

# Making Audio and Video Media Accessible

## Audio alternative

### What to do

A transcript that presents the dialogue and descriptions of background sounds, etc. that are part of the story should be provided immediately following audio content.

### Why it matters

A transcript provides an accessible alternative presentation of audio content for people with hearing disabilities.

### Examples



#### Better audio alternative

Your browser does not support the HTML5 audio element

[Transcript](#)



#### Poor audio alternative

Your browser does not support the HTML5 audio element

No transcript is provided for this audio file.

## Video alternative

### What to do

A transcript that presents all the content and descriptions of scenery, actions, expressions, etc. that are part of the presentation should be provided immediately following video content.

### Why it matters

A transcript presents the information of video content, including descriptions of scenery, actions, expressions, etc., in an accessible alternative format for people who have visual disabilities.

### Examples



#### Better video alternative

[Transcript](#)



#### Poor video alternative

No transcript is provided for this video file.

## Closed captions

### What to do

Captions should be provided for audio and video content. Captions include important sounds, as opposed to subtitles which only provide text of the dialogue.

### Why it matters

Captions provide a way for people who have hearing disabilities to be able to view the dialogue and sounds of multimedia content.

## Examples



### Better captions

Captions for this video can be enabled by clicking the CC icon in the player controls.



### Poor captions

No captions are available on this video.

## Sound on request

### What to do

Sound should only play on user request.

### Why it matters

The use of assistive technologies like a screen reader can be difficult if there are also sounds playing from web content.

## Examples



### Better sound on request

Your browser does not support the HTML5 audio element

This audio file allows the user to start its playback by clicking the play icon.



### Poor sound on request

An audio file that starts automatically does not allow the user to choose when its playback begins.

## Descriptive labels

### What to do

Live audio or video feeds should include descriptive labels.

### Why it matters

Providing a short label for audio or video feeds ensures that a user can determine what the content is, even if they cannot access it.

## Examples



#### Better live feed labels



Descriptive label for live video feed: "Live video feed showing downtown Boone, North Carolina"



#### Poor live feed labels



No descriptive label is provided for the live video feed.

- [Easy Checks - Multimedia \(video, audio\) alternatives](#)
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- [Add your own subtitles & closed captions \(YouTube\)](#)
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- [VoiceThread Universal \(for screen readers\)](#)
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