

# 4. Testing tools and techniques

# How do I know if my site is inaccessible?



It is important to test your Websites and applications under a number of conditions so that you replicate the many different ways people will try to access your website.



# Ways to test



You can check how accessible your site is in a number of ways:

- **Web Audit – External/Internal** – pay someone to give you a report
- **Standards browsers/different operating systems** – test with the relevant inbuilt accessibility features
- **Testing tools** – there are a number of automated tools that you can use to test your Website such as WebXact (replaces ‘Bobby’)
- **Adaptive technology** – use Screen readers, voice recognition, magnifiers etc
- **Disabled user testing** – offers a deeper level of insight into your site’s usability and accessibility

# Online testing tools



- **AIS Accessibility Toolbar**

<http://www.nils.org.au/ais/web/resources/toolbar/>

- **Cynthia**

<http://www.contentquality.com/>

- **WAVE – Web accessibility tool**

<http://www.wave.webaim.org/wave/index.jsp>

- **WebXact**

<http://www.webxact.com/>

# Your main tool kit for accessibility testing



- AIS Toolbar
- Screen reader
- Internet Explorer
- Opera 8
- Text-only browser
- JuicyStudio.com
- Visccheck
- Automated Testing Tools
- Keyboard!!! (Without a mouse)

# How to test Accessible Alt Text



(Tools - **AIS Toolbar, IE, Lynx, HPR**)

- In AIS go to the Toolbar images menu > Select Toggle Image / Alt tag - Alt tags or lack of them will be visible on the page.

Or

- Switch off images in IE6

Or

- Use a text only browser (Lynx) or screen reader (HPR)

# How to test Scripting & Programmatic Elements



(Tools - **AIS Toolbar, Firefox, Opera**)

- **Identifying scripts & programmatic elements on a page:**

In the AIS Toolbar go to Document Structure > Event Handlers  
The type and number of event handlers will appear on the page

- **Testing for Flash Animation:**

In the AIS Toolbar go to Tools > Simulations > Disable Plug-ins

- **Manual checks may need to be made for Java Applets:**

Opera and Firefox can be used to easily switch off Java

- **JavaScript functionality**

Test a page with Firefox with the JavaScript option turned off  
( IE can be unreliable) – particularly test form submission and search function

# How to test Multimedia



- Audio description should be tested by watching the presentation with audio and image then listening to audio without images – the two versions should be compared.
- Captions should be tested watching the presentation with audio and image, then watching the images without audio. The two versions should be compared.
- Has a transcript been provided?

# How to test Cascading Stylesheets



(Tools - **AIS Toolbar, IE, Opera**)

- Go to IE options > Select CSS On/Off
- Or
- Switch off stylesheets using browser
- Or
- Use Opera 7 to easily switch styles off

# How to test Data Tables



(Tools - **AIS Toolbar**)

- Simple Data Tables  
Go to Structure > Simple Data Table
- Complex Data Tables  
Go to Structure > Complex Data Table

# How to test Frame and iframes



(Tools -  **AIS Toolbar**)

Go to Document Structure menu > Select Frame Name & Title

Frame names and titles will be listed. Check that meaningful titles have been used for each frame that describes what content can be found in the frame.

# How to test Using Colour to Convey Information

## / Colour contrast



(Tools - **AIS Toolbar, Image Editor, Colour contrast Analyser tool**)

- From the AIS toolbar choose Colours > Greyscale
- Test Screenshot in Image Editor with vischeck plug-in
- Test on a low spec monitor and laptop screen
- Use Juicy Studies or AIS Colour contrast tool

# How to test Accessible Link text



(Tools – **Opera** , **screen reader**)

- Select 'List Links' from the 'Doc Info' menu in the AIS Toolbar
- Using a screen reader is the best way to check for clear hypertext links, for example in JAWS you can generate a links list by pressing CTRL + F7
- Alternatively use Opera – go to view menu > links in frame

# How to test Relative Sizing



(Tools – **IE** , **AIS Toolbar**, **PDA**)

- Resize Text (Tools – **IE** )
  - Go to View > Text Size
  - Change the text sizes
- Resizing Browser (Tools – **AIS Toolbar**)
  - Go to Resolution > alter resolution to 800 x 600
  - or
  - alter the browser window manually
- Also Test webpage on a PDA – is it legible? (style sheet for PDA)

# How to test Accessible Forms



(Tools - **AIS Toolbar**)

Go to Document Structure > Fieldset/label

- Fieldset and label elements will be displayed if they are used on the page – if they are make sure a 'for' attribute and an 'id' attribute have both been used for each form field

# How to test Header Structure



(Tools - **AIS Toolbar**)

- Go to Document Structure > Headings

If used all headers in the document will be visible and marked with  
<h1></h1> etc

- Also make sure they are nested properly – for example h1 followed by h2 rather than h1 followed by h3

# How to test Tab Order



(Tools - **AIS Toolbar, Keyboard, Lynx, HPR**)

- Go to Tools > Simulations (Disable Mouse)

Or

- Navigate page using keyboard only

Or

- Use a text only browser

Or

- Use a screen reader