

“Inclusive Design Patterns For 2025” with Vitaly Friedman: Collaborative Notes

Sep 24, 2024

Outline:

Main takeaways:

- Vitaly is awesome!

Questions:

- **Regarding interactive states (hover, active/current, disabled, etc.), how do you determine if it's an “essential” state, and therefore must meet all of the WCAG criteria?** (Color contrast, use of color, size [2px thick border to be sizable enough to be seen], etc.) Thank you!
 - **For example, is “hover” an essential state, and therefore a button's hover color must have 3:1+ contrast against the page background?** Or does hover fall under the “decorative” category of nice to have?
 - We can't rely on the mouse pointer turning to a hand as the signifier that indicates hover, because some people/assistive technologies aren't using a mouse.
 - WCAG says all interactive states must meet the criteria. Disabled isn't interactive, so doesn't need to.
 - I think only disabled state is excluded from WCAG 2.1 AA guidelines
- **Regarding High Contrast Mode:** Is it enough to display links in just the link color or is it better applying further css styles when hovering that link?

- You can learn more about how to [style links from WebAIM](#). You shouldn't rely on color alone to convey that text is a link
- What's the most appropriate certification to get certified for digital accessibility relevant to the new EAA regulation?
 - Here you can get certified: <https://www.w3.org/WAI/courses/foundations-course/>
 - Deque University has good information regarding legislation, also preparation for IAAP but quite expensive
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- Do you have examples of a drag and drop list for reordering items that is WCAG 2.2 compliant with single pointer gestures? (2.5.7 Dragging Movements)
 - <https://www.figma.com/@gs>
 - <https://edisondesignsystem.com/>
- Can you provide the slides in another tool since our IT department blocks DropBox.
- Is having content on the web vs downloading a PDF better for accessibility? Can you share an example of taking PDF materials and bringing them to web/html for accessibility?
 - In the EAA it's also mandatory to convert Accessibility features :)
 - gateway pages as an alternative: [Gateway Pages Prevent PDF Shock \(nngroup.com\)](#)
- Do you think "Accessibility Settings" is a lazy categorization for other uncategorized things similar to "Advanced Settings"? Should we strive to do better than that?
- What is an accessibility overlay, and why does it fall short of EEA compliance?
 - Is eye-able an accessibility overlay? <https://eye-able.com/blog/more-than-just-an-overlay-tool>
 - <https://overlayfactsheet.com/en/>
 - https://www.linkedin.com/posts/vitalyfriedman_ux-accessibility-activity-7179391453448564736-j-h
- It's quite clear about the commitment in making accessible e-banking websites and apps for retail customers, but does the EAA apply to business banking as well?

- A small side question, what about apps for employees in the bank?
- Is there any % of the number of a bank's ATMs that need to be accessible to comply with EAA ? For example, if a bank has 25% of ATMS only across the country... is that sufficient for EAA? Also when we talk about ATMs accessibility, I assume it is not just them being accessible at their software but also being accessible to reach. Height, ramps etc. right?
 - There is, but it's quite low (if you have < 10 employees and/or less than 2 million turnover)
 - The ATMs hardware have a deadline to be updated to the EAA directive until 2030. (under the condition they prove they're doing effort)
 - Exemption criteria for companies:
 - Micro-enterprises: companies with fewer than 10 employees
 - Annual balance sheet total not exceeding €2 million
- So if I understand this correctly the EAA is for B2C but not so much B2B SaaS platforms that are highly specialized (e.g. financial management tool)
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MOiGSHw5CoA>
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- The EAA exception for B2B and employee-facing systems seems fairly nebulous. Is there a way to know for sure whether a certain product needs to be compliant with EAA?
- Regarding EAA, your last point: What if partners fail compliance after doing due diligence? Can we continue working with them, do we know the legal repercussions yet?
- The EAA references WCAG 2.1 for compliance by 2025, rather than WCAG 2.2. What aspects of WCAG 2.2 do you believe are necessary for inclusion?
 - <https://www.acquia.com/web-accessibility-legislation/eea>
- Criteria 2.3.1: I work in the gaming industry. Do you have any suggestions for reducing flashy graphics in third-party games? Would these games be subject to the regulations?
- What are the penalties if the company fails to meet the EAA deadline? Is there a grace period?
 - depends of the country, only found 2 countries that put a concrete number on it. Germany up to 100k and Austria min. 1000.
 - Depends on the sector as well.

- Can you suggest a link to find these details? (exact numbers depend on the country and are hard to find, but some details are here <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1202>)
 - And there would be a 5 year grace period, for non-new applications
What are non-new applications? Applications that have been build before 28 june 2025.
 - Also, you will have an administrative obligation to the authorities to inform them about your progress towards achieving compliance
 - The financial penalties start at around 60k Euros or on a percentage of global revenue (Spain set it at 5%). In Germany you can report a competitor that is non-compliant. The right for a company/business to sell in the EU could be revoked, and could be excluded from governmental grants. But if/when reported, a company/business get the chance to remediate.
- Is there a recommendable tool for testing & evaluating a set of color palettes against simulated color weaknesses and color blindness?
 - <https://www.whocanuse.com>
 - Is there a live example of a piece of software that is fully compliant? Like a boilerplate positive example?
 - Here there are some in Germany:
<https://bitvtest.de/sites-und-agenturen/barrierefreie-websites>
 -
 - What about email accessibility? How would you look at it?
 - <https://smashingconf.com/online-workshops/workshops/html-email-rem-i-parmentier/>
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 - Tips for keeping color blindness in mind when designing around a brand with set colors? IE What if your brands main color is an accessible red - how to do work around knowing that color can't change.
 - Work with borders, etc
 - <https://abc.useallfive.com/>
 - [link](#)

- What is the best option for creating accessible cookie popups or banners?
They always seem to block content. Same question applies to email newsletter popups.
 - Pro-tip: There also needs to be an accessible way out :) I once had a blind colleague trapped in one.
- How do people who get motion sickness from a **parallax** effect watch a movie or play a video game?
 - Hello! I struggle with animations and motion on the web. I watch movies and play video games no problem. It's a matter of unexpected motion that is disorienting. I also can control my location and position in a video game, whereas if I am scrolling down a website and suddenly see a bunch of animations (think fading in sections of text and images), it's not expected and it can make me nauseous for hours.
 - The EAA says that if making a product or service accessible would radically change it (like video games), thus turning it to a totally different thing, then they fall into the exemption criteria for products and services.
 - As another someone who struggles with this, sadly sometimes I can't play video games or watch certain movies. Luckily there are a lot of settings that can improve things, like playing in third person view, stop head bobbing motion, etc.
- Do micro animations need to be fixed too?
 - should change if: abrupt, very fast,
- I understand how to consider universal design when beginning a new project, but do you have suggestions of where to begin for existing experiences?
- Is a swipe-down gesture on the sheet component sufficient, or should there also be a close button (e.g., an "X") included? Does sheet has issues like pop ups with respect to accessibility?
- Notification, live region and the close button - if we use live region (aria-live) for notification, there shouldn't be any interactive elements inside, so no close button. But from the other side, if notification disappears after ~500ms it can

be hard to access for non Screen reader users (for example with cognitive limitations). So if we use the close button for notification, we should move focus instead of using live regions? How to handle this issue to make a universal solution?

- Are there guidelines for colours contrasting too much, my spouse has an eye condition, and she finds sites which have high contrast ratios painful to view. How would you handle catering for multiple visual requirements, a style switcher?
 - It's a bit double, you need to have sufficient contrast, but not the highest contrast. Because for some people it might indeed be painful / annoying to have a very high contrast. (ASS f.e.).
- I see those websites with parallax and now it's a trend in the web design industry I guess. Do they just not know about motion sickness people with parallax or just ignoring...?
- Do you have any thoughts on how AI is going to affect accessibility in the future?
- Slightly off-topic but it's kind of making knowledge accessible: How do you gather all the excellent knowledge on the various topics you talk about? A workshop on this would be interesting.
- I'm wondering if it is necessary to clear the data that the user has entered in, for example, the search bar after a reload of the page? It is worth saving it to avoid overloading users if they work with data and need that requests?
- It is difficult for deaf people to follow websites because they have their own sign language. Normal texts are not that helpful, there has to be easy language and interpreters in the background. How are so many websites supposed to achieve the goal of being barrier-free for them? There is a lot to do and a lot that cannot be done.
- Any recommendations on AI tools to fix accessibility?
- How to convince the management to implement accessibility improvements to the e-commerce website when they don't believe it will bring them money? They don't think accessibility impacts conversion rate optimization, they don't think it's important and they are so focused on earning money.
- Suggestions on what to use instead of italics or bolding certain words?
- Do you have any opinion regarding the font that is supposed to be for dyslexia? That is also available in the overlays that transform the font into the dyslexic one
- Question about the text input field's error message position. In the discussion, you mentioned that it's better to have the error message on top of the input

field box. However, many design system guidelines show the error below the input field. One example is [Google material design](#).

- Would being WCAG color contrast compliant conflict with high color contrast for people with autism? (yes, it could be)
- Can you please share the data source for the Gen Z stat on them filling fake information on pop-ups?
- How do I as a UX Designer tell stakeholders when lead gen optimisation is too much? There are separate agencies they work with using automated (AI) softwares to implement pop ups.
- Is a draggable scheduler a viable and accessible alternative if users can change the time and date through elements within the appointment dialogue?
- How do you combat the superpower agenda people have towards those with neurodivergence? Often I have been dismissed and told I should be proud of it. Which tends to dismiss it as a disability.
- Does the EAA also apply to applications for education
 - yes, it's applicable for all essential services for people with an impairment. At least I would describe education as essential.
- Does the EAA apply to web games built for child education?
 - yes
 - The EAA says that if making a product or service accessible would radically change it (like video games), thus turning it to a totally different thing, then they fall into the exemption criteria for products and services.
- Does the EAA apply for EU Offices Internal Applications?
- Is there a good checklist (or checking software...) to know you meet the standards?
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Resources / URLs:

- Open source Accessible Drag n Drop Library from Atlassian
<https://atlassian.design/components/pragmatic-drag-and-drop/about>
- <https://youx.co.za/> and similar online user testing platforms are really useful for this too, to get access to your target audience, especially ones where you can get clips of the people
- PDFs
 - <https://op.europa.eu/en/web/accessibility/how-to-guides>
 - <https://accessibility.huit.harvard.edu/pdf>
 - https://www.ecomback.com/blogs/how-to-create-accessible-pdfs-for-your-web-site?trk=article-ssr-frontend-pulse_little-text-block