by the users on your interface.

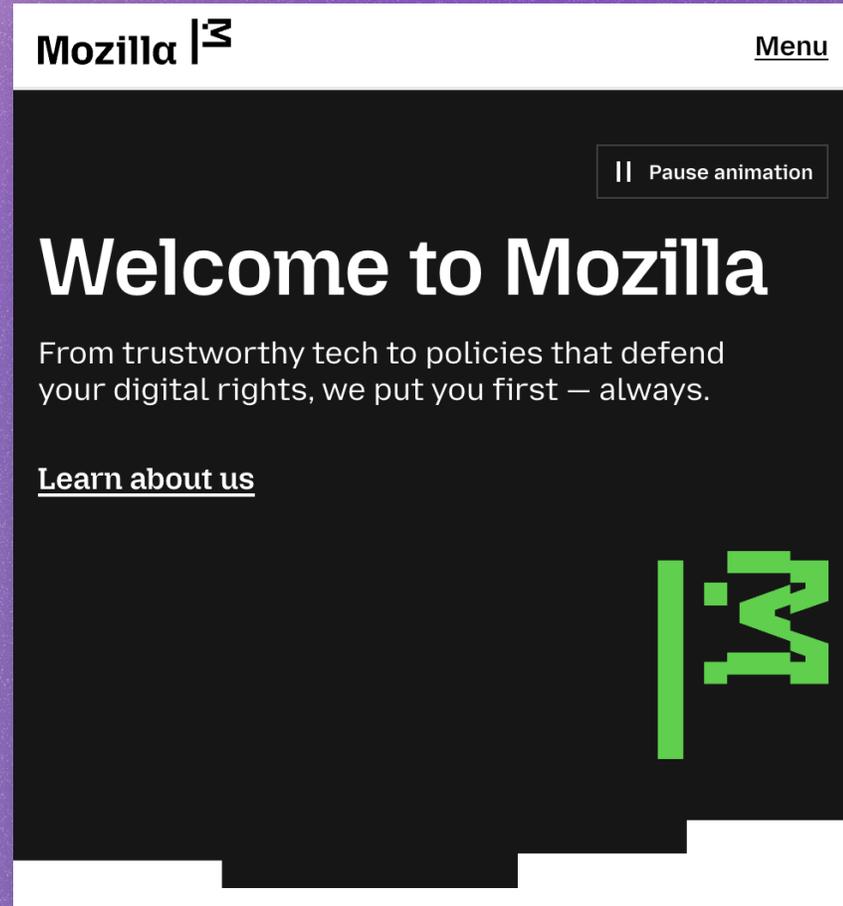
Whitaker, Rob (2020). *Developing Inclusive Mobile Apps: Building Accessible Apps for iOS and Android*, Apress Berkley.



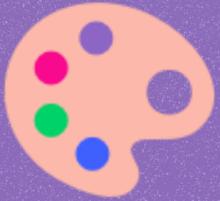
The UI has options to prevent motion sickness

Known triggers include:

- Zooms
- Flashing or blinking
- Animations playing automatically without user interaction
- Parallax effects



The UI adapts well to other cultures



Colors



Language



RTL support

User's characteristics are not assumed

- **Content representing people & activities**
 - Show various ethnicities, body types, *etc.*
 - Represent a good variety of relatable activities and cultural references
- **Gender identity & expression**
 - Provide options & custom entries
 - Avoid using gendered pronouns
 - Use gender-neutral icons
 - Offer the possibility to use a preferred name
- **Access to technology**
 - 20% of users only access the internet via their phone
- **Digital literacy**

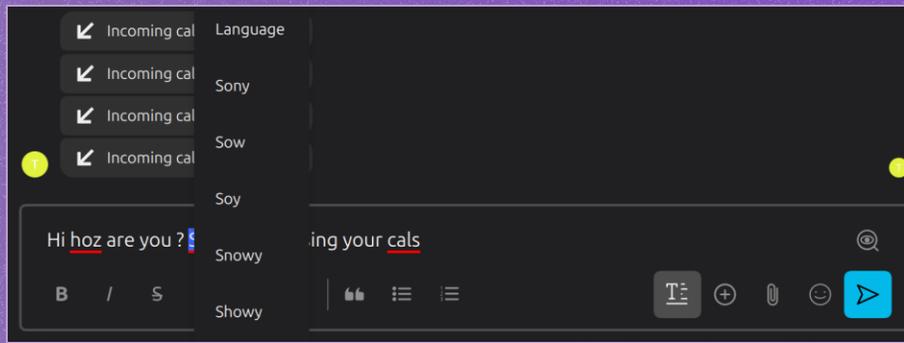


Getting creative

Building great inclusive experiences is the occasion to thinking about new ways of interacting with your app.



Twitter's "Magic Tap" action settings



Jami's spellchecker

Communicating inclusive design

To achieve the intended IUX, communication is key:

- Communicating the accessibility of IUIs can be challenging, as accessibility features are often graphically invisible
- Use design annotations
- Test using assistive technologies and provide feedback

The image shows a mobile app interface for 'Fermer' with various accessibility annotations. The app displays a 'Réponses' screen with a pie chart, a list of responses, and a 'Relancer' button. Annotations include 'Note', 'Heading', and 'Export'.

Annotations:

- a Note:** Ajouter un autre bouton fermer invisible graphiquement pour fermer une fois la vue complètement parcourue.
- b Chart:** Il s'agit d'une illustration - cacher cet élément pour l'AUI.
- c Rappel de la question:** Ramener ce champ dans le titre de la modale directement.
- 1 Note:** Fermer
- 2 Note:** Réponses
- 3 Note:** Quelle date ?
- 4 Note:** Exporter en CSV
- 5 Heading:** REPONSES (45)
- 6 Heading:** EN ATTENTE DE LEUR REPONSE
- 7 Note:** James Richards

Tri

Label	Classé par
Value	Réponse
Trait	Button
Hint	Toucher deux fois pour changer le critère
Default Action	Changer le critère de classement
Custom Actions	

Export

Label	Exporter en CSV
Value	
Trait	Button
Hint	Toucher deux fois pour exporter en csv
Default Action	
Custom Actions	

5:7 Relancer

Label	James Richards
Value	n'a pas encore répondu
Trait	Button
Hint	Toucher deux fois pour composer un message
Default Action	Relancer
Custom Actions	

Designing an UI on a whiteboard

Design an account creation screen for a social media app.

•The interface should include:

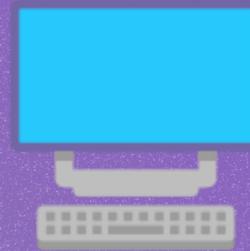
- Fields to fill in social media information (like name, gender, hobbies, *etc.*)
- A button to send the form
- A way of going back to the home page
- A checkbox to accept the service's TOS, with a link to access them

Wrapping up

- An inclusive app is one using which users can thrive with and feel welcome in.
- Designers have a big responsibility regarding inclusiveness as they are their team's compass towards delivering an outstanding experience for everyone.
- The IUI should not be seen as a standard UI that was made accessible, nor as a separate UI, but as an ideal to strive for, for the entire UI to be inclusive and welcoming for everyone.
- Making your interface inclusive is an occasion to get creative and to think about new innovative ways of interacting with your app.
- Building an IUI is a long process, that can start with baby steps today.

Remember: **good design is inclusive, and good design benefits everyone!**

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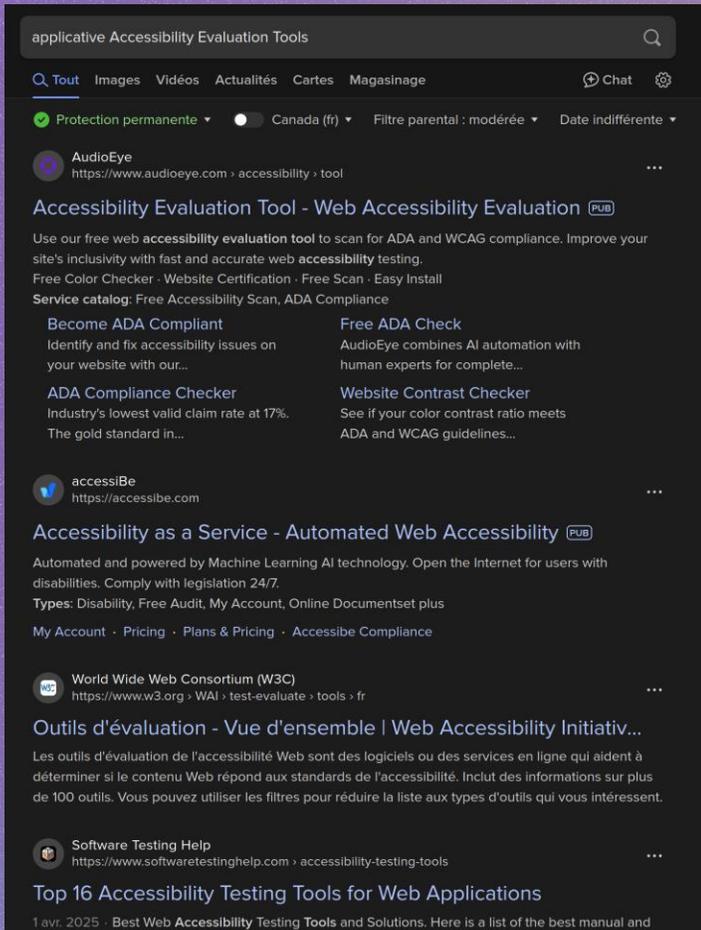
Inclusive design for Desktop

Designing inclusive and accessible software



What are the resources ?

...and why are there so few of them ?



The screenshot shows a search engine results page for the query "applicative Accessibility Evaluation Tools". The search bar at the top contains the text "applicative Accessibility Evaluation Tools". Below the search bar, there are navigation links for "Tout", "Images", "Vidéos", "Actualités", "Cartes", and "Magasinage", along with a "Chat" icon and a settings gear. The search results are displayed in a list format. The first result is from "AudioEye" (https://www.audioeye.com) and is titled "Accessibility Evaluation Tool - Web Accessibility Evaluation". The description for this result mentions a free web accessibility evaluation tool for scanning for ADA and WCAG compliance. Below the title, there are several sub-links: "Become ADA Compliant", "Free ADA Check", "ADA Compliance Checker", and "Website Contrast Checker". The second result is from "accessiBe" (https://accessibe.com) and is titled "Accessibility as a Service - Automated Web Accessibility". The description for this result mentions that it is automated and powered by Machine Learning AI technology. The third result is from the "World Wide Web Consortium (W3C)" (https://www.w3.org) and is titled "Outils d'évaluation - Vue d'ensemble | Web Accessibility Initiati...". The description for this result mentions that the tools help determine if web content meets accessibility standards. The fourth result is from "Software Testing Help" (https://www.softwaretestinghelp.com) and is titled "Top 16 Accessibility Testing Tools for Web Applications". The description for this result mentions a list of the best manual and automated accessibility testing tools.

The number of people who need to create and deploy a website is on a completely different scale than the number of persons that need to develop a native desktop applications.

What are the resources ?

...and why are there so few of them ?

Accessibility overview

03/30/2023

This article is an overview of the concepts and technologies related to accessibility scenarios for Windows apps.

Accessibility and your app

There are many possible disabilities or impairments, including limitations in mobility, vision, color perception, hearing, speech, cognition, and literacy. However, you can address most requirements by following the guidelines offered here. This means providing:

- Support for keyboard interactions and screen readers.
- Support for user customization, such as font, zoom setting (magnification), color, and high-contrast settings.
- Alternatives or supplements for parts of your UI.

Controls for XAML provide built-in keyboard support and support for assistive technologies such as screen readers, which take advantage of accessibility frameworks that already support UWP apps, HTML, and other UI technologies. This built-in support enables a basic level of accessibility that you can customize with very little work, by setting just a handful of properties. If you are creating your own custom XAML components and controls, you can also add similar support to those controls by using the concept of an *automation peer*.

In addition, data binding, style, and template features make it easy to implement support for dynamic changes to display settings and text for alternative UIs.



Building accessible apps

With built-in accessibility features, accessibility APIs, and developer tools, Apple operating systems provide extraordinary opportunities to deliver high-quality experiences to everyone, including people with disabilities. Take advantage of VoiceOver — the revolutionary screen reader for blind and low-vision users — Music Haptics, Switch Control, Guided Access, Text to Speech, closed-captioned or audio-described video, and more.

Current Work on Linux Accessibility

What exists currently? What is going on?

Recommendation: Linux-accessibility-related efforts are being started every day and are occasionally “retired”. It is therefore difficult to list all projects or all links that encompass the entirety of imaginable tasks that fit under the heading “Linux accessibility”. If you cannot find something here or are looking for a specific tool for a specific programming task, it is recommended that you search [Google](#) and [SourceForge](#). If you do find things not listed on these pages – please send a note listing them to [David Bolter](#).

Contents

- [Linux/Unix Accessibility Software](#)
 - [Operating System Enhancements](#)
 - [Desktop / Toolkit Accessibility](#)
 - [Low Vision](#)
 - [Keyboard and Mouse](#)
 - [Speech](#)
 - [Software Speech Synthesizers](#)
 - [Screen Readers](#)
 - [Speech Recognition](#)
 - [Braille](#)
 - [Optical Character Recognition \(OCR\)](#)
 - [Console](#)
- [Products](#)
- [Documents](#)
- [Projects \(Community Collaboration\)](#)
- [Events](#)
- [Credits](#)

[Microsoft. Accessibility overview for Windows](#)

[Apple. Developing accessible apps](#)

[JP Schnapper-Casteras & Janet Hopkins. Current Work on Linux Accessibility, 2004](#)

What are the resources ?

...and why are there so few of them ?



How to deal with contextual elements, different panes, complex UI elements that you typically don't find on a web page ?



Working on applicative accessibility is not memorizing a fix set of rules to apply but rather learning how to find relevant solutions to problems you encounter.

The WCAG standard

1.4.1 Use of Color — Level A

Color is not used as the only visual means of conveying information, indicating an action, prompting a response, or distinguishing a visual element. Understanding 1.4.1

Note: This success criterion addresses color perception specifically. Other forms of perception are covered in Guideline 1.3 including programmatic access to color and other visual presentation coding.

▼ Hide techniques and failures for 1.4.1

Sufficient Techniques

Note: Other techniques may also be sufficient if they meet the success criterion. See [Understanding Techniques](#).

Situation A: If the color of particular words, backgrounds, or other content is used to indicate information:

- [G14: Ensuring that information conveyed by color differences is also available in text](#)
- [G205: Including a text cue for colored form control labels](#)
- [G182: Ensuring that additional visual cues are available when text color differences are used to convey information](#)
- [G183: Using a contrast ratio of 3:1 with surrounding text and providing additional visual cues on hover for links or controls where color alone is used to identify them](#)

Situation B: If color is used within an image to convey information:

- [G111: Using color and pattern](#)
- [G14: Ensuring that information conveyed by color differences is also available in text](#)

Advisory Techniques

- [C15: Using CSS to change the presentation of a user interface component when it receives focus](#)

Failures

- [F13: Failure of Success Criterion 1.1.1 and 1.4.1 due to having a text alternative that does not include information that is conveyed by color differences in the image](#)
- [F73: Failure of Success Criterion 1.4.1 due to creating links that are not visually evident without color vision](#)
- [F81: Failure of Success Criterion 1.4.1 due to identifying required or error fields using color differences only](#)

SHARE | BACK TO TOP

The WCAG aims at providing shared worldwide accessibility guidelines for web content.

We especially recommend using the *How to Meet WCAG (Quick Reference)* from the Web Accessibility Initiative.

The WCAG standard

Description

The objective of this technique is to describe the failure that occurs when an image uses color differences to convey information, but the text alternative for the image does not convey that information. This can cause problems for people who are blind or colorblind because they will not be able to perceive the information conveyed by the color differences.

Examples

- A bar chart of sales data is provided as an image. The chart includes yearly sales figures for four employees in the Sales Department. The text alternative for the image says, "The following bar chart displays the yearly sales figures for the Sales Department. Mary sold 3.1 Million; Fred, 2.6 Million; Bob, 2.2 Million; and Andrew, 3.4 Million. The red bars indicate sales that were below the yearly quota". This text alternative fails to provide the information which is conveyed by the color red in the image. The alternative should indicate which people did not meet the sales quota rather than relying on color.

Related Techniques

- [G94: Providing short text alternative for non-text content that serves the same purpose and presents the same information as the non-text content](#)

Tests

Procedure

For all images in the content that convey information by way of color differences:

1. Check that the information conveyed by color differences is not included in the text alternative for the image.

Expected Results

- If check #1 is true, then this failure condition applies and content fails the Success Criterion.

Expected navigation with screen readers

Tab & Backtab

- The main ways of navigating through the UI
- Pressing it should respectively send the focus to the next and previous focusable elements of the UI.
- should not be used to navigate through the elements of a list or focused static text.

The arrow keys

- The up and down arrow keys are used to navigate inside an element.
- While pressing tab would focus and then exit a list, the arrows should be used to navigate inside of the said list.

Enter

- Should act as if you were clicking on an element.
- In some contexts it can be used to close informative popups as an alternative to the escape key

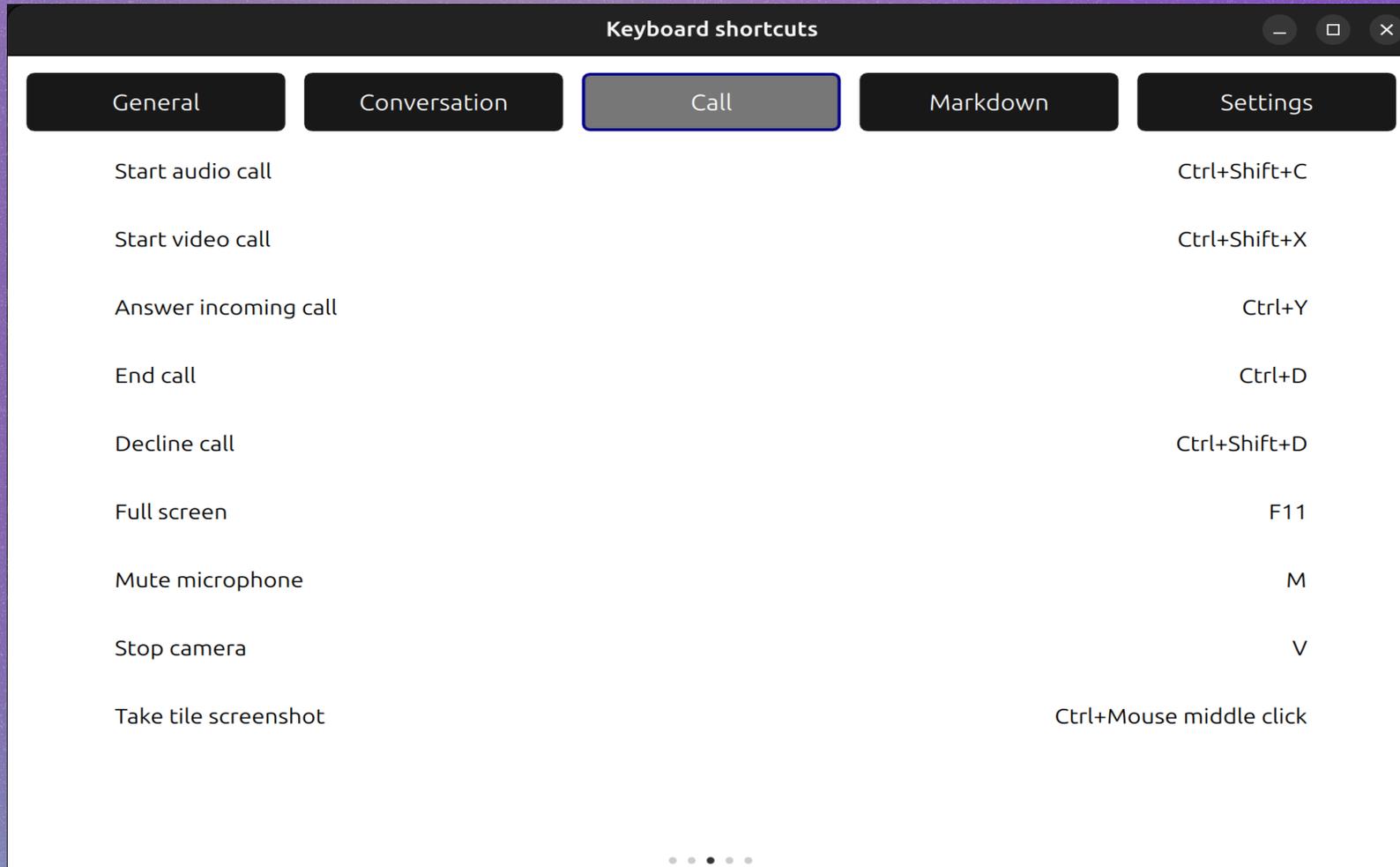
Escape

- Supposed to close popups and dropdowns.
- Having it broken is a common problem in many applications called a "focus trap"

Alt

- Firstly it should close and escape fields where tab inputs would be absorbed (some text inputs for example).
- Secondly it should focus the menu attached to the top of an application. Here is an example in VSCode.

Shortcuts



The image shows a 'Keyboard shortcuts' dialog box with a dark title bar and a white content area. The title bar contains the text 'Keyboard shortcuts' and three window control icons (minimize, maximize, close). Below the title bar are five tabs: 'General', 'Conversation', 'Call', 'Markdown', and 'Settings'. The 'Call' tab is currently selected and highlighted with a blue border. The main area of the dialog lists various actions and their corresponding keyboard shortcuts. At the bottom center, there are four small dots, with the second dot from the left being filled, indicating the current page in a sequence.

General	Conversation	Call	Markdown	Settings
		Start audio call		Ctrl+Shift+C
		Start video call		Ctrl+Shift+X
		Answer incoming call		Ctrl+Y
		End call		Ctrl+D
		Decline call		Ctrl+Shift+D
		Full screen		F11
		Mute microphone		M
		Stop camera		V
		Take tile screenshot		Ctrl+Mouse middle click

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Inclusive design for Mobile

Designing inclusive and accessible software



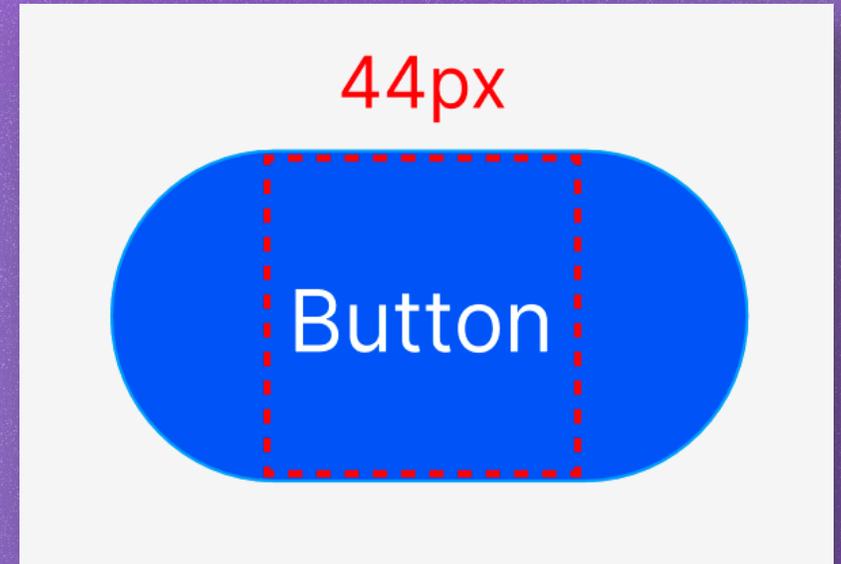
Mobile accessibility and inclusiveness are critical

1. **Mobile devices are prostheses**
2. **Mobile devices are used in a great variety of contexts**
3. **Mobile devices are some people's only access to your platform** (20% of Internet users only had a smartphone to access the Internet)

Specificities of mobile accessibility and inclusiveness

Gestures

- Provide sufficient and consistent padding for **touch targets**.
- Support alternative gestures so that your users have different ways of executing an action.
- Integrate with (or even implement) tools allowing for shortcuts, automation and voice assistants.
- Allow users to use screen readers, switches, keyboards, etc.

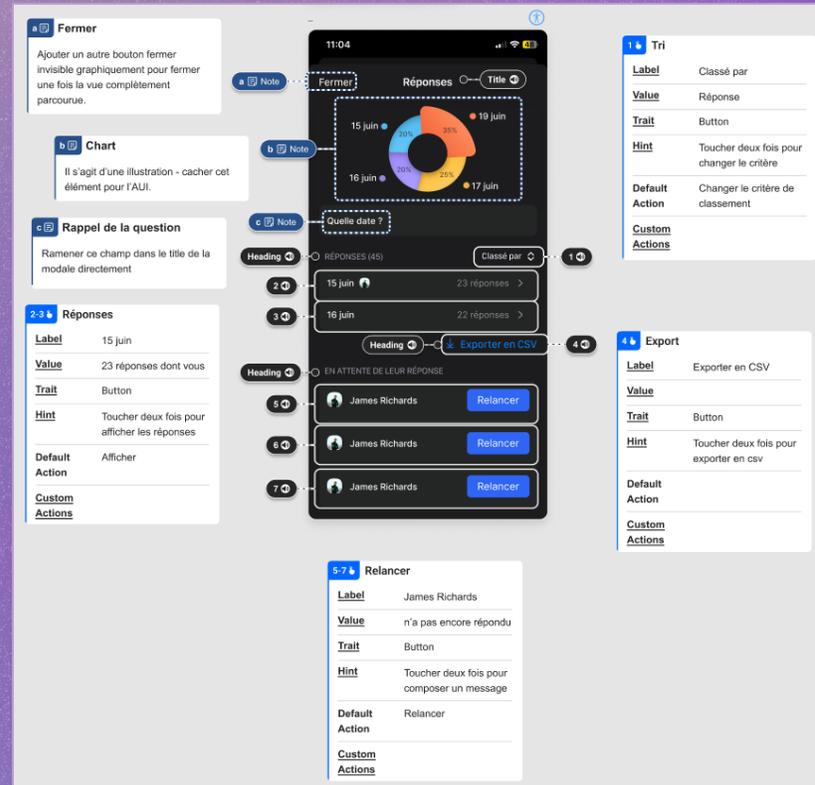


A button with a text of size 12.

Vocabulary of mobile accessible design



Incorporating accessibility to your design files



You can find online many free accessibility annotation kits made by the Figma community.

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Inclusive code 101

Programming inclusive and accessible software



Accessible code is good code

Custom components and accessibility



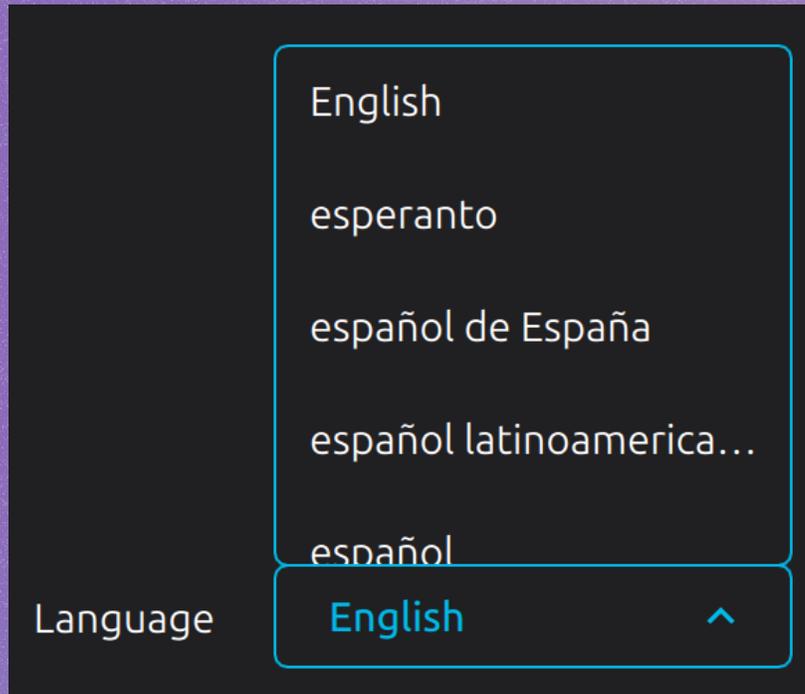
- **Bad accessibility can often be a symptom of flawed code.**
- You code can be good but will likely never be as robust as one iterated upon by a community of developers or a big company.



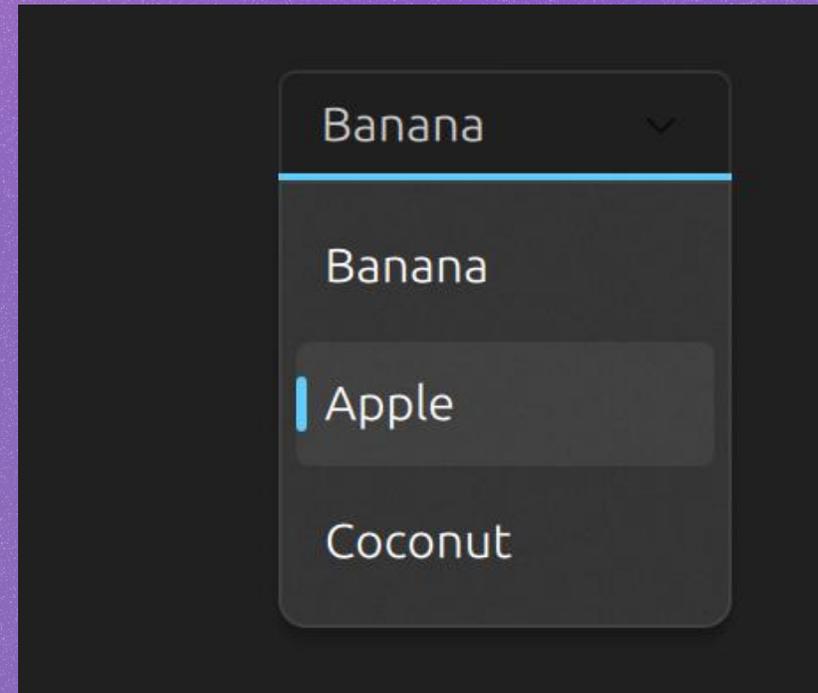
Don't reinvent (or program in our case) the wheel!

Accessible code is good code

Custom components and accessibility



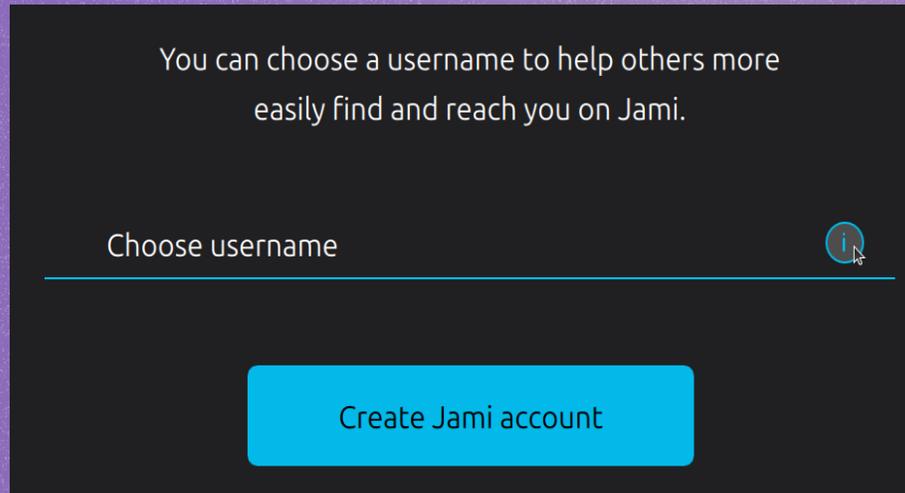
Custom component



Native component

Accessible code is good code

What bad accessibility says about our code: a few concrete examples

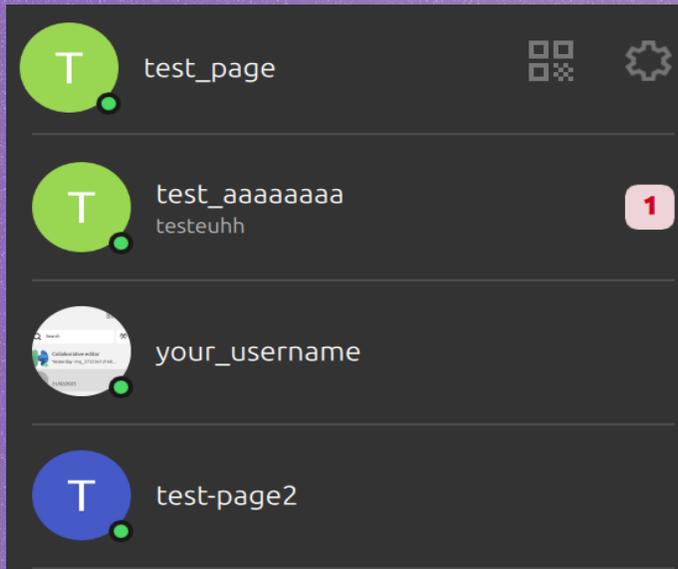


```
icon: PushButton {  
  
    id: infoBox  
    z: 1  
    normalColor: "transparent"  
  
    // ...  
    checkable: true  
    onCheckedChanged: {  
        textBoxinfo.visible = !textBoxinfo.visible;  
    }  
    preferredSize: 20  
    // ...  
}
```

Accessibility and inclusiveness in programming have one key benefit: **making you think twice about your code**. As said previously, stumbling into an accessibility issue might mean that you could be doing something better in a different way.

Accessible code is good code

What bad accessibility says about our code: a few concrete examples



```
Keys.onUpPressed: verticalScrollBar.decrease()  
Keys.onDownPressed: verticalScrollBar.increase()
```

Accessibility and inclusiveness in programming have one key benefit:
making you think twice about your code.

Accessible code is good code

Focus and explicit key navigation (Desktop)

Keyboard navigation breaks very often.

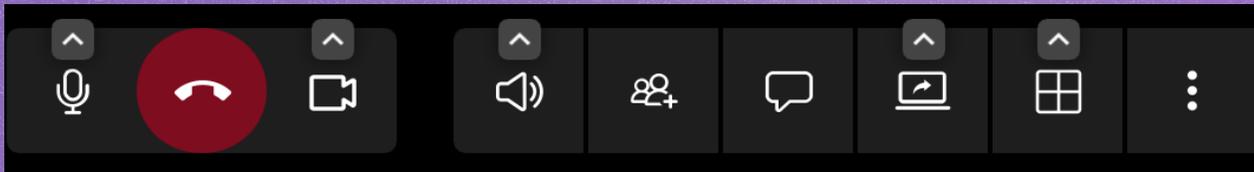


- Try and make it focusable so that your framework can automatically incorporate it in its navigation.
- You could want to use explicit keyboard navigation, to force a component to send you to another component that you has chosen.

```
KeyNavigation.tab: isTheExtendedViewLoaded()? settingsButton : moreInfosButton  
KeyNavigation.backtab: newAccountButton  
KeyNavigation.up: isTheExtendedViewLoaded()? fromBackupButton : alreadyHaveAccount  
KeyNavigation.down: KeyNavigation.tab
```

Accessible code is good code

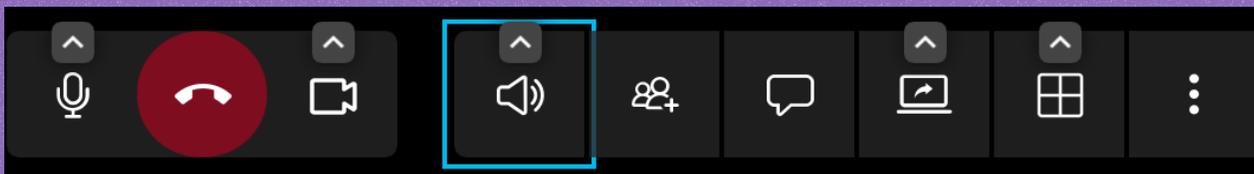
Fading components



1. Any navigation key press should make the fading component visible again

2. The component shouldn't fade if it is focused, or if one of its children items is.

3. The selected element should be clearly identifiable by the user



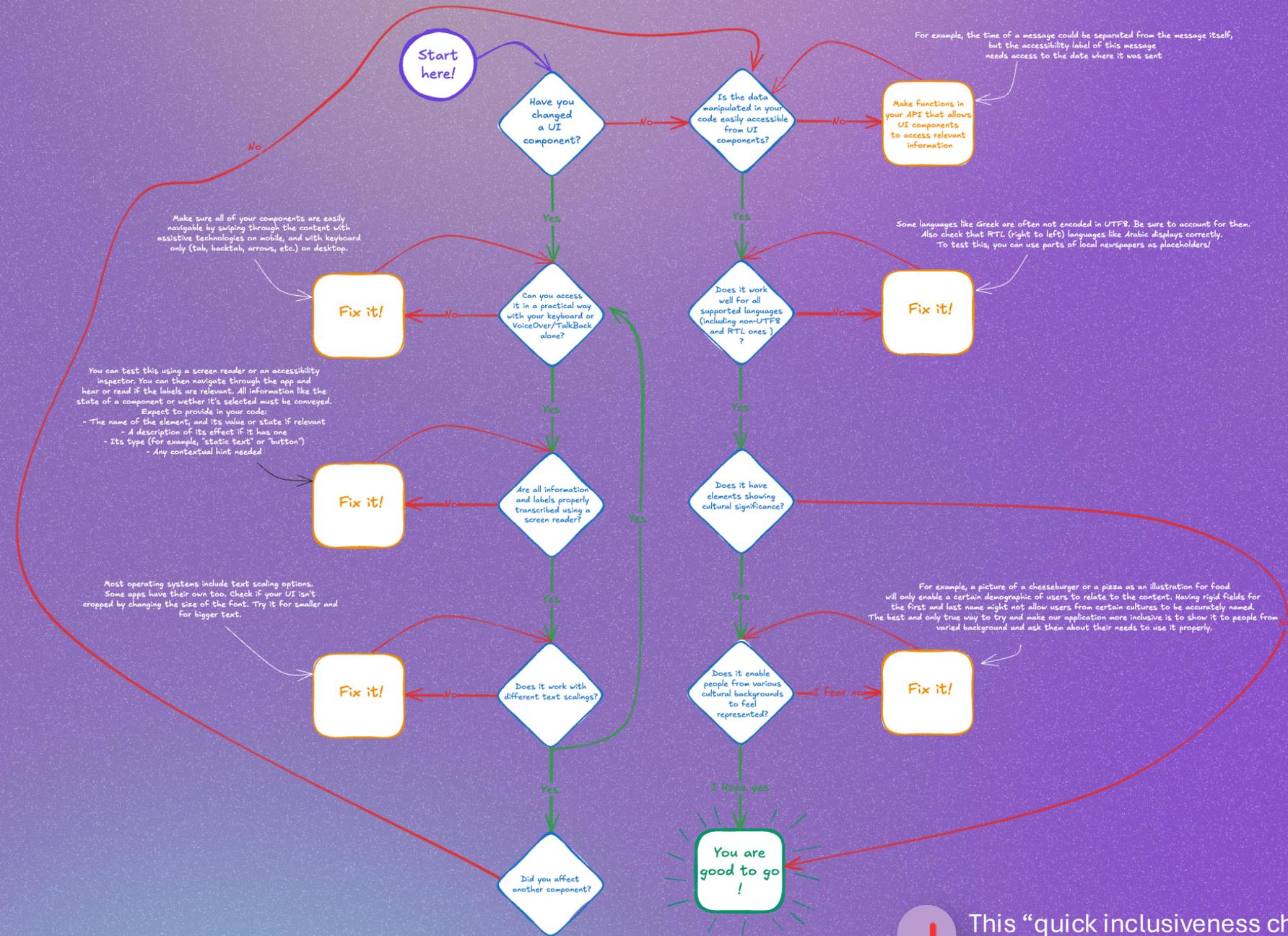
Development process

What can be automated?

- CI can detect missing accessibility labels and unreachable elements.
- Some frameworks (including SwiftUI and Jetpack Compose) provide ways of automating UI tests that check accessibility.



No amount of checklists and tests in CI can replace feedback and testing from diverse user groups.



This "quick inclusiveness check" only aims at checking you are not breaking any pre-existing accessibility.

Development process

Accessible API's & back-end



- **Naming conventions:**
 - Avoid abbreviations, which can be difficult to understand to some people due to language, screen reader use, or cognitive disabilities.
 - Make sure the name is as clear and complete as possible.
- **Documenting and commenting:**
 - Write clear sentences with simple language that will enable everyone to understand the purpose of your code.
 - If your documentation is built to HTML, check with the WAVE tool that it is WCAG-compliant.

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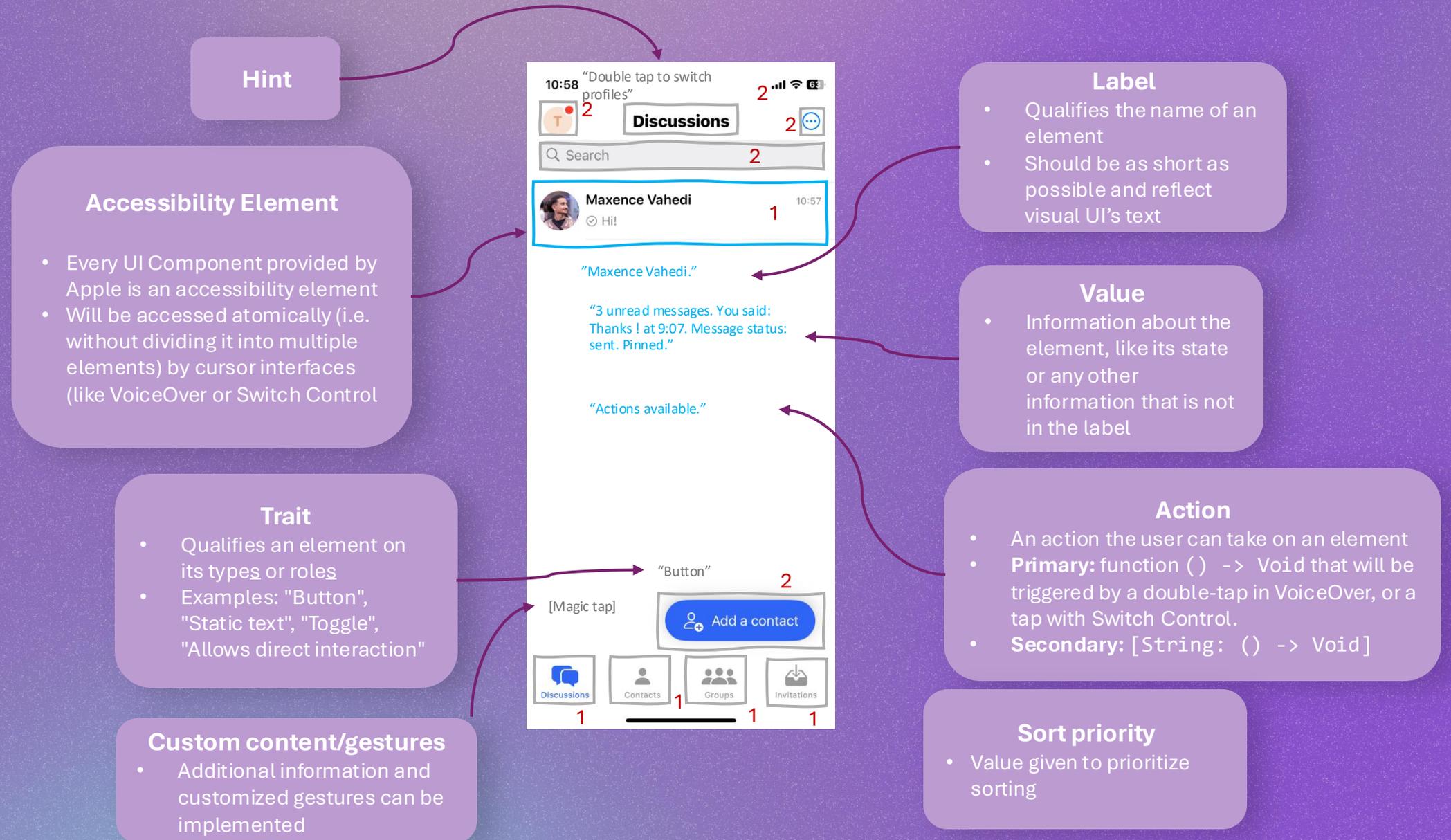


Inclusive features and programming for Apple platforms

Programming inclusive and accessible software



Apple's accessibility model



VoiceOver

Apple's screen reader

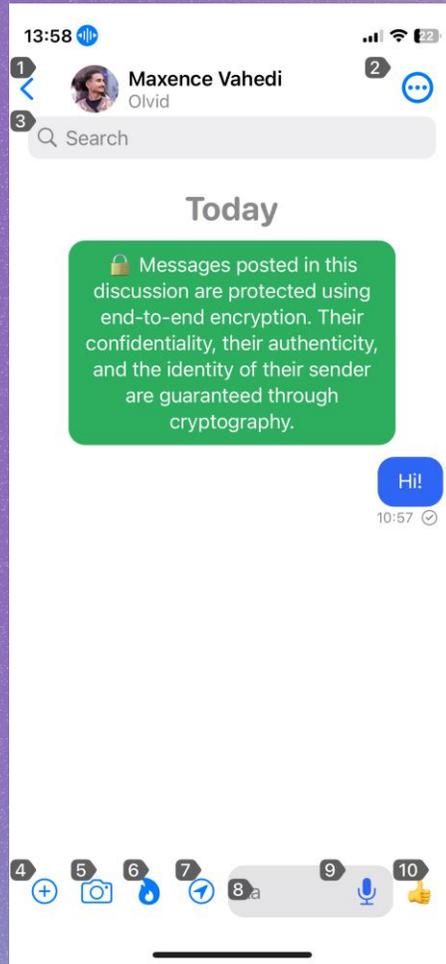


- **Gesture-based** screen reader and interface for blind and low-vision users.
- Best way to test your app's accessibility for assistive technologies.
- Supporting custom rotors actions is a great way to provide quick app-specific actions that go beyond the bare necessity.

Learning how to use VoiceOver is crucial to making your app accessible to everyone!

Voice control

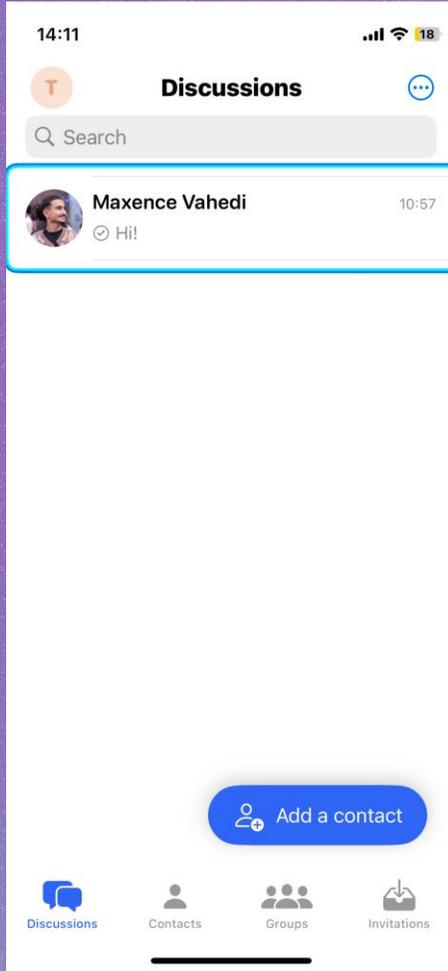
Interacting through voice



- Allows people with physical or motor disabilities to interact with their iPhones without touching the screen.
- Users can perform any action as long as it is exposed to assistive technologies as with VoiceOver.
- Selecting elements is done by either:
 - Saying the label of the elements (make it short and consistent with on-screen text)
 - Saying the number of the elements
- Make sure actionable the elements are marked as such

Switch Control

Interacting through external devices



- Lets users navigate your app with the switch devices of their choice, and/or mouth gestures
- Clear and efficient navigation and grouping is crucial to making it usable
- In particular, the order of the elements is crucial

Assistive Access

Interacting through voice

- Provide a minimal experience for people with certain cognitive disabilities or who are less familiar with new technologies
- OS-wide feature, app specific implementations
- **Guided access** allows these users to get a tailored experience with custom restrictions, allowing to disable keyboard inputs, volume buttons, etc



Accessibility in SwiftUI

The ViewModifier approach

- Accessibility in SwiftUI relies heavily on accessibility modifiers.
- They are ViewModifiers altering the accessibility tree's structure and nodes of your app.
- Their list can be very inspiring!



Accessibility in SwiftUI

Grouping elements

```
var body: some View {  
    Group {  
        NiceView()  
        VeryNiceView()  
    }  
    .accessibilityElement(children: <#T##AccessibilityChildBehavior#>)  
}
```

As said earlier, there are different ways of grouping elements, each corresponding to a case of the AccessibilityChildBehavior enum.

Accessibility in SwiftUI

The ViewModifier approach

.COMBINE

creates a new parent accessibility element, drops its children elements from the accessibility tree, and computes new accessibility attributes.

Useful for very simple combinations

.IGNORE

creates new accessibility element, also drop its children, but don't compute any accessibility attribute for free.

Good practice, nudges intentionality

.CONTAIN

creates an accessibility element that isn't a leaf on the tree, i.e. that won't be directly accessed.

Useful for collections of items

Accessibility in SwiftUI

Limits to the ViewModifier approach

```
var body: some View {
    Group {
        NiceView()
        VeryNiceView()
    }
    .accessibilityElement(children: .ignore)
    .accessibilityLabel(Text("VERY_NICE_LABEL"))
    .accessibilityHint(Text("VERY_NICE_HINT"))
    .accessibilityAddTraits(.isButton)
    .accessibilityAction(named: Text("VERY_NICE_ACTION")) {
        print("Action performed!")
    }

    SomeOtherView()
    .accessibilityLabel(Text("A11Y"))
    .accessibilityHint(Text("SOME_OTHER_HINT"))
    .accessibilitySortPriority(1)
}
```

- The accessibility-related code is hard to find. In bigger and more complex views, it gets scattered all over the view's code.
- If same snippets are likely to be repeated everywhere.
- Yet, consistency across the codebase is not enforced, nor nudged.

We need to find a way of facilitating, structuring and harmonizing accessibility in the codebase.

Accessibility in SwiftUI

Building a custom accessibility architecture

```
private struct HorizontalListOfUsersViewCell: View {
    // [...]

    var body: some View {
        InternalView(user: user,
                    identifiersOfSelectedUsers: $identifiersOfSelectedUsers,
                    profilePicture: profilePicture?.image,
                    avatarSize: avatarSize)
            .obvAccessibleComponent() // The custom ViewModifier can be applied because the internal view conforms...

        // [...]
    }

    private struct InternalView: ObvAccessibilityProvidableView /* ...to this protocol... */ {
        // [...]

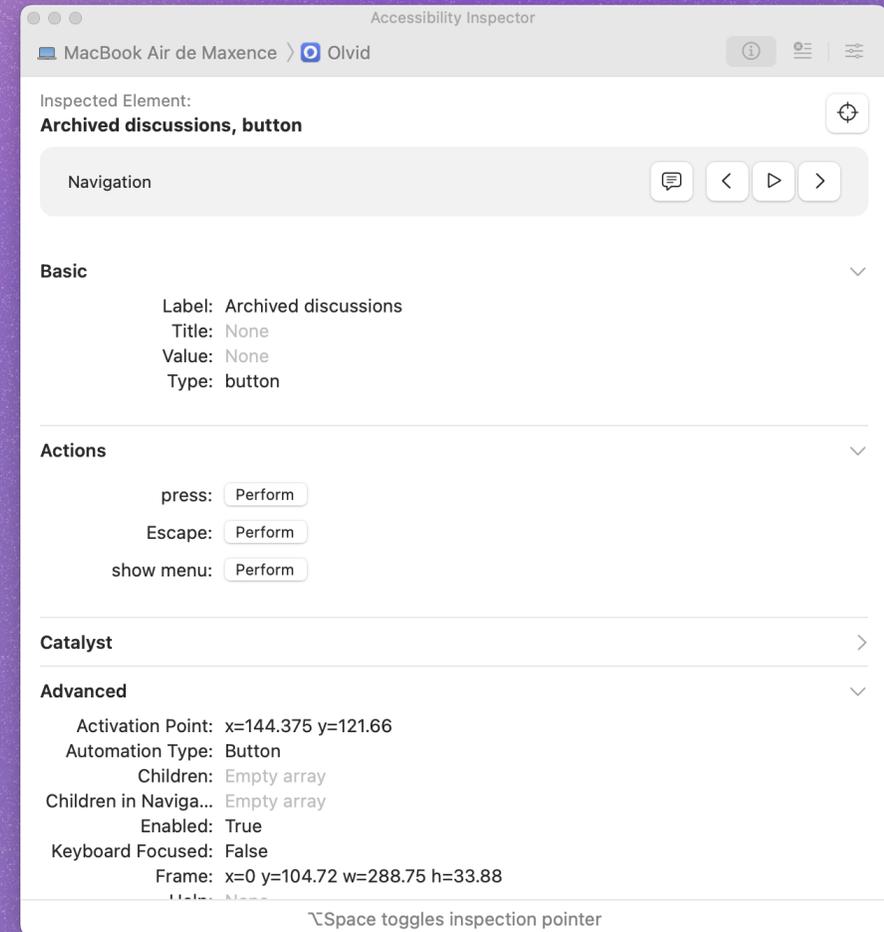
        var accessibilityAttributes: ObvAccessibility.ObvAccessibilityAttributes { // ...which requires to provide this struct.
            .init(
                label: user?.identityDetails.coreDetails.getDisplayNameWithStyle(.firstNameThenLastName) ?? " ",
                value: String(localizedInThisBundle: "SELECTED"),
                actions: [.default: buttonAction],
                hint: String(localizedInThisBundle: "DOUBLE_TAP_TO_REMOVE"),
                traits: [.isButton])
            }

        var body: some View {
            // [...]
        }
    }
}
}
```

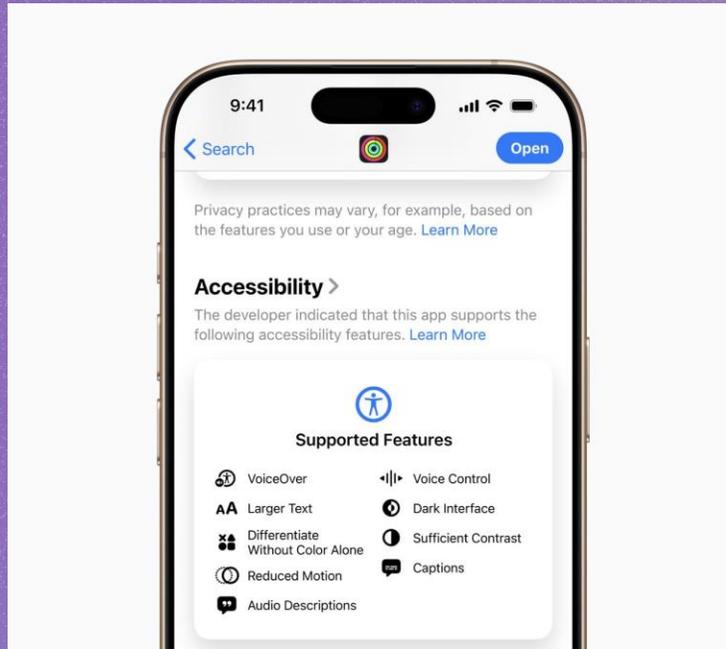
- **Example with Olvid's approach:**
 - A protocol requiring to provide accessibility attributes.
 - A struct giving those accessibility attributes.
 - A view modifier that can be applied on any view conforming to the protocol, applying those accessibility attributes.

Accessibility Inspector

- Inspect any accessibility element on your device, whether physical or emulated
- Very useful when developing to get a textual representation of your components' accessibility attributes
- Can also perform accessibility audits that are fast but not very insightful.



Accessibility Nutrition Labels



- New feature **coming with iOS 26**
- **Help users get an idea of what assistive technologies you support in your app**
- Opportunity for developers **to be valued for their accessibility work**

Wrapping up

- Apple provides **powerful tools** for you to achieve great accessibility in your apps.
- **Apple's accessibility model is based on elements and attributes.** Providing as many as relevant will help assistive technologies work well with your solution.
- **Knowing about the features used by your users is crucial** as it is the first step towards understanding their needs. Some features listed in the module can also be a source of inspiration for you to provide innovative and intuitive way of interacting with your app.
- SwiftUI accessibility leverages the flexibility of view modifiers, which is sometimes paid at the price of code readability and structure. Once you've identified patterns in the way you and your team use Apple accessibility's framework, **you can build helper functions that will facilitate, harmonize and structure accessibility across your codebase.**
- **Accessibility Nutrition Labels** allow developers to let the users know which accessibility features they can expect when downloading your app.

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Inclusive programming with Qt

Programming inclusive and accessible software



Accessibility labels with Qt



The role

- Will indicate to the accessibility technology users (like a screen-reader or a braille display) how they can interact with this specific object
- Can take values such as Button, StaticText, Heading, dialog



The name

- Is the main title of your component, like for example "Create account Button" or "Language selection ComboBox".



The description

- Is the main title of your component, like for example "Create account Button" or "Language selection ComboBox".

```
Accessible.role: Accessible.Button  
Accessible.name: tooltipText  
Accessible.description: JamiStrings.qrCodeExplanation
```

Accessibility Labels with Qt

"Michel Berger. 3 unread messages. You said: Thanks!
at 9:07.
Message status: sent. Pinned. Actions available."



```
Accessible.role: Accessible.StaticText
Accessible.name: {
    let name = isOutgoing ? JamiStrings.inReplyToYou: UtilsAdapter.getBestNameForUri(CurrentAccount.id, Author)
    return name + ": " + Body + " " + formattedTime + " " + formattedDay
}
Accessible.description: {
    let status = ""
    if (bubble.isEdited) status += JamiStrings.edited + " "
    if (IsLastSent) status += JamiStrings.sent + " "
    return status + (readers.length > 0 ? JamiStrings.readBy + " " + readers.join(", "): "")
}
```

Accessibility Labels with Qt

You need to make sure that all focusable elements are reached.

Before manually setting keyboard navigation, you should try and use the base focus property of Qt. For example, setting the focus of a component to true might be enough for Qt to recognize it as a reachable interactive element.

```
keyNavigationEnabled: true  
keyNavigationWraps: false  
focus: true  
activeFocusOnTab: true
```

```
KeyNavigation.backtab: addAccountItem  
KeyNavigation.tab: shareButton  
KeyNavigation.up: addAccountItem  
KeyNavigation.down: shareButton
```

Keyboard navigation for our example

```
// Rather than doing this inside the message itself, we do it at the ListView level
ListView {
    id: root
    // We try to minimize custom code for navigation and therefore use
    // the Qt base property of a List view rather than setting
    // KeyNavigation.tab each time
    keyNavigationEnabled: true
    keyNavigationWraps: false
}
```

The AccessibleInterface Class

The QAccessibleInterface Class is useful to create inclusive user interfaces.

It implements a pure virtual API that allows assistive technologies like braille displays or screen readers to directly access information about accessible objects.

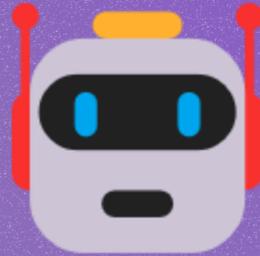
QAccessibleInterface Class

The QAccessibleInterface class defines an interface that exposes information about accessible objects. [More...](#)

Header:	<code>#include <QAccessibleInterface></code>
CMake:	<code>find_package(Qt6 REQUIRED COMPONENTS Gui) target_link_libraries(mytarget PRIVATE Qt6::Gui)</code>
qmake:	<code>QT += gui</code>
Inherited By:	QAccessibleObject

- > [List of all members, including inherited members](#)
- > QAccessibleInterface is part of [Accessibility Classes](#).

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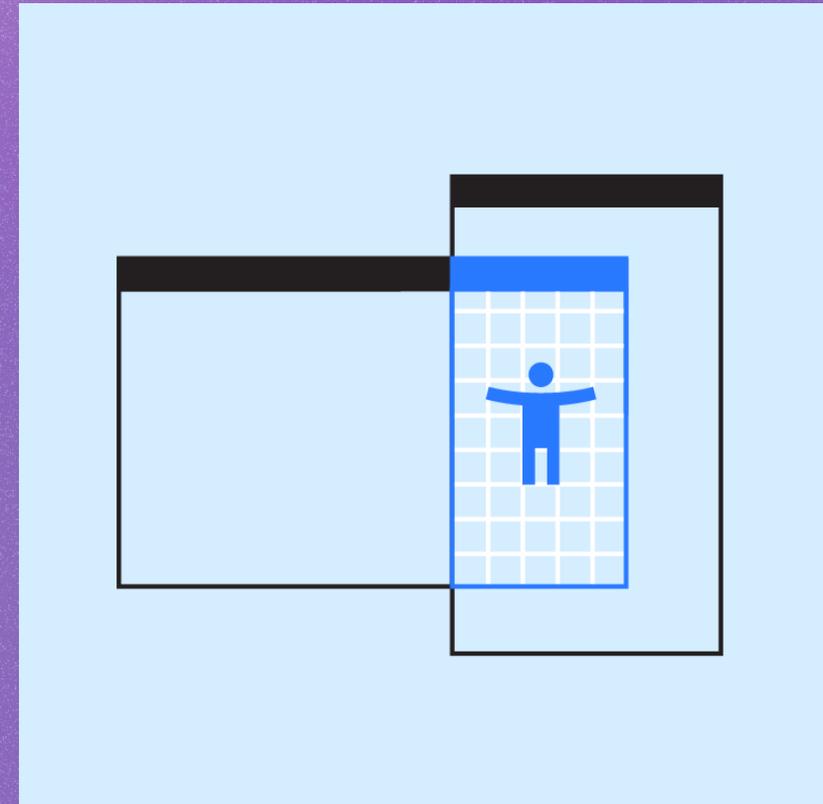
Inclusive programming for Android

Programming inclusive and accessible software

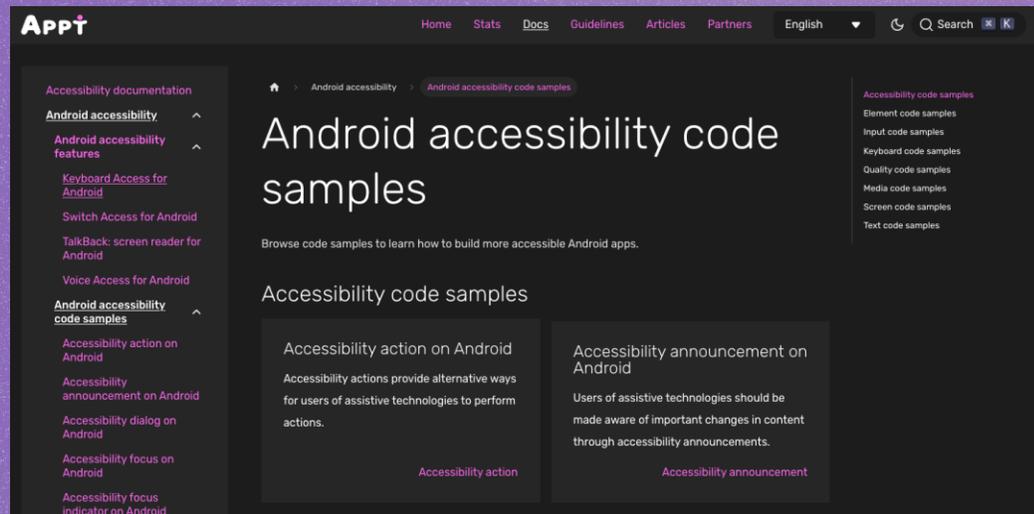


Android's accessibility model

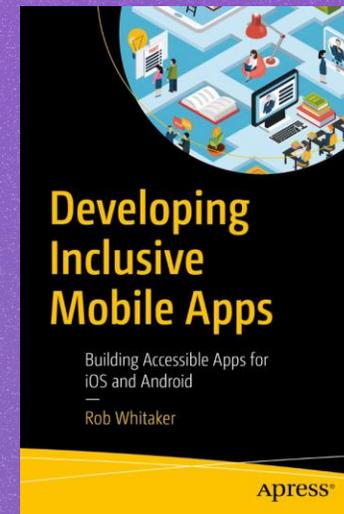
- Accessibility is at Material's core
- Native android components come with built-in accessibility
- **If you use native components, most of your work as a developer is to contextualize those elements** by customizing the labels, actions and by building a consistent navigation through the accessibility tree.
- Android's **accessibility tree** is a hierarchical organization of your app's on-screen components that is made available to assistive technologies. It is automatically derived from your code.



We recommend



APPT's code samples



Rob Whitaker's book

Talkback

TalkBack is the most prominent assistive technology available on Android.

- It works very much like VoiceOver, letting users navigate through your app (via the accessibility tree) without needing to see the screen.
- By making your app work with TalkBack, you are doing most of (if not all) the job required for it to be usable with any assistive technology.

Swipe with 1 finger

Gestures to control TalkBack by swiping with 1 finger.

Action	Explanation	Gesture
Explore the screen	Swipe the screen with 1 finger	
Go to the next section	Swipe right with 1 finger	
Go to the previous section	Swipe left with 1 finger	
Increase setting	Swipe up with 1 finger	
Decrease setting	Swipe down with 1 finger	

Switch access

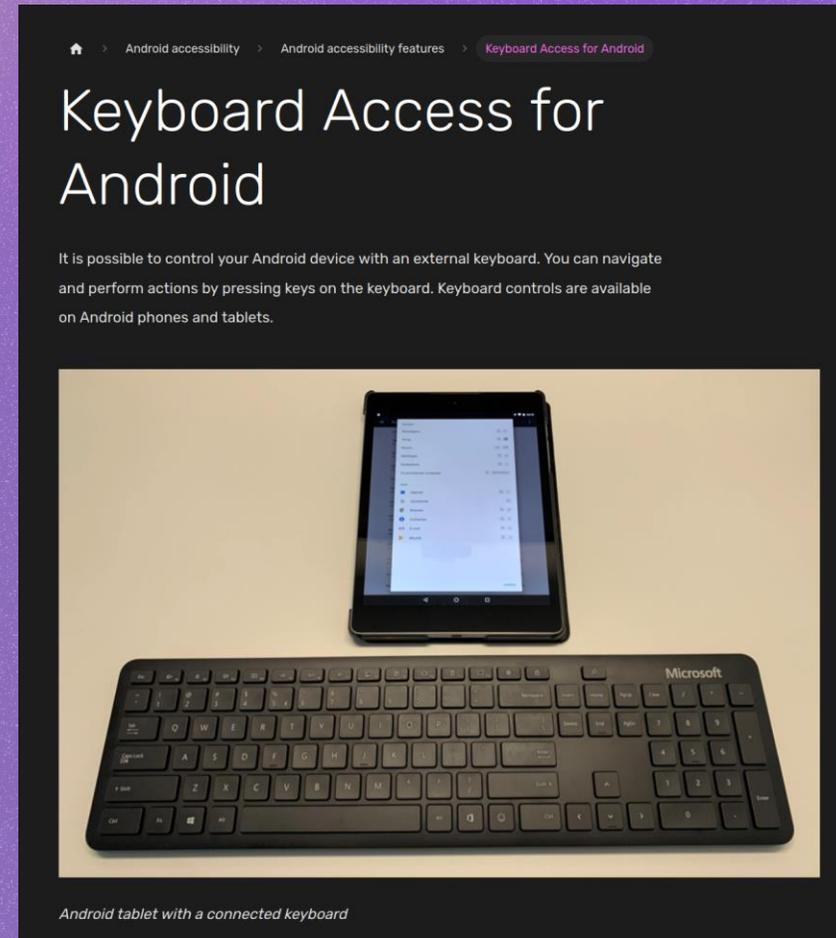
- **Switch Access is Android's accessibility feature allowing to control the device using a switch**, that can either be:
 - External (game controller, accessibility switch, keyboard, etc.)
 - Internal (phone buttons, intended for developers)
- Make sure to check that actions requiring complex gestures, like drag-and-dropping, are supported by adding accessibility actions.
- If you've implemented a tap listener on an element that is not marked as actionable, Switch Access won't pick it up.



Keyboard access

Android allows users to control their device using a keyboard.

- Also based on the accessibility tree
- Providing keyboard shortcuts ([Jetpack Compose, XML](#)) and custom keyboard order ([Jetpack Compose, XML](#)) will contribute to delivering a great UX to keyboard users.



Voice access



Voice Access is an accessibility service developed by Google and available in the Play Store.

- It aims at providing vocal access to the whole device.
- Unlike Apple's Voice Control, this software uses numbers rather than labels to interact with elements.
- Users can also use text values (and not content description) to select an item of the UI.

Third-party assistive technologies

Unlike Apple, Android has opened their accessibility API, allowing anyone to build their own accessibility service.

While you probably don't want to implement one specifically for your app (unless you *really* have specific accessibility needs), it's good to know that there are plenty of tools to choose from!



Display size, text size

Display and text sizes might vary dramatically based on user needs. Making your app adaptable to those variables is quite straightforward:

- Make sure your text font sizes are indeed affected by system settings. If not, consider using *sp* as unit for your sizes where you are required to use fixed values.
- Avoid using `maxLines` to prevent text truncation.

Captions

Captions can easily be implemented in your Android app for media content.

Captions on Android

Captions should be provided to enable users to understand what is being said in videos. Captions are a text based alternative for media, such as videos. The spoken dialogue and sound effects are displayed on screen as the video plays. Captions mostly benefit people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or deafblind. But captions are also useful to anyone who is temporarily unable to perceive sound, for example inside a library.

On Android, captions can be added by using [TimedText](#) inside a [MediaPlayer](#). The code example below shows a basic example.

```
Kotlin
val player = MediaPlayer.create(this, R.raw.video)
val mimeType = if (Build.VERSION.SDK_INT >= Build.VERSION_CODES.P) {
    MediaFormat.MIMETYPE_TEXT_SUBRIP
} else {
    MediaPlayer.MEDIA_MIMETYPE_TEXT_SUBRIP
}
try {
    player.addTimedTextSource("/assets/appt.srt", mimeType)
    player.trackInfoForEachIndexed { index, trackInfo ->
        if (trackInfo.trackType == TrackInfo.MEDIA_TRACK_TYPE_TIMEDTEXT) {
            player.selectTrack(index)
            return@forEachIndexed
        }
    }
    player.setOnTimedTextListener(this)
    player.start()
} catch (e: Exception) {
    e.printStackTrace()
}
```

Captions in Jetpack Compose

Captions should be provided to enable users to understand what is being said in videos. Captions are a text based alternative for media, such as videos. The spoken dialogue and sound effects are displayed on screen as the video plays. Captions mostly benefit people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or deafblind. But captions are also useful to anyone who is temporarily unable to perceive sound, for example inside a library.

In Jetpack Compose, captions can be added by using [TimedText](#) inside a [MediaPlayer](#). The code example below shows a basic example.

```
Kotlin
val context = LocalContext.current
var mediaPlayer by remember { mutableStateOf<MediaPlayer?>(null) }
var error by remember { mutableStateOf<String?>(null) }

DisposableEffect(Unit) {
    // Create a MediaPlayer instance and set up TimedText
    mediaPlayer = MediaPlayer.create(context, R.raw.video)
    try {
        val mimeType = if (Build.VERSION.SDK_INT >= Build.VERSION_CODES.P) {
            MediaFormat.MIMETYPE_TEXT_SUBRIP
        } else {
            MediaPlayer.MEDIA_MIMETYPE_TEXT_SUBRIP
        }
        mediaPlayer.addTimedTextSource("/assets/appt.srt", mimeType)
        mediaPlayer.trackInfoForEachIndexed { index, trackInfo ->
            if (trackInfo.trackType == MediaPlayer.TrackInfo.MEDIA_TRACK_TYPE_TIMEDTEXT) {
                mediaPlayer.selectTrack(index)
            }
        }
    }
}
```

Live captions on Android

Captions should be provided in real-time to enable users to understand what is being said in live videos. The challenge with live captions is both organizational and technical. A captioner must be present who can provide live captions for the video by using suitable software.

On Android, we recommend using a library such as [Media3](#), also known as [ExoPlayer](#), to support live captions. Media3 is developed by Google and is an open-source alternative to Android's [MediaPlayer](#). You can use [DefaultTrackSelector](#) in combination with [DefaultHttpDataSource.Factory](#) to show subtitles.

```
Kotlin
val trackSelector = DefaultTrackSelector(baseContext).apply {
    setParameters(buildUponParameters().setPreferredTextLanguage("nl"))
}
val player = ExoPlayer.Builder(context)
    .setTrackSelector(trackSelector)
    .build()
val dataSourceFactory = DefaultHttpDataSource.Factory()
    .setUserAgent(Util.getUserAgent(context, "Appt"))
    .setAllowCrossProtocolRedirects(true)
val mediaUrl = Url.parse("https://appt.org/live-video")
val mediaSource = HlsMediaSource.Factory(dataSourceFactory)
    .createMediaSource(MediaItem.fromUri(mediaUrl))
player.setMediaSource(mediaSource)
player.prepare()
player.playWhenReady = true
```

Live captions in Jetpack Compose

Captions should be provided in real-time to enable users to understand what is being said in live videos. The challenge with live captions is both organizational and technical. A captioner must be present who can provide live captions for the video by using suitable software.

In Jetpack Compose, we recommend using a library such as [Media3](#), also known as [ExoPlayer](#), to support live captions. Media3 is developed by Google and is an open-source alternative to Android's [MediaPlayer](#) for audio and video playback. Many code examples can be found in the [Camera & Media dev center](#). You can use [DefaultTrackSelector](#) in combination with [DefaultHttpDataSource.Factory](#) to show subtitles.

```
Kotlin
val context = LocalContext.current
var exoPlayer by remember { mutableStateOf<ExoPlayer?>(null) }

DisposableEffect(Unit) {
    // Create a track selector with preferred text language
    val trackSelector = DefaultTrackSelector(context).apply {
        setParameters(buildUponParameters().setPreferredTextLanguage("nl"))
    }
    val player = ExoPlayer.Builder(context)
        .setTrackSelector(trackSelector)
        .build()
    val dataSourceFactory = DefaultHttpDataSource.Factory()
}
```

Reduced animations

```
val duration = Settings.Global.getFloat(
    context.getContentResolver(),
    Settings.Global.ANIMATOR_DURATION_SCALE,
    1f
)

val transition = Settings.Global.getFloat(
    context.getContentResolver(),
    Settings.Global.TRANSITION_ANIMATION_SCALE,
    1f
)

if (duration == 0f || transition == 0f) {
    // Disable animations
}
```

Some users prefer or need to reduce animations.

- While Android doesn't directly indicate through the API whether the user has the option activated or not, you can determine it with [this little workaround](#).
- Providing the possibility to stop automatic and repeating animations, as well as flashes or blinkings, zooms and parallax effects is crucial to make sure users can use your app safely and comfortably.

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Inclusive programming with Java

Programming inclusive and accessible software



JavaFX Accessibility

Module	Description
<code>javafx.base</code>	Defines the base APIs for the JavaFX UI toolkit, including <code>javafx.scene</code> , <code>javafx.stage</code> , and <code>javafx.fxml</code> .
<code>javafx.controls</code>	Defines the UI controls, charts, and skins that are available in the JavaFX UI toolkit.
<code>javafx.fxml</code>	Defines the FXML APIs for the JavaFX UI toolkit.
<code>javafx.graphics</code>	Defines the core scenegraph APIs for the JavaFX UI toolkit (including input, painting, image handling, and effects), as well as APIs for <code>javafx.scene.paint</code> and <code>javafx.scene.image</code> .
<code>javafx.media</code>	Defines APIs for playback of media and audio content, as provided by <code>javafx.scene.media</code> .
<code>javafx.swing</code>	Defines APIs for the JavaFX / Swing interop support including <code>javafx.swing.SwingFX</code> (for embedding JavaFX in a JavaFX application) and <code>JFXPanel</code> (for embedding JavaFX in a Swing application).
<code>javafx.web</code>	Defines APIs for the WebView functionality contained within <code>javafx.scene.web</code> .
<code>jdk.jsobject</code>	Defines the API for the JavaScript Object.
<code>jfx.incubator.input</code>	Incubates the mechanism for customization of JavaFX controls.
<code>jfx.incubator.richtext</code>	Incubates the RichTextArea control and related classes.

[Report a bug or suggest an enhancement](#)
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- JavaFX has a **complete accessibility API**
- Unfortunately, **its documentation is very rudimentary** (only an API reference)
- In this module, we'll **provide the basics** along with some **common accessibility implementations** with JavaFX

Accessible Role

Role: BUTTON



“Biscuit Dispenser”

- The accessibleRole gives information to assistive technologies so they can behave accordingly. There are many roles possible from which you can choose for example BUTTON.
- The accessibleRoleDescription can be used to override `accessibleRole`'s textual representation, which is read by the screen reader. This is useful, for example, if you have an element with the role Button that you would like the screen reader to call *“biscuit dispenser”*.

Describing and explaining

Role: BUTTON



“Biscuit Dispenser,
Three biscuits left,
Dispenses a biscuit when activated”

- The accessibleText should describe the content of the Node. For our example, the accessible text could read "3 biscuits left". For some scenarios like for buttons, it might not be necessary to set it as labels will automatically be read out loud by screen readers if linked accordingly.
- The accessibleHelp should be used to give contextual hints to help users understand where they are or what are the possible interactions with an element. For our previous example, this could read "dispenses a biscuit when activated".

The labelFor property



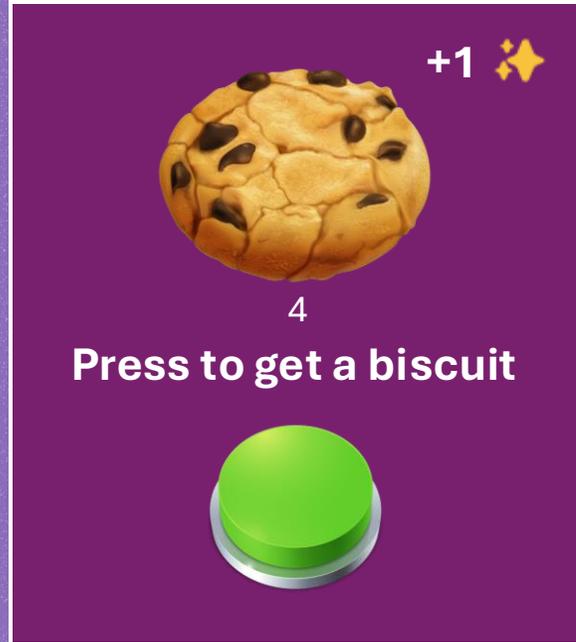
Dispenser's name

"Dispenser's name"

labelFor

- The `labelFor` property is used to link a label to an input (like a text field or a slider). This is not to be confused with an accessibility label as called in many other frameworks - the equivalent is `accessibleText` in JavaFX. It could for example be a (visual) label saying "edit the biscuit dispenser's name" next to an associated text field.

Notifying changes



- By default, changes on elements might not be notified. To make sure they are, you can use the `notifyAccessibleAttributeChanged(AccessibleAttribute attributes)`. As explained in Jonathan Giles' presentation of the JavaFX accessibility API for Oracle, the method can for example be called in an override of the `invalidated()` Node's method.

“Biscuit Dispenser,
Four biscuits left,
Dispenses a biscuit when activated”

Useful features



- Check if an assistive technology is running with Platform's `accessibilityActiveProperty`.
- Make elements focusable `setFocusTraversable(boolean value)`
- Focus elements with `requestFocus()`
- Customize or trigger accessibility actions with `executeAccessibilityAction`.
- Provide dynamic accessibility properties with `queryAccessibleAttribute`.

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Inclusive Web programming

Programming inclusive and accessible software



The WCAG guidelines

These are the international guidelines for web accessibility, and it should also be yours.

We especially recommend using the *How to Meet WCAG (Quick Reference)* from the Web Accessibility Initiative.

How to Meet WCAG (Quick Reference)
A customizable quick reference to Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2 requirements (success criteria) and techniques. [Show About & How to Use](#)

Selected Filters: **WCAG 2.2: all success criteria and all techniques.** [Clear filters](#) [Expand all sections](#) [Share](#)

1. Perceivable

- 1.1 Text Alternatives
 - 1.1.1 Non-text Content
- 1.2 Time-based Media
 - 1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded)
 - 1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded)
 - 1.2.3 Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded)
 - 1.2.4 Captions (Live)
 - 1.2.5 Audio Description (Prerecorded)
 - 1.2.6 Sign Language (Prerecorded)
 - 1.2.7 Extended Audio Description (Prerecorded)
 - 1.2.8 Media Alternative (Prerecorded)
 - 1.2.9 Audio-only (Live)
- 1.3 Adaptable
 - 1.3.1 Info and Relationships
 - 1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence
 - 1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics
 - 1.3.4 Orientation
 - 1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose
 - 1.3.6 Identify Purpose
- 1.4 Distinguishable
 - 1.4.1 Use of Color
 - 1.4.2 Audio Control
 - 1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum)
 - 1.4.4 Resize Text
 - 1.4.5 Images of Text
 - 1.4.6 Contrast (Enhanced)
 - 1.4.7 Low or No Background Audio
 - 1.4.8 Visual Presentation

Principle 1 – Perceivable
Information and user interface components must be presentable to users in ways they can perceive.

Guideline 1.1 – Text Alternatives
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.

1.1.1 Non-text Content — Level A
All non-text content that is presented to the user has a text alternative that serves the equivalent purpose, except for the situations listed below. [Show full description](#) [Understanding 1.1.1](#)
[Show techniques and failures for 1.1.1](#) [SHARE](#) [BACK TO TOP](#)

Guideline 1.2 – Time-based Media
Provide alternatives for time-based media.

1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded) — Level A
For prerecorded audio-only and prerecorded video-only media, the following are true, except when the audio or video is a media alternative for text and is clearly labeled as such: [Understanding 1.2.1](#)
[Show full description](#)
[Show techniques and failures for 1.2.1](#) [SHARE](#) [BACK TO TOP](#)

1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded) — Level A
Captions are provided for all prerecorded audio content in synchronized media, except when the media is a media alternative for text and is clearly labeled as such. [Understanding 1.2.2](#)
[Show techniques and failures for 1.2.2](#) [SHARE](#) [BACK TO TOP](#)

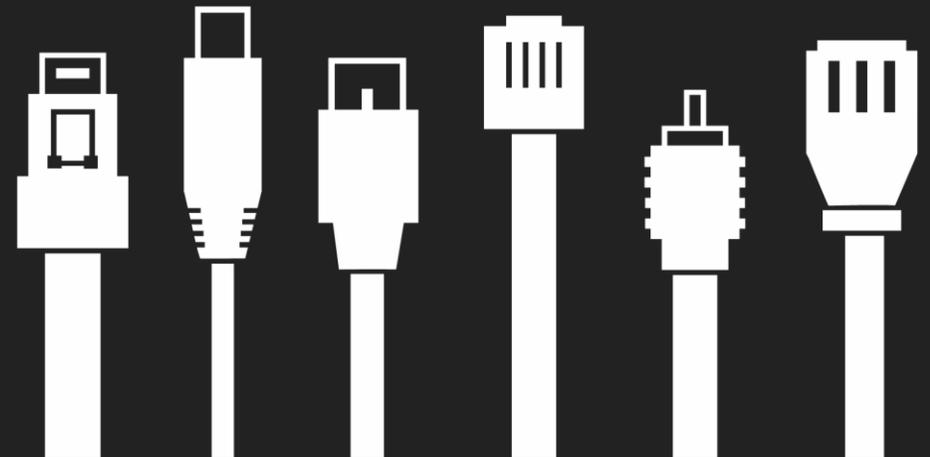
The *inclusive Components* project

The [Inclusive Components blog](#) and [pattern library](#) should be one of your **privileged resource going forward with web accessibility**.

It provides articles, documentation and code snippets for making elements such as collapsible sections, tooltips, toggle buttons, etc. inclusive. It's truly an enormous and immensely helpful work.

Inclusive Components

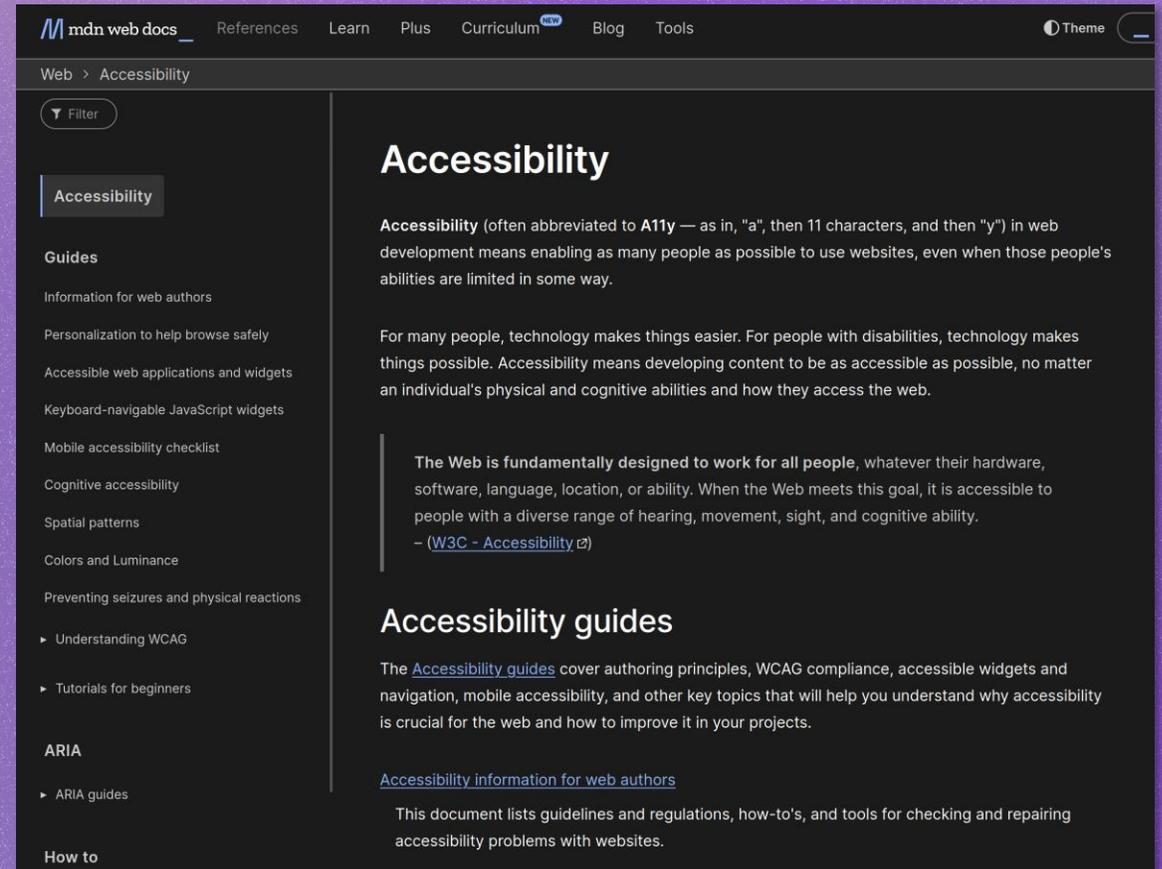
A blog trying to be a pattern library. All about designing inclusive web interfaces, piece by piece.



Mozilla's accessibility documentation

When it comes to essentials of web development, Mozilla always has a resource. Accessibility is not an exception!

Their very extensive and beginner-friendly reference is a great starting point.



The screenshot shows the Mozilla Developer Network (MDN) website's accessibility documentation page. The page is dark-themed and features a navigation bar at the top with links for 'References', 'Learn', 'Plus', 'Curriculum', 'Blog', and 'Tools'. The main content area is divided into a left sidebar and a main right column. The sidebar contains a 'Filter' button and a list of categories: 'Accessibility' (highlighted), 'Guides', 'ARIA', and 'How to'. Under 'Guides', there are links for 'Information for web authors', 'Personalization to help browse safely', 'Accessible web applications and widgets', 'Keyboard-navigable JavaScript widgets', 'Mobile accessibility checklist', 'Cognitive accessibility', 'Spatial patterns', 'Colors and Luminance', and 'Preventing seizures and physical reactions'. Under 'ARIA', there is a link for 'ARIA guides'. The main right column has a heading 'Accessibility' followed by a paragraph defining accessibility (often abbreviated to A11y) as enabling as many people as possible to use websites. Below this is another paragraph explaining that technology makes things easier for people with disabilities. A quote from W3C states: 'The Web is fundamentally designed to work for all people, whatever their hardware, software, language, location, or ability. When the Web meets this goal, it is accessible to people with a diverse range of hearing, movement, sight, and cognitive ability.' Below the quote is a link to 'W3C - Accessibility'. The section is titled 'Accessibility guides' and explains that the guides cover authoring principles, WCAG compliance, accessible widgets, and navigation. A link for 'Accessibility information for web authors' is provided, followed by a paragraph stating that this document lists guidelines, regulations, how-to's, and tools for checking and repairing accessibility problems.

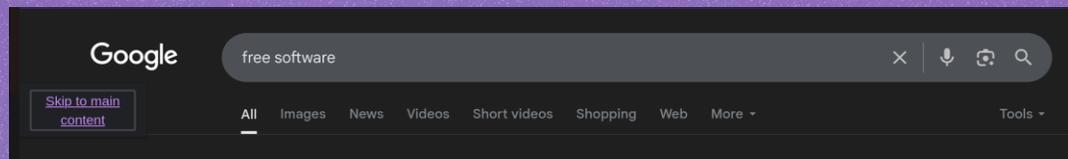
Keyboard usage

Navigation

Navigation inside a web page or a webapp is often not trivial to design.

Skip to content

Most websites should include a "Skip to main content". This allows users to navigate directly to the content of a page without going through all of the menus, situated at the top of almost every single page they navigate.



Heading hierarchy

This one is easy. When navigating a web page, screen readers and other assistive technologies will generate a table of content for the user using the headings.

Menus

Designing and implementing usable and accessible menus is a requirement to making great web interfaces. This [very extensive documentation](#) provides insightful guidelines and code snippets to implement your menus in an accessible way.

JavaScript

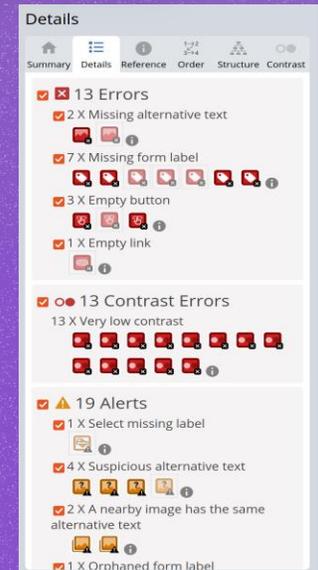
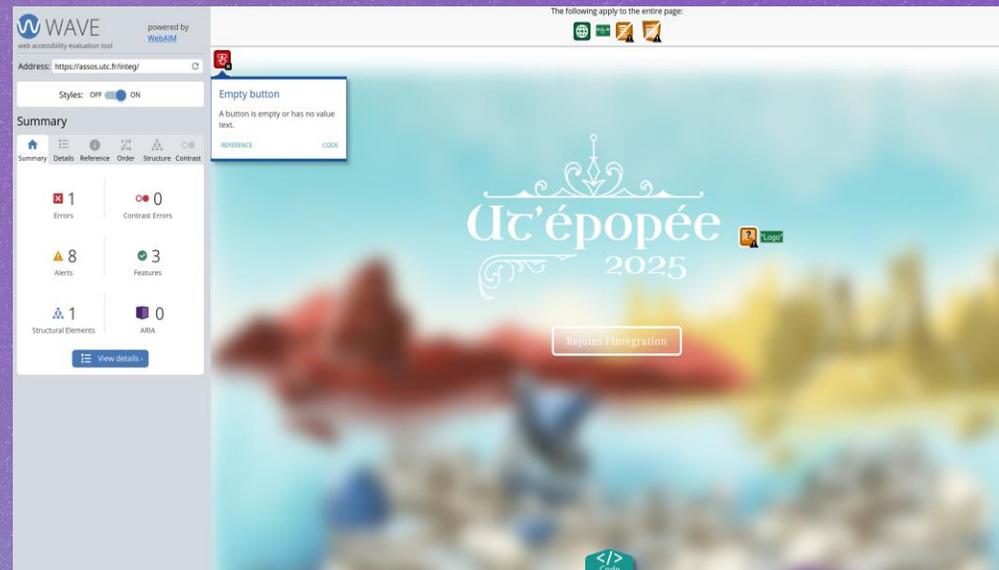
[A Guide To Keyboard Accessibility: JavaScript](#) is an article that provides detailed insights and code snippets about accessibility programming using JavaScript.

Accessibility testing tools



- Wave is a testing software to automatically detect warnings and errors related to the WCAG Accessibility guidelines.
- As simple as entering your domain to see prevalent issues with your website
- Be careful not to believe blindly the feedback from automated tools like Wave.

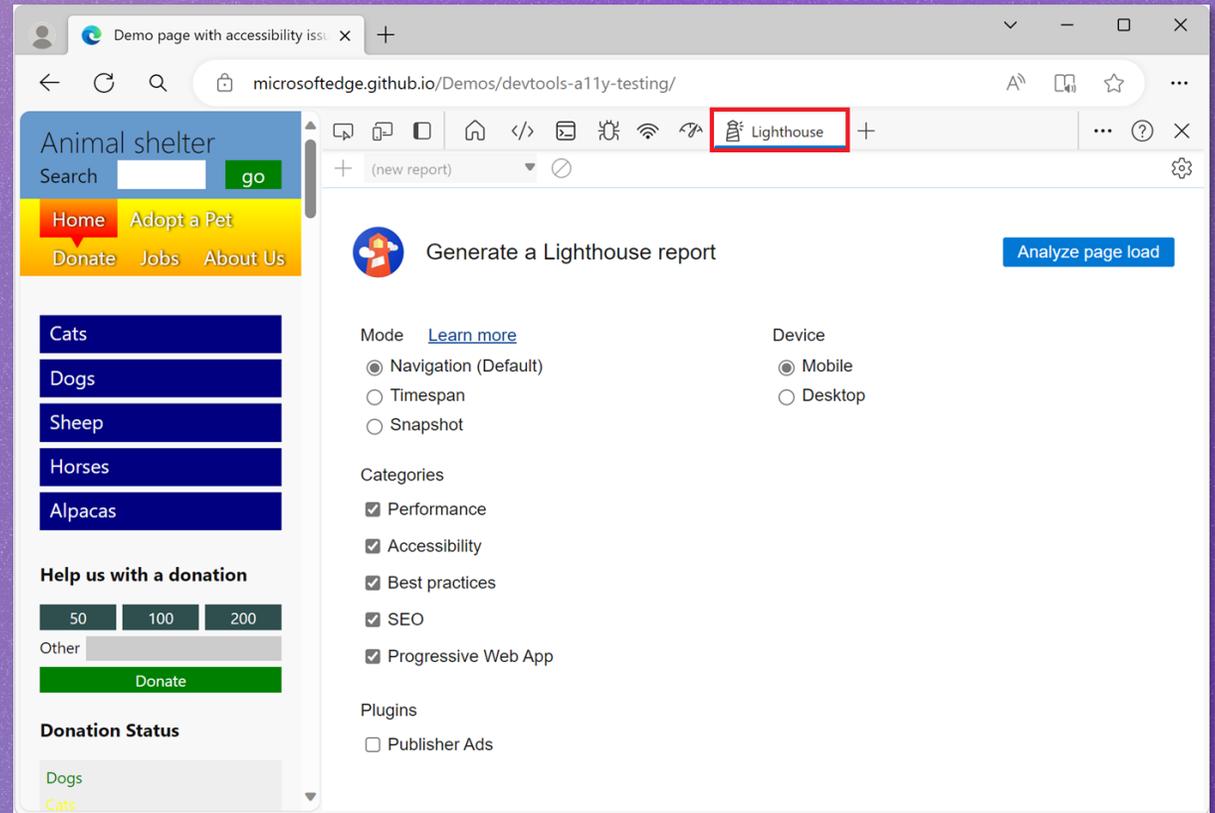
Platform	Pros	Cons
Web	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Very easy to use• Completely free	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can be limited• Often misleading



Accessibility testing tools



- [Lighthouse](#) is a web accessibility testing software developed by Microsoft and integrated in Microsoft Edge.
- It works quite similarly to wave. You can check Microsoft's documentation on how to use it.



Accessibility testing tools



- Axe is one of the most used web accessibility tool with over two billion downloads.
- Developed and maintained by Deque
- Its feedback is very comprehensible, providing insights on how to fix specific issues and even providing information about "Best Practices".

The screenshot displays the Axe DevTools interface within a browser's developer tools. The top bar shows 'axe-core 4.10.3' and a 'Re-run scan' button. The test URL is 'https://page-and-maxence.github.io/building-inclusive-open-source-software/'.

TOTAL ISSUES

Automatic Issues	8
Best Practice	2
Critical	0
Serious	7
Moderate	1
Minor	0

Best Practices: ON WCAG 2.1 AA

Total Issues: 8

ARIA progressbar nodes must have an accessible name 1

Highlight

Ensure every ARIA progressbar node has an accessible name
more information

Element Location: .md-progress

```
<div class="md-progress" data-md-component="progress" role="progressbar"></div>
```

To solve this problem, you need to fix at least (1) of the following:

- aria-label attribute does not exist or is empty
- aria-labelledby attribute does not exist, references elements that do not exist or references elements that are empty
- Element has no title attribute



Conclusion, bibliography and useful resources

To conclude and go further



What is accessibility

- From a product standpoint, it's about ensuring everything you build can be used by anyone, no matter their physical or cognitive abilities.
- From a legal standpoint, it is an obligation in many countries, guaranteeing an equal right to autonomy and participation of all.
- From a software standpoint, digital accessibility comes down to making apps optimally perceivable, operable and understandable to people who live with disabilities.
- From a political standpoint, accessibility is striving fight back against the structural tendency to exclusion of disabled people and attempting to provide them with a place (virtual or not) where they feel at ease and free to express themselves.

When products are not built with accessibility in mind, they end up excluding many people, denying them access to places, tools or even communication.

Additional needs and factors to take into consideration

Non-exhaustive list of human characteristics to keep in mind to try and include as many users as possible:

Age
Culture
Digital literacy
Education
Ethnicity
Gender, gender identity
Historical context
Language
Mental health
Nationality
Physical *and* cognitive (dis)abilities
Sexuality
Socio-economic context
...



You need to consider the intersections of all of those categories as well as the disabilities listed previously in the first section of this module.

Intersectionality in software

- 17.7% of users with disabilities live with more than one condition (as of 2016).
- Designing for one disability leaves out a blank spot for users having that disability but also other conditions.
- It's a common bias to forget that disabled people are not just disabled, but first and foremost people with their own unique life experiences and specificities.

We need to think about women who rely on wheelchairs, LGBTQIA+ people who don't speak the language of their country they live in, blind users who can't afford an iPhone - and those who are all of that at once!

Intersectional thinking is key

- 17.7% of users with disabilities live with more than one condition (as of 2016).
- Designing for one disability leaves out a blank spot for users having that disability but also other conditions.
- It's a common bias to forget that disabled people are not just disabled, but first and foremost people with their own unique life experiences and specificities.



It's crucial to not think disabled peoples as a minority but rather as the living diversity in which we all evolve.

Accessibility and inclusiveness need to be intentional

"Disability is not a binary state. We all have abilities and limits to those abilities. Disability happens when we have built something that doesn't work for someone with particular skills."*

- By default, we naturally tend to design, program and test for people like us or the people we spend time with.
- Not thinking about accessibility is a privilege because most disabled people don't have the choice to think about it.
- Not developing with accessibility and inclusiveness in mind will reinforce biases against minorities in software.

Accessibility and inclusiveness are a shift in how you perceive and take into account otherness through your building processes, not a task to be done.

* [Whitaker Rob. *Developing Inclusive Mobile Apps, Building Accessible Apps for iOS and Android*, 2020.](#)

Disabled people are the real experts on accessibility



"Disabled people are “the real experts” (the title of Michelle Sutton’s 2015 edited volume about and authored by autistic people) when it comes to technology and disability. We use technologies. We also reject them, grapple with them, or repurpose them. The views on technology we get from listening to disabled people often look very different from those of people educated in the medical and “helping” professions.”*

We encourage following this motto: "nothing about them without them”.

** Shew Ashley, *Against Technoableism: rethinking who needs improvement*. 2023

There isn't one "accessible and inclusive design"

- While implementation is important, **design is crucial** to build an inclusive app.
- Don't ever "make a feature accessible" again. Instead, build it with inclusiveness in mind.

People are diverse, solutions to their needs too.

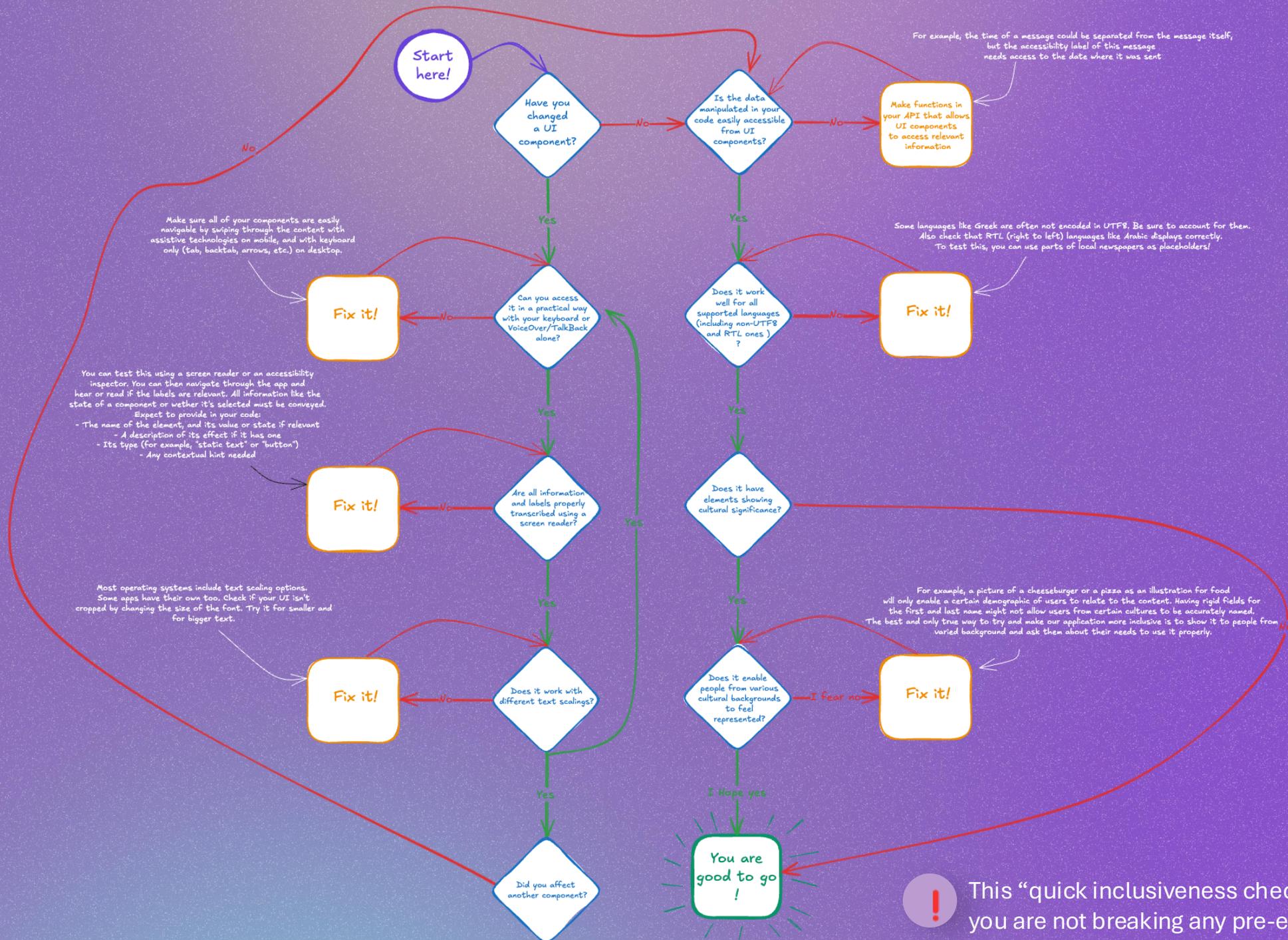
Experiment, fail, get feedback, improve and nurture empathy!

Accessible code is good code



- **Bad accessibility can often be a symptom of flawed code.** Accessibility and inclusiveness have one key benefit: making you think twice about your code.
- You code can be good but will likely never be as robust as one iterated upon by a community of developers or a big company.

Your code cannot be good without being accessible and if it's not accessible, it's probably hiding something more.



Start here!

Have you changed a UI component?

Is the data manipulated in your code easily accessible from UI components?

Make functions in your API that allows UI components to access relevant information

For example, the time of a message could be separated from the message itself, but the accessibility label of this message needs access to the date where it was sent

Make sure all of your components are easily navigable by swiping through the content with assistive technologies on mobile, and with keyboard only (Tab, backtab, arrows, etc.) on desktop.

Fix it!

Can you access it in a practical way with your keyboard or VoiceOver/TalkBack alone?

Does it work well for all supported languages (including non-UTF8 and RTL ones)?

Fix it!

Some languages like Greek are often not encoded in UTF8. Be sure to account for them. Also check that RTL (right to left) languages like Arabic displays correctly. To test this, you can use parts of local newspapers as placeholders!

You can test this using a screen reader or an accessibility inspector. You can then navigate through the app and hear or read if the labels are relevant. All information like the state of a component or whether it's selected must be conveyed. Expect to provide in your code:

- The name of the element, and its value or state if relevant
- A description of its effect if it has one
- Its type (for example, "static text" or "button")
- Any contextual hint needed

Fix it!

Are all information and labels properly transcribed using a screen reader?

Does it have elements showing cultural significance?

Most operating systems include text scaling options. Some apps have their own too. Check if your UI isn't cropped by changing the size of the font. Try it for smaller and for bigger text.

Fix it!

Does it work with different text scalings?

Does it enable people from various cultural backgrounds to feel represented?

For example, a picture of a cheeseburger or a pizza as an illustration for food will only enable a certain demographic of users to relate to the content. Having rigid fields for the first and last name might not allow users from certain cultures to be accurately named. The best and only true way to try and make our application more inclusive is to show it to people from varied background and ask them about their needs to use it properly.

Fix it!

You are good to go!



This "quick inclusiveness check" only aims at checking you are not breaking any pre-existing accessibility.

Perspectives



Bibliography and useful resources



Bibliography and useful resources

Design

Bibliography & useful resources

[Design](#)

[Politics](#)

[Desktop](#)

[Mobile](#)

[WebApp](#)

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building inclusive free and open-source software



Where you go next!

To conclude and go further



Workshop

For each team:

- Choose your inclusiveness coach
- Determine the key blockers for the inclusiveness of your product
- Define your epics and tasks





Collective sharing

To conclude and go further

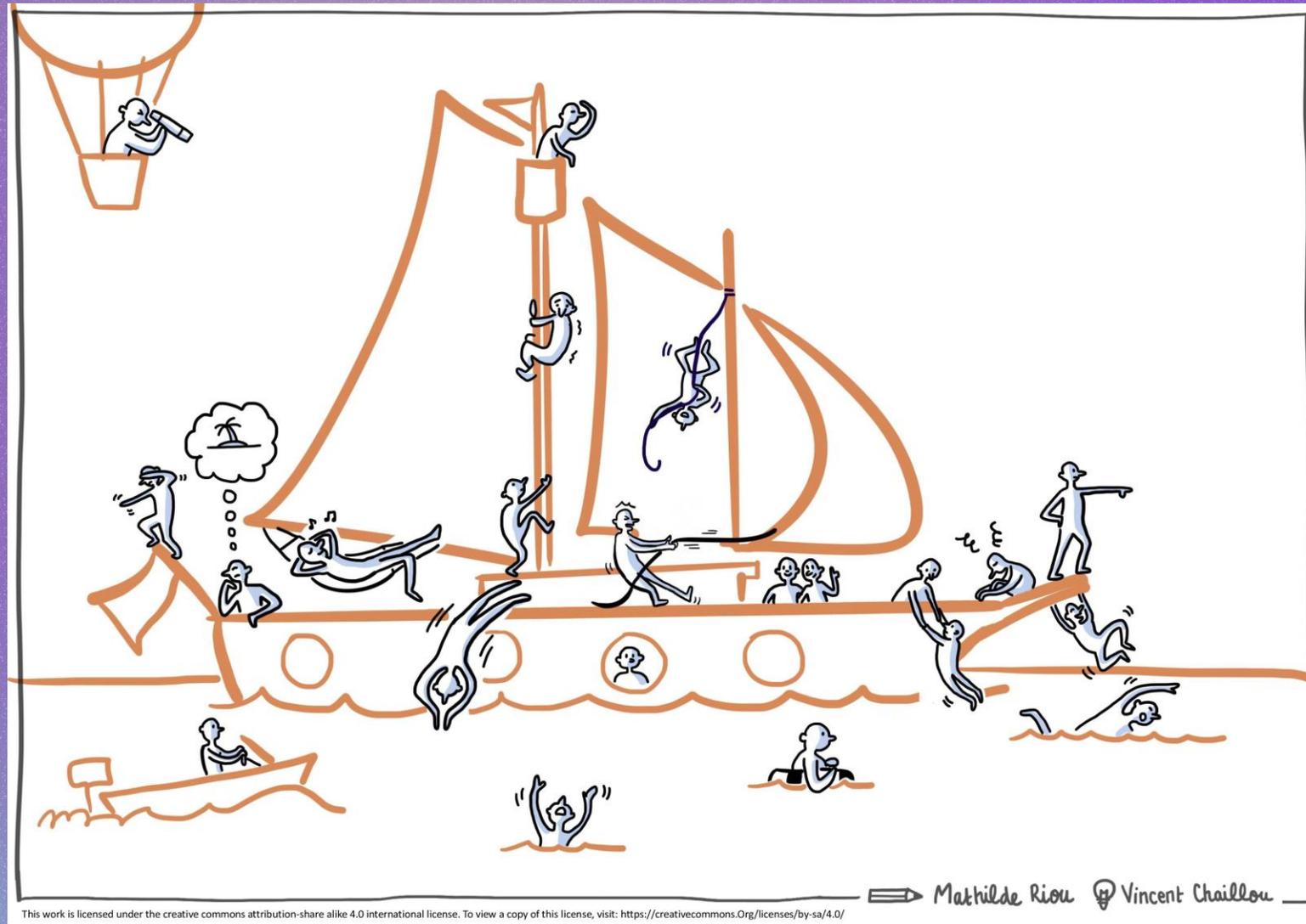


What did other learn?

1. One thing that you learned
2. One thing that you felt
3. One thing that will change in your work



Together on a boat



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Mathilde Riou Vincent Chaillou

Thank you for listening

