

Enhancing Accessibility for All Law Students

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WHAT IS ACCESSIBILITY?

- Designing access for all students/users
 - All Class & Training Content
 - University Websites
 - Library Materials
 - Buildings



WHY DO WE CARE?

- Mandated by Law
- Law Suits
- University Policies and Mandates
- Studies show all students learn better when you design for everyone



HOW TO ACHIEVE?

- Awareness of barriers
- Know how Assistive Technology (AT) works
- Universal Design = Accessible Design



HOW TO TACKLE THE ISSUE

- Accessibility Tasks Force
- Department and Unit Training
- [Develop Training Guides](#) (LibGuides, Wikis)
- Creating documentation (VPATS, lists of issues)
- Checklists – Make it part of the workflow
- Audits

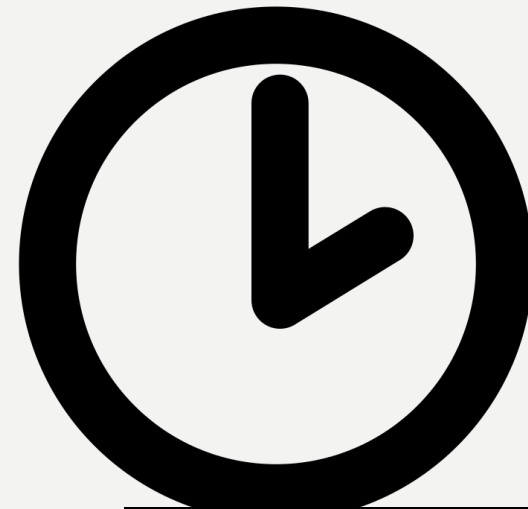


HURDLES

- Money
- Time
- Resources



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TEXT ACCESSIBILITY

TEXT ACCESSIBILITY TIPS

Things to think about with text:

- Colors
- Contrast
- Font Style
- Font Size



COLOR BLINDNESS EXAMPLE



COLOR/CONTRAST = BAD



COLOR CONTRAST = GOOD



COLOR CONTRAST: TEXT

GOOD

- Black on White

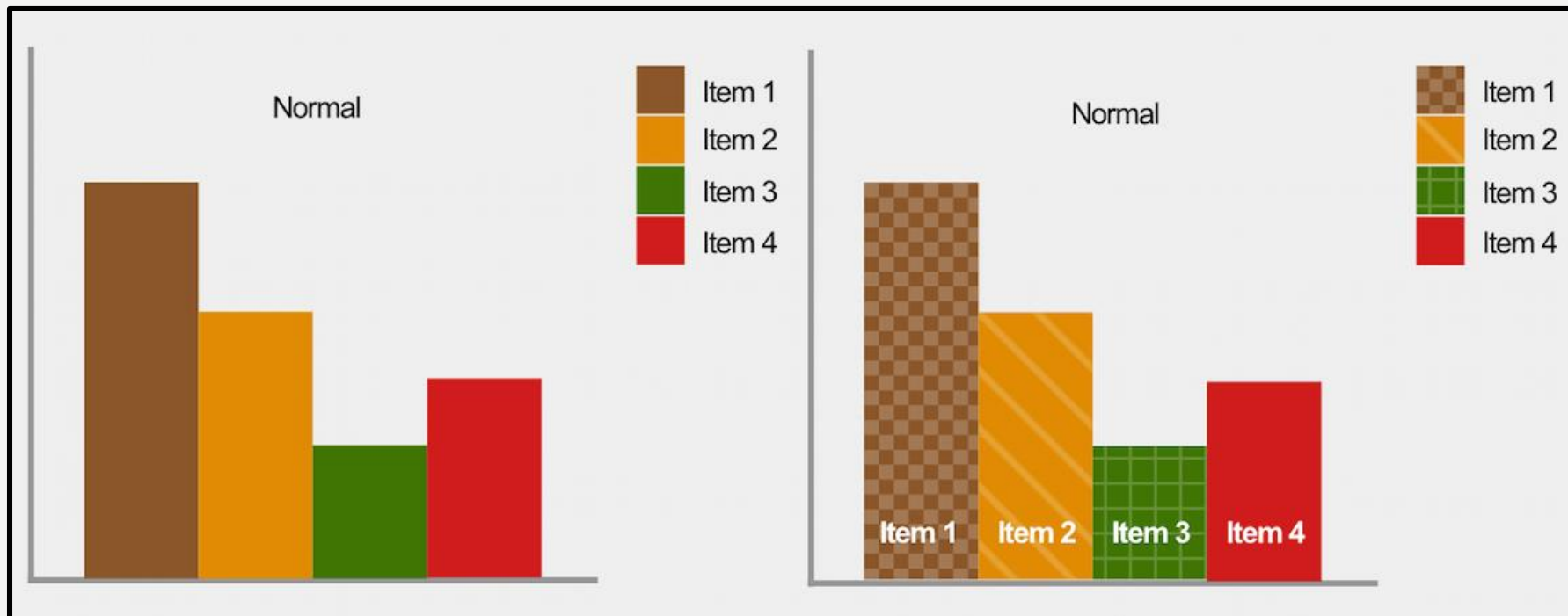
BAD

- Font color too light



COLOR ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES

- Good Contrast
- Use both colors and symbols
- Keep it minimal (3 colors)
- Use Patterns and textures to show contrast (graphs)
- Avoid Bad Color Combos
- Reference: <https://usabilla.com/blog/how-to-design-for-color-blindness/>



CONTRAST RATIOS

The W3C recommendations:

- Small text
 - contrast ratio of at least 4.5:1 against its background.
- Large text (14 pt)
 - contrast ratio of at least 3:1 against its background.



GENERAL FONT GUIDELINES

- Real text rather than image
- Limit number of fonts
- Ensure Contrast
- Avoid small font sizes
- Limit font variations – bold, italics, etc
- Do not rely on variation to convey meaning



ONLINE FONTS GUIDELINES

- Use safe fonts = Sans Serif (Arial, Verdana, Calibri)
- Use relative size vs. absolute
 - Do not use pt
 - Use em, relative (small, large)
- Avoid blinking or moving text
- Avoid underlining (use only for links)



COLOR & CONTRAST GUIDES

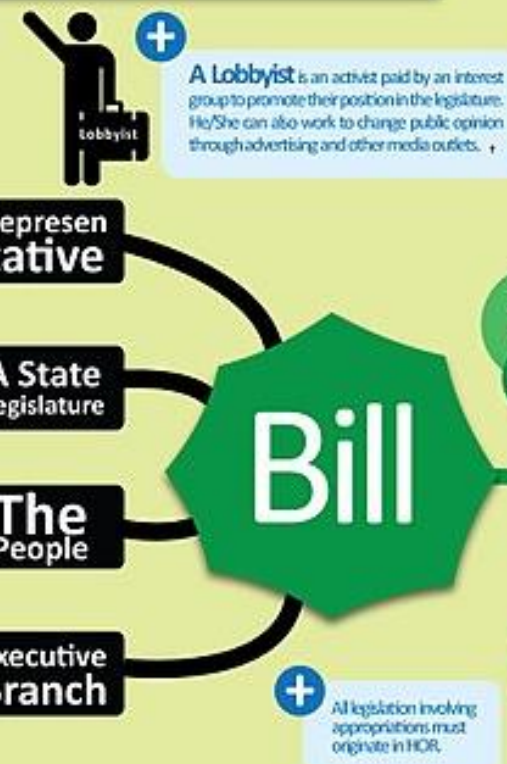
- [How to design for Color Blindness](#)
- Material Design: [Color Tool](#)
- Web Aim: [Contrast Checker](#)
- <http://accessible-colors.com/>
- <http://colorsafe.co/>
- <https://contrastchecker.com/>





IMAGES

HOW OUR LAWS ARE MADE



"Congress shall have Power... To make Laws which shall be necessary and proper..."
U.S. Constitution Article I

Inaccessible Image Example

PROBLEM WITH IMAGES

- Images are inherently inaccessible to people who are unable to see them



WHAT TO DO WITH IMAGES?

- Do not use images alone to convey content
- Mark image as decorative (`<alt= "" >` or `<alt="" >`)
- Use alternative text ALT tag
- ALT tags:
 - Brief and descriptive
 - Avoid “Image of” for online/web images
- [Examples of screen readers and image tags](#)



DOCUMENTS



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CREATING ACCESSIBLE DOCUMENTS

- Know how screen readers work
 - Scan top left to bottom right
- Use Built-in Styles to aid navigation



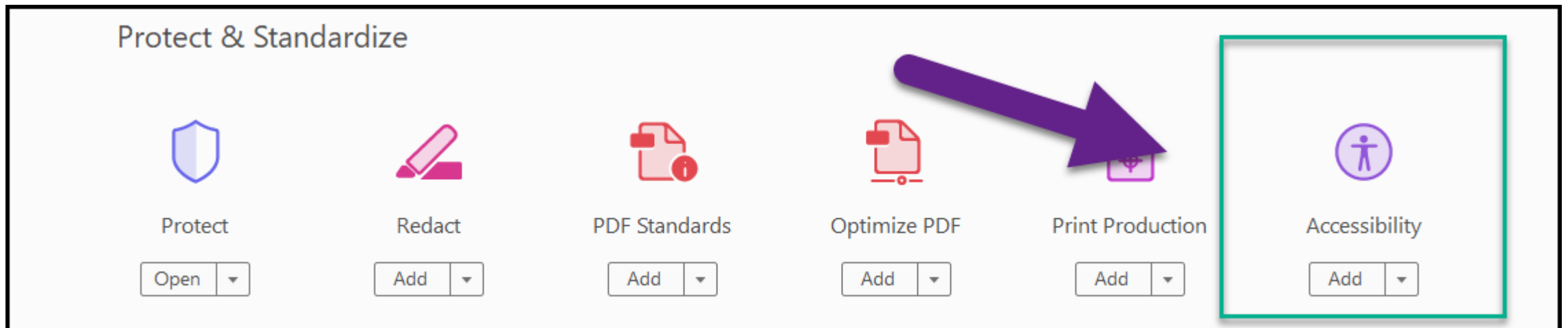
PDF ACCESSIBILITY IS:

- Searchable Text
- Fonts that allow characters to be extracted to text (braille embosser or read out loud tool)
- Interactive Labeled Form fields
 - Accessible Error Messages
 - No timing
- Document Structure Tags and Proper Reading Order
- Alternative Text Descriptions for Non-Text Elements



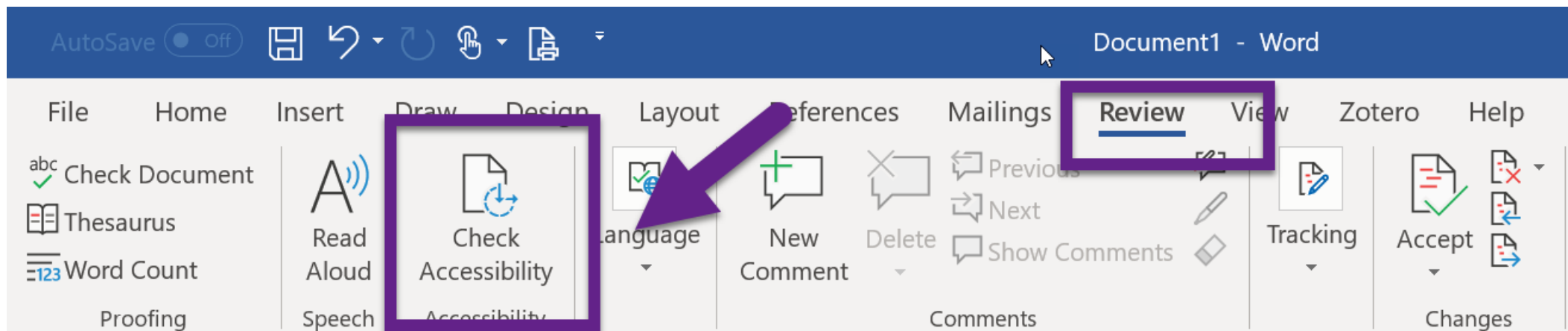
HOW TO MAKE PDFS ACCESSIBLE

- Start with an accessible document
- Use Adobe Pro Accessibility Checker and tools
- Create & Verify Instructions
- Adobe PDF Accessibility Overview



OFFICE 365 PRODUCTS

- Have Accessibility Checker
- Enhanced ALT image features





WEB BARRIERS AND FIXES

SCREEN READERS & INTERNET

Video example of screen reader reading the New York Times website:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xpP_Km5L46E



LINKS

- Screen reader say link when gets to `<a>` tag
 - Do not need to add word “link” to alt text
- Use short description
- Links should make sense out of context
 - Do not use: “click here,” “more”
- Avoid using images as link unless ALT tag



LINK FORMAT EXAMPLES

- *Bad:* [Click here](#) for directions.
- *Good:* [Directions to DU College](#) are available online.
- *Bad:* Learn more about LibGuides [here](#) and [here](#).
- *Good:* Learn more about [logging into LibGuides](#) and how to [create your first guide](#).



TABLES

- Use only for tabular data
- Do not use to format links or for layout
- Use Table Headers
 - Header cells use `<th>`
 - Data cells use `<td>`
- Table Accessibility



GUIDELINES: WEBSITES

- W3C: [Accessibility Standards](#)
- [Usability.gov](#)
- Google: [Accessibility Guidelines](#)





VIDEOS

CAPTIONS

- 90% of students find captions helpful
- Many students use them
- Aid
 - comprehension,
 - accuracy,
 - engagement, and
 - Retention

[Source:A Rising Tide: How Closed Captions Can Benefit All Students](#)



VIDEO TIPS

- Captions
 - Must be readable and accurate
- Be keyboard accessible
- Be readable by a screen reader
- Clear Navigation
- Allow enough time
- Allow enough controls



CLOSED CAPTIONS & TRANSCRIPTS

- Captions
 - Convey dialog and/or narration and other audio effects
- Transcript/Speech to text
 - Document that accurately transcribes dialog
- Text to speech
 - Voice over describing content (for hearing impaired)



HOW?

- Script
- Human transcription & closed captioning
- Auto-Captioning (Speech-trainable)
- Auto-Captioning (out-of-box)
- Speech-to-text software – Editable Auto transcripts
 - Camtasia
 - Zoom
 - Kaltura
 - Panopto



RESOURCES

- **Check Lists**

- [WebAIM's WCAG 2.0 Checklist](#) (WebAIM)
- [Web Accessibility Issues](#) (NCDAE one-page)
- [WCAG 2.0 Checklist](#) (Paul Adam)
- [Accessibility Checklist](#) (Nomensa)
- [IT Accessibility Checklist](#) (University of Washington)

- **Quick Check References**

- [Easy Checks -- a First Review of Web Accessibility](#) (Web Accessibility Initiative)
- [Popular Mistakes in Universal Web Design](#) (Dennis Lembree)
- [Testing for Web Accessibility in 60 Seconds](#) (David A. Kennedy)



ACCESSIBILITY RESOURCES

Websites

- [Web Accessibility Evaluation Tools List](#)
- [Material Design:Accessibility](#)
- [Wave](#)
- [AC Checker](#)

