

# 10 Tips for Applying WCAG 2.0 to Mobile Sites

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## 1. Text Alternatives

- a. Provide text alternatives for all non-text elements
- b. Ex: image links and buttons include alt text to describe function or destination
- c. `<a href="rock.html"></a>`
- d. `<input type = "image" name = "submit" src="button.gif" alt="Submit" >`

## 2. Links and Form Controls

- a. Purpose of each link (or form image button) can be determined from link text
- b. Ex: provide descriptive hyperlinks and ensure descriptions are concise
- c. Form controls: use `<label>` element to associate text with form controls for `<input>`, `<select>`, `<textarea>`, etc. and match *for* in the `<label>` with *id* of `<input>`
- d. Use `<fieldset>` to group and `<legend>` to define related form elements

## 3. Enough Time

- a. Provide users enough time to read and use content with options to turn off, adjust or extend time
- b. Ex: provide checkbox on first page of form to extend 10 times the default time limit or to remove the time limit
- c. Ex: provide script warning that time will expire and allow users to extend 10 times the default limit or turn off time limit

## 4. Color

- a. Ensure color is not the sole means of conveying important information, indicating an action, or prompting a response
- b. Ex: commands that are provided in color are also available with text cues

## 5. Contrast

- a. Provide sufficient contrast between foreground and background elements
- b. Exceed WCAG 2.0 contrast requirements for desktop/laptop websites
- c. Ex: for large text, only use WCAG 2.0 (minimum) contrast if text is 1.2 times bold or 1.5 times (120% or 150% bold)
- d. Text on color backgrounds (other than black) may be difficult to read
- e. Tools: [Colour Contrast Analyser](#); [Juicy Studio Accessibility Toolbar \(Firefox\)](#)
- f. [Web Accessibility Toolbar \(IE\)](#)

## 6. Semantic Structure

- a. Ensure information, structure and relationships conveyed through presentation (i.e. visually) can be programmatically determined (i.e. semantic structure)
- b. Use semantic markup properly to aid navigation and understanding, including:
  - i. Language `<html lang="en-US">`
  - ii. Page Titles: `<title>` included in `<head>`
  - iii. Proper Headings for `<h1>...<h6>` (`<h1>` text matches `<title>`)
  - iv. ARIA landmarks to identify regions of page
  - v. [NCSU: ARIA Landmarks \(intro\)](#)

## 7. Predictable and Consistent

- a. Consistent navigation and identification of elements with same functionality
- b. Provide clear indication items are actionable by more than one visual cue
- c. Screen orientation supports both portrait and landscape
- d. Consistent layout
  - i. Considerations for responsive design available in [Mobile Accessibility: How WCAG 2.0 and other W3C/WAI Guidelines Apply to Mobile](#)

## 8. Keyboard

- a. Ensure all functionality is available using a *physical* keyboard. Also, there are no keyboard traps, the focus order is logical and intuitive, and focus is visible.
  - i. Good example, unplug mouse and tab through [WebAIM homepage](#)
- b. Do not rely solely on device manipulation gestures (shake, tilt, etc.)
- c. Provide touch and keyboard alternative options

## 9. Zoom and Magnification

- a. Page is readable and functional when text is doubled up to 200% without loss of content or functionality
- b. Ensure pinch-zoom is not block by page's viewport meta element

## 10. Provide Access to Mobile and Desktop websites for all users

- a. Example available on [W3C Homepage](#)

## Resource List

- AMAC Accessibility Solutions and Research Center
  - [Mobile Accessibility](#) by John Rempel, AMAC
- World Wide Web Consortium (W3C)
  - [Mobile Web Best Practices \(MWBP\)](#)
  - [Flip Cards](#), handy reference for MWBP
  - [W3C/WAI Mobile Accessibility, Overview](#)
  - [WCAG 2.0 Techniques that Apply to Mobile](#)
  - [Mobile Accessibility: How WCAG 2.0 and Other W3C/WAI Guidelines Apply to Mobile](#)
  - [W3C: Mobile Accessibility Task Force - Wiki](#)

## Mobile Testing Resources

- [Functional Accessibility Evaluator \(FAE\) 2.0](#)
  - Test desktop/laptop website; similar mistakes tend to occur on both
- [W3C mobileOK Checker](#)
  - General mobile-friendliness; not accessibility specific
- [BBC Mobile Accessibility Guidelines](#)
  - Step-by-step testing and recommendations for iOS, Android, HTML
- [Mobile Accessibility Tests: Henny Swan](#)
  - General list of core tests using mobile device