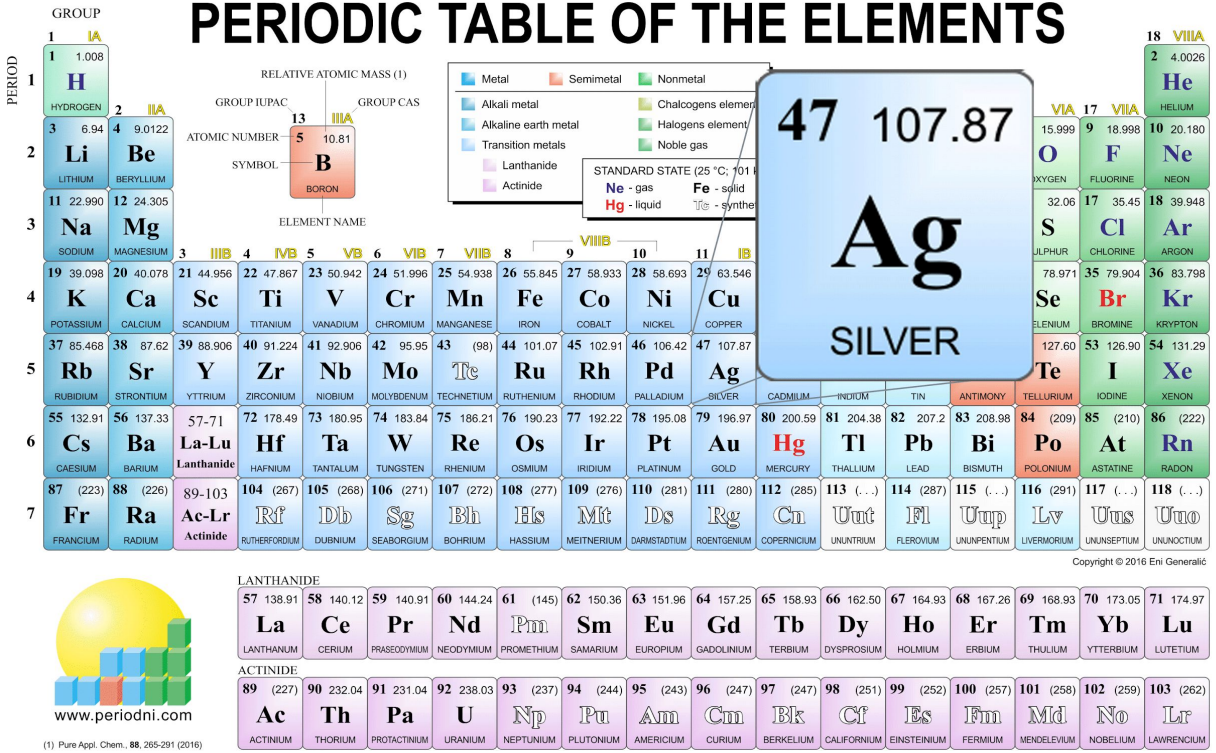
Re-Imagining Accessibility Guidelines

goo.gl/5pqtU7

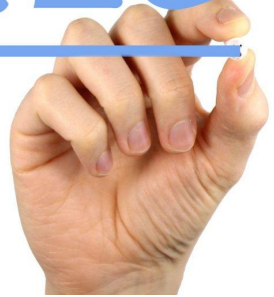
Background

- Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 published in 2008
- WCAG 2.1 currently in process (to be finished in 2018)
- What’s the next major upgrade? The Silver Project

Accessibility Guidelines = AG



Silver GOALS



Content

- Easier to use
- Easier to reference
- Easier to understand
- Expanded scope
- Inclusive of more disabilities
- Inclusive of more perspectives
- Inclusive of more technologies
- Useful for more people

Process & Structure

- Based on evidence and data
- Broadly communicate our efforts
- Clear project milestones
- Inclusive communication paths
- Inclusive of more perspectives
- Involve more stakeholders
- Easier to maintain and update
- Clearer update path

Silver Plan

1 Discovery

Structure

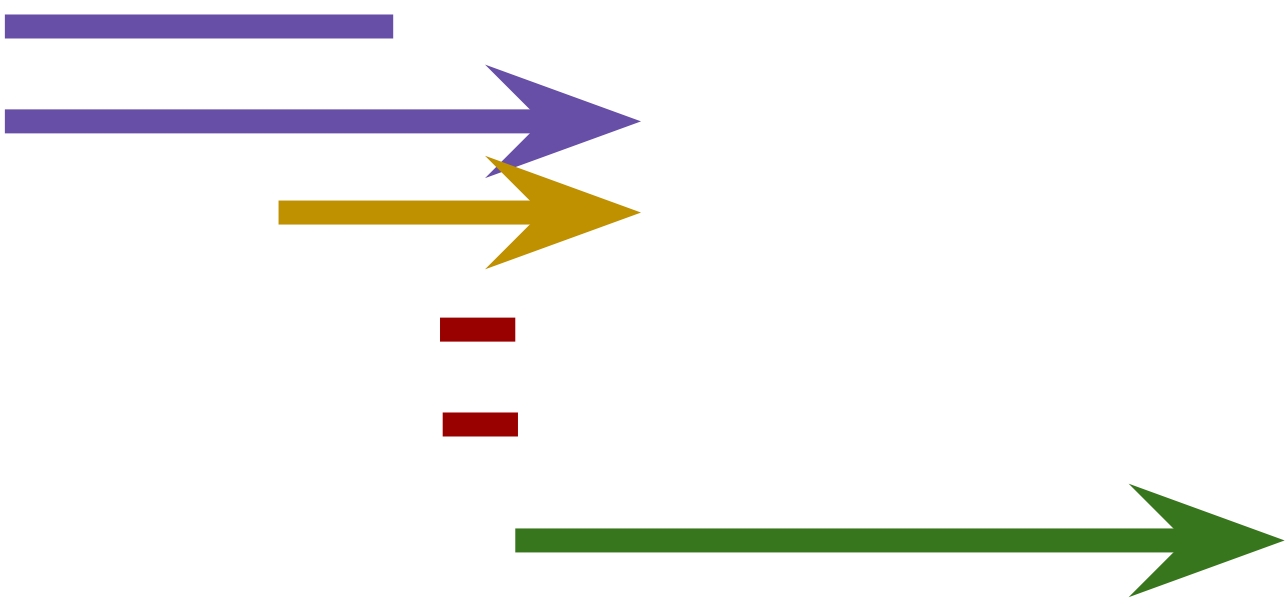
Content

2 Interpretation

3 Solutions

4 Prototypes

5 Writing Silver



Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4

2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021

Research Done (Overview)

- WCAG Use by UX Professionals (survey)
- WCAG Success Criteria Usability Study (survey)
- Internet of Things Accessibility (survey & interviews)
- Interviews on Conformance
- Interviews on Legacy of WCAG 2.0 Creation
- Feedback from Reimagining Accessibility Guidelines Presentations
- Web Accessibility Perceptions
- Student research on Silver research questions (9 papers)

Structural Problem Areas from Research Findings

Usability

- Too Difficult to Read
- Difficult to get started
- Ambiguity in interpreting the success criteria
- Persuading Others

Conformance Model

- Strictly Testable Constraints
- Human Testable
- Accessibility Supported
- Evolving Technology

Maintenance

- Flexibility
- Scaling
- Governance

Design Sprint Video

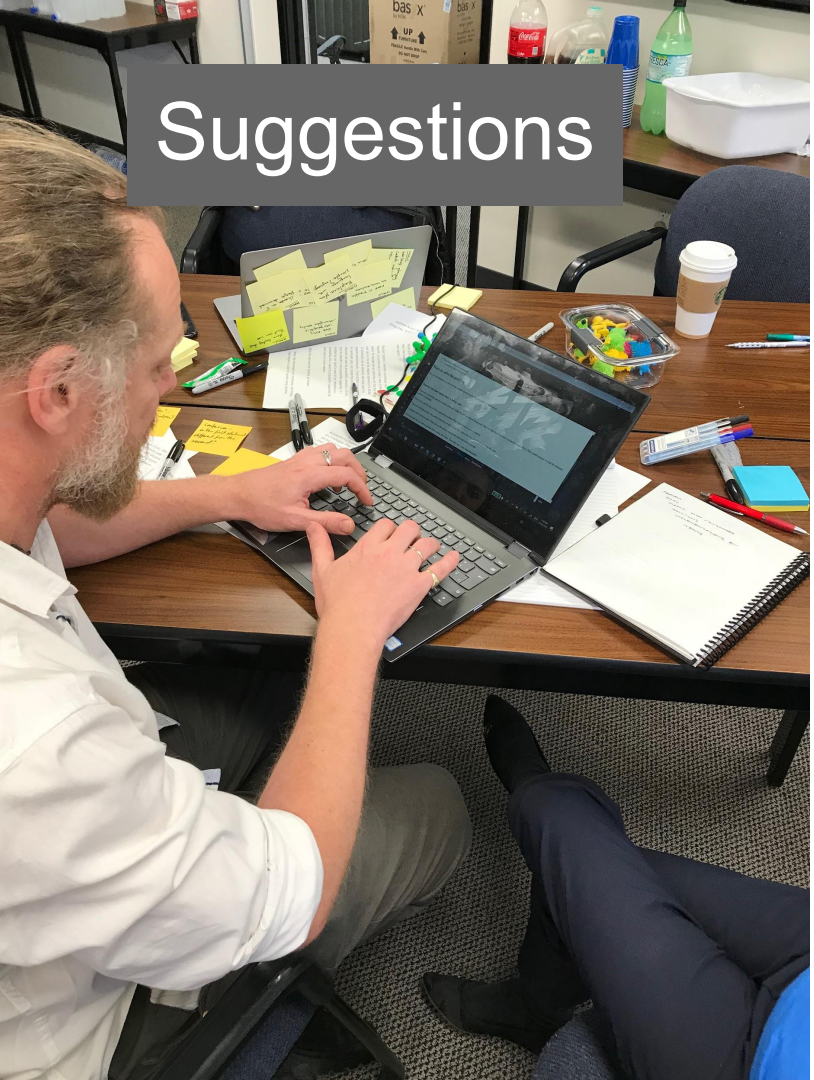
Design Sprint Explorations

- Writing Silver in simple language
- Information architecture development
- Flexibly filterable guidance
- Development cycle focused navigation of guidance
- Taking Accessibility Supported conformance out of an author responsibility
- Role-based filtering of guidance
- Avenues for contributions to guidelines contributions
- Design studio workshops to get more people to contribute
- Browser and assistive technology guidance
- Flexible conformance model
- Inclusion of user testing results for conformance

Suggestions

From the Silver Design Sprint

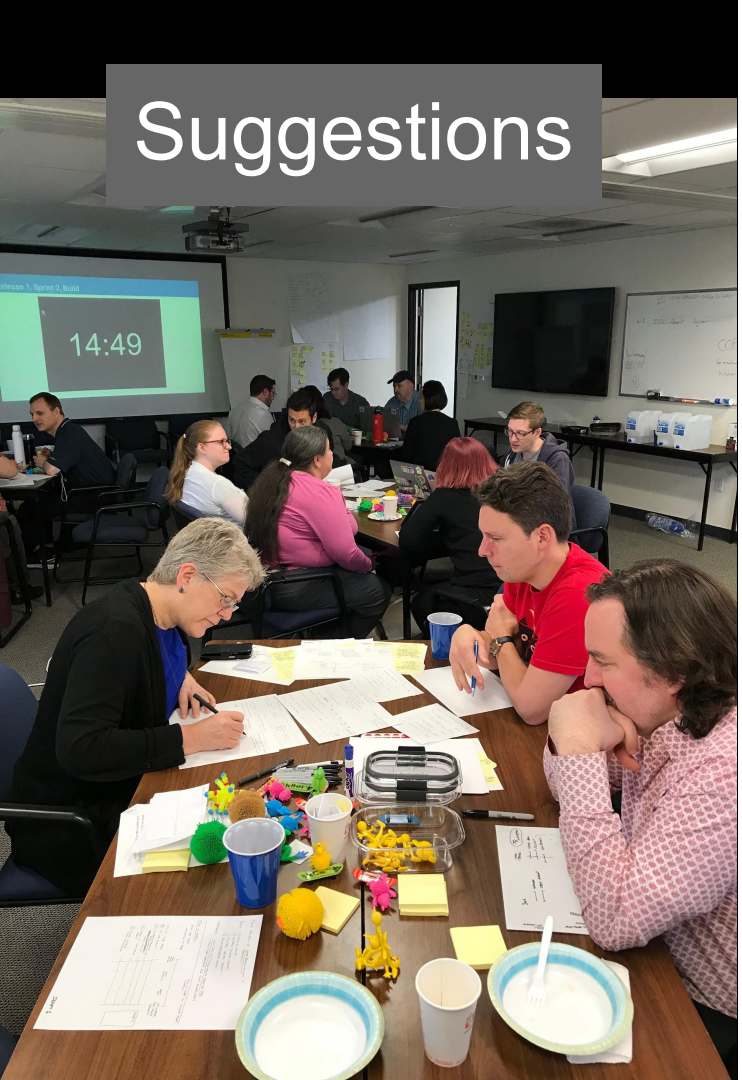
Report of the Silver Design Sprint



Suggestions

Usability

- Simple language
- Filtering - “database all the things” to target info
- Easier to find info
- Find info by role, by problem, by disability, and by platform
- Starting point for beginners



Conformance

- From Pass/Fail tests to also include other forms of measurement.
- Rubric for testing task accomplishment
- Point and ranking system
- Accommodate dynamic or frequently updated content

Maintenance

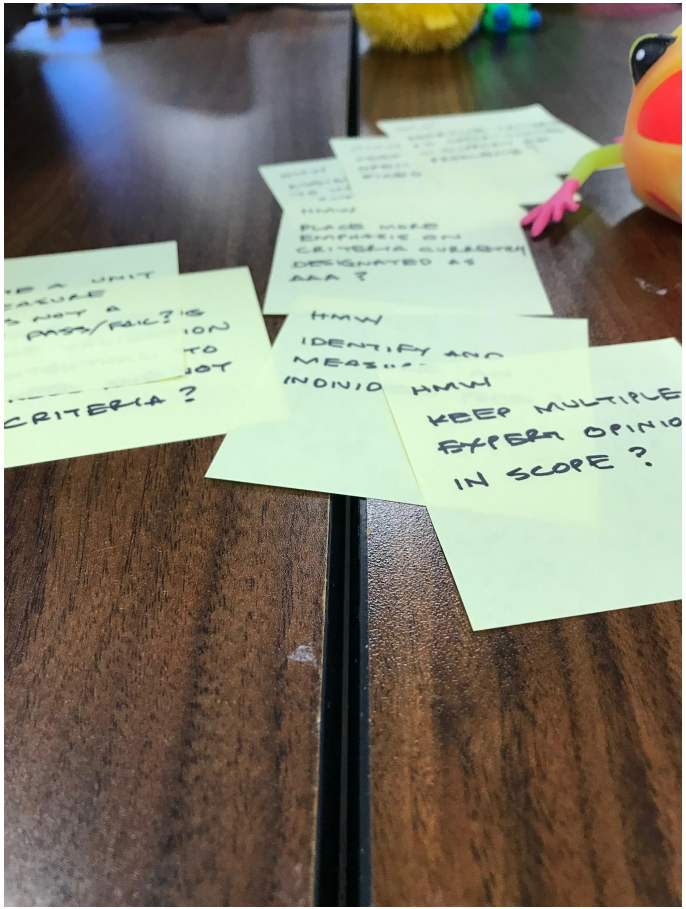
- Allow experts to contribute code, tests, design patterns
- Improve spec tools to allow more people with disabilities to contribute
- Allow more public participation

Recruiting

Silver Community Group

w3.org/community/silver

- Information Architecture
- Plain language editors
- Design
- Development
- Content help (starting this Fall)



Questions?

Silver Community Group
w3.org/community/silver/

Silver Community Group
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