

How to check if your website is accessible

This guide highlights the steps you can take to ensure your online presence is inclusive.



It's actually a requirement by law

Having an accessible website is not only morally right, but is also good business sense and a requirement of the law. Here are a few tips to help you determine whether your website is actually accessible.

1. Research

Read the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) [here](#) and check that your website is compliant with these. Also read accessibility articles and blogs – there are too many sites to list where you can find these – a quick search will provide you with ample reading.

2. Bring accessibility to the forefront.

Create your very own website accessibility policy and checklist and make sure that is clearly displayed and in easy reach so everyone knows what and where it is. Use this as a company standard to ensure that your website is and remains accessible.

3. Initial Tests

Test your web content by downloading free reader software and listening to it. It won't ensure that your webpage is fully accessible but will help to make mistakes more obvious and enable you to check the accuracy of your image alternative text (textual alternatives to not text content).



You can also check your page using the WAVE web accessibility evaluation tool which can be found [here: http://wave.webaim.org](http://wave.webaim.org). It's a free simple to use tool which gives you feedback about your website. Beware this is not an in-depth tool and should only be used as a starting point.

4. Audit

Have your website checked by disabled users with a variety of impairments. It really is the only way to fully check a website. This is a service that we at Enhance the UK are able to offer you.

5. Modify

Ensure that you have the time/ skills/ budget to not only identify the issues with your website's accessibility but also make changes.

6. Spread the word

Celebrate your newly accessible website and highlight the importance of this issue to you on social media and encourage others to follow suit!

