Using Color Accessibly

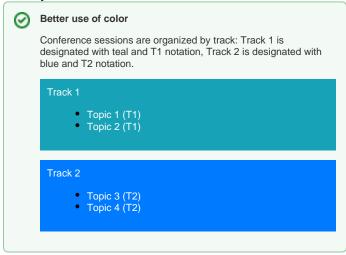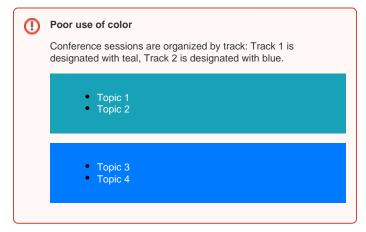## Conveying color differences

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

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