Using Color Accessibly

Conveying color differences

**What to do**

Color should not be the only visual means of conveying information, it should also be explicit in the text.

**Why it matters**

When color is used to convey information, assistive technologies rely on that information also being conveyed in the text in order to present it to people who have visual disabilities.

**Examples**

Better use of color

Conference sessions are organized by track: Track 1 is designated with teal and T1 notation, Track 2 is designated with blue and T2 notation.

- Track 1
  - Topic 1 (T1)
  - Topic 2 (T1)
- Track 2
  - Topic 3 (T2)
  - Topic 4 (T2)

Poor use of color

Conference sessions are organized by track: Track 1 is designated with teal, Track 2 is designated with blue.

- Topic 1
- Topic 2
- Topic 3
- Topic 4

Don't use color alone to convey information

Color contrast

**What to do**

There should be sufficient contrast between foreground and background elements.

**Why it matters**

Text that is presented over a background needs to have sufficient contrast so users can read the text.

**Examples**
Better color contrast
The use of sufficiently dark text on a light background helps make the text more readable.

Poor color contrast
The use of light text on a light background makes the text less readable.

- Contrast Checker
- Firefox WCAG Contrast checker
- Chrome Contrast Analyzer
- Easy Checks - Contrast ratio ("color contrast")
- Provide sufficient contrast between foreground and background

Related Articles
- Accessibility
- Accessibility in AsULearn
- Accessibility Toolkit in AsULearn
- Brickfield Accessibility+ Toolkit
- Brickfield Accessibility+ Toolkit Block
- Brickfield Accessibility+ Toolkit Find Tools
- Brickfield Accessibility+ Toolkit Fix Link Text
- Brickfield Accessibility+ Toolkit Wizards
- Creating Accessible Forms
- Creating Accessible Links
- Creating Accessible Page Structure with Titles, Headings, and Lists
- Creating Accessible Tables
- Making Audio and Video Media Accessible
- Making Files Accessible
- Making Images Accessible
- Making Timed Content Accessible
- Using Digital Signage Accessibly
- Using Web Applications Accessibly

Search Knowledge Base
Submit a Service Request
We value your feedback! Click HERE to suggest updates to an existing article, request a new article, or submit an idea.