

Color Contrast

Some of the aspects of [1.4.8 Visual Presentation](#) need to go to their own Guideline.

***** Note: Instructional text is in red, is preceded by three asterisks and is followed by three asterisks and the word “end.” This text can be deleted when you are finished editing.**

Process Overview

For each WCAG SC:

1. Identify the User Needs (including Design considerations). Check the [WCAG to Silver Migration Outline](#) for the ideas the Silver Task Force and Community Group had.
2. How would we Test to see if that user need has been met?
 - a. ;basic starting point (don't get too bogged down in describing the tests)
 - b. link to existing [Techniques](#) or [ACT Rules](#), if possible)
 - c. write new tests if applicable - preferably scale or rubric or task completion or usability (any kind)
3. Write Methods
4. Write the Guideline Extended Description
5. Write the Guideline

See [Style Guide](#)

List Original WCAG SCs if they exist. You can retrieve these from the [WCAG to Silver Outline Map](#). Please link them to the Understandings Document. ***end

Original WCAG SC: [SC 1.4.3 Contrast \(Minimum\)](#), [SC 1.4.6 Contrast \(Enhanced\)](#), [SC 1.4.8 Visual Presentation](#), [SC 1.4.11 Non-text Contrast](#)

Step 1: Identify User Need

Short: Sighted users need the contrast of content in documents to be sufficient to easily perceive the content.

Users need to distinguish pieces of text (and other content) in the foreground of what they're viewing from the background colour or image. Users also distinguish

Users need to distinguish media elements in the foreground (including text and other content) from each other, and to distinguish foreground from background. Media elements can include emphasized text, slices of a pie chart (or other data visualization), or other visual image or representation. To achieve this, colour contrast must be sufficient but not overwhelming for each user's perception.

Process for Writing User Needs:

1. Consider and list as bullet points who **each** of the user groups are, one at a time, and their individual barrier (as if you were a self-advocate or other advocate). Write this list in the User Needs Extended Description section.
2. Identify the common need across these multiple user groups and write it as the first sentence in User Need Extended Description. Identify unique needs of specific user groups and include those as bullet points. Identify conflicts that may exist within and between user groups, and list these conflicts as additional bullet points.
3. Are there terms in the short sentence that need specific examples or description to explain the context? This does not replace eliminating words nor is it a glossary. This becomes the second sentence of the User Needs Extended Description.
4. Write the crux of the solution to meet that need. That is a minimal concept. It becomes the third sentence of the User Needs Extended Description.
5. Consider the perspective of a beginner user. Re-draft the paragraph so your beginner user will have a functional understanding of the paragraph. Copy the refined paragraph and bullets into Step 4 Get Started under Why?
6. Refine list from Step 1 in plain language. Copy this into the "Who?" in the Step 4: Get Started page.
7. Write a one sentence summary line of the user needs paragraph. This becomes the short description of the "identifying user needs Short Description" as well as the first sentence of the "Summary" in the Get Started page.

-colour blind can't identify what is foreground/background (can't differentiate red/green) - not aware that content exists or diff distinguishing it

-visual impairment/not blind/reading glasses/seniors isolating content in terms of proximity to other items, luminosity/edges of text

-too much contrast can be overwhelming for some with cognitive disabilities

-luminosity/brightness, contrast (object vs surroundings), colour density,

Hue, saturation, brightness/dark, dullness/vivid

Extended description of user need:

- Sighted users need to be able to perceive the presentation of text in relation to the background behind the text. The default font and contrast should be sufficient to easily read and understand

the text, or sighted users need to be able to adjust the font and the colors of the text and background where allowed by the media.

- Sighted users need to be able to see and understand content in the document that is not text. The default contrast of non text content with its surrounding content and background should be sufficient to easily understand the non text content, or the user needs to be able to adjust the colors of the non text content and background where allowed by the media.

*** If there are issues that need more explanation, put them here. Design considerations should be included here (e.g. user interface considerations, content chunking, plain language, internationality, consistency in design, etc.). ***end

[Discussion of Color Contrast in the WCAG 2.2 Github Issue](#). MUST REVIEW.

Step 2: How would we Test to see if that user need has been met?

- Automated contrast tests where allowed by the media (minimum - bronze points)
- Tool assisted contrast tests
- Manual tests for the ability of the user to customize font attributes and color of text and background

*** Check [ACT Rules Community Group Github](#) page and [WCAG 2.1 Techniques](#)

Describe tests (list as many as needed). Include task-based assessment, if applicable. ***end

Step 3: Write Methods (include test in the Method)

- *** The Method should instruct people how to meet the user need.
- A Method is similar to a WCAG 2.x Technique.
- Methods are technical - and should be specific to the platform (for example: HTML, iOS mobile app, virtual reality)
- A Method can apply to a user agent (browser), authoring tool, or an assistive technology. If the Method isn't implemented, note that prominently.
- There may be multiple tests in a Method.
- Several Methods may apply to one guideline.
- A Method can apply to multiple guidelines. ***end

Existing Techniques from WCAG 2.1

- [1.4.3 Techniques](#)

- [1.4.6 Techniques](#)
- [1.4.8 Techniques](#)

Method ideas from the [WCAG to Silver Outline Map](#):

- Provide enough contrast to enable people to see things
- Customization of foreground/background color

Method 1 - [Provide Name of Method]

Short Description:

Extended Description:

- What aspect of the user need does this Method address? The Method should instruct people how to meet the user need.
- What does this Method do for the end user?
- How is this Method implemented? Give technical details.
- What platform does this technique apply to? Methods are technical - and should be specific to the platform (for example: HTML, iOS mobile app, virtual reality)
- Does this Method apply to the content? A Method can also apply to a user agent (browser), authoring tool, or an assistive technology. If the Method applies to a user agent, authoring tool, or assistive technology, select the appropriate tag¹. If the Method isn't implemented, note that prominently.
- What tests are included in this Method? There may be multiple tests in a Method.
- Does this Method apply to any other guideline(s)? A Method can apply to multiple guidelines.

Examples:

Tests:

¹Associated Tags: [for example: Static Web, Mobile, Virtual Reality, Home Assistant, Planning, Design, Development, Perceivable, Operable, Understandable, Robust]

Methodx (as many as needed) - [Provide Name of Method]

Short Description:

- What aspect of the user need does this Method address? The Method should instruct people how to meet the user need.
- What does this Method do for the end user?
- How is this Method implemented? Give technical details.
- What platform does this technique apply to? Methods are technical - and should be specific to the platform (for example: HTML, iOS mobile app, virtual reality)
- Does this Method apply to the content? A Method can also apply to a user agent (browser), authoring tool, or an assistive technology. If the Method applies to a user agent, authoring tool, or assistive technology, select the appropriate tag¹. If the Method isn't implemented, note that prominently.
- What tests are included in this Method? There may be multiple tests in a Method.
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Examples:

Tests:

¹Associated Tags: [for example: Static Web, Mobile, Virtual Reality, Home Assistant, Planning, Design, Development, Perceivable, Operable, Understandable, Robust]

Step 4: Guideline Extended Description (formerly the Plain Language Prototype - has five sections:

1. Getting Started
2. Plan
3. Design
4. Develop
5. Test & Audit

Getting Started

Color Contrast

(short description of guidance)

Summary (What, where, when)

Why

Who it helps

How

Exceptions

Examples

Plan

Color Contrast

(repeat title and short description from Get Started)

Planning Responsibilities

1. You must ensure that...
2. This must ...

Tips for Collaboration

Where communication is important with designers, developers, testers

Planning for Each Stage:

How to get started early

How to remediate

Methods

Method 1...

Method 2...

Method 3...

Design

Color Contrast

(repeat title and short description from Get Started)

1. You must ensure that...
2. This must ...

HOW - Guide:

Link to Style Guide(s)

Links to Video (Embedded or Links)

Designer Tips:

User Testing & Meaningful Involvement:

Methods

Method 1...

Method 2...

Method 3...

Develop

Color Contrast

(repeat title and short description from Get Started)

Technical Responsibilities

1. You must ensure that...
2. This must ...

Methods

Method 1...

Method 2...

Method 3...

Examples & Demo:

Video (Embedded or Links)

Technical Tips:

-
-

Test and Audit

Color Contrast

(repeat title and short description from Get Started)

Testing Responsibilities

1. You must ensure that...
2. This must ...

Auto-Testing Tips:

Includes links to 3rd party/crowd-sourced tips?

Manual Testing Tips:

Includes links to 3rd party/crowd-sourced tips?

Testing with Users:

Is this duplication of User Testing in Designer tab or different?

Evaluating and Scoring:

Method 1...

Method 2...

Method 3...

Step 5: Write Guideline: Color Contrast

Short Description:

This is the actual guideline text.