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Introduction to Web Accessibility
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http://ntl.bts.gov/networking/roundtable.html
Audio call-in number: 877-336-1274; Access code: 5759713
Introduction to Web Accessibility

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webaim.org
>8.5% of the population has a disability that affects computer use
Assistive Technologies

“Assistive technology promotes greater independence by enabling people to perform tasks that they were formerly unable to accomplish, or had great difficulty accomplishing.”

Wikipedia
Accessibility ...

... is a continuum.

... is a process.

... can always be improved.
Guidelines are measures on the continuum of accessibility
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 1.0
Section 508
Americans with Disabilities Act

- Pre-dates the web
- Title I vs. Title II vs. Title III
- “Places of public accommodation”
- There’s a distinct need to define ADA accessibility standards
Your content can be compliant, yet inaccessible
accessibility > compliance
Your content can be technically accessible, yet functionally inaccessible.
Perceivable
Operable
Understandable
Robust
Perceivable
Auditory Disabilities

- Captions for video & live audio
- Text transcripts for all audio content
Auditory Disabilities

Is officially tomatoes it's prisons rations? He look for it.
Visual Disabilities

- Blindness
- Low vision
- Color deficiency
Visual Disabilities

- Web pages and documents are linear
- Use meaningful links. Avoid “click here”.
- Alternative text for non-text elements

**Content and Function**
Visual Disabilities

- **Semantics and Structure**
  - Provide a logical heading structure
  - Associate text labels with form elements
    ```html
    <label for="name">Name:</label>
    <input type="text" id="name">
    ```
  - Associate data cells to row/column headers
    ```html
    <th scope="col" > or <th scope="row">
    ```
Visual Disabilities

- Sufficient contrast - http://webaim.org/resources/contrastchecker/
- Ensure that meaning is not conveyed with color alone
The **green** mushrooms listed here are OK to eat. The **red** mushrooms will kill you.

- Amanita
- Chanterelle
- Porcini
- Shitake
- Tylopius
Operable
Motor Disabilities
Operable

- Ensure keyboard accessibility
- Don’t remove keyboard focus indicators
- Ensure interactive elements are clearly distinguishable
- Logical reading/navigation order
accessibility is ...

... enabling a positive user experience.
Who does this affect?

- Cognitive disabilities
- Largest disability group. Larger than all the others put together.
- Everyone!
Understandable

- Be careful with movement and other distracters
- Semantic organization (headings, lists, etc.)
- Be consistent
- Strive for brevity. Use the simplest language appropriate to the content.
Understandable

- Focus the user’s attention
- “Chunk” and simplify content
- Balance cognitive load vs. functionality
Understandable
Robust
Robust
Perceivable
Operable
Understandable
Robust
Basic Testing

- Test with a keyboard
  - Tab and Shift + Tab to navigate
- Use a WCAG 2.0 checklist
- Look for low contrast and color reliance
- Listen in a screen reader
- Analyze the page in WAVE
tools are valuable, but no replacement for knowledgable practitioners
“For people without disabilities, technology makes things convenient, whereas for people with disabilities, it makes things possible.”

- Judy Huemann
thank you

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Thank you for attending!
Join us February 8, 2018:

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Beyan Johnson, Research Hub

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