

Accessibility Statement for IET websites

This is an accessibility statement from the Institution of Engineering and Technology (The IET). This statement covers the following site(s):

Site name	Most recent automated testing score
Digital Library	81.1
Site URL	Last reviewed date
https://digital-library.theiet.org	July 2026

This statement and its format were created using the [W3C Accessibility Statement Generator Tool](#). See also: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sample-accessibility-statement/sample-accessibility-statement-for-a-fictional-public-sector-website>

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Measures to support accessibility

The IET wants as many people as possible to be able to use its websites. In this site you should be able to:

- change colours, contrast levels and fonts
- zoom in up to 200% without the text spilling off the screen
- navigate most of the website using just a keyboard
- navigate most of the website using speech recognition software
- listen to most of the website using a screen reader (including the most recent versions of JAWS, NVDA and VoiceOver)

We also aim to make text as easy as possible to understand, although some of our content is necessarily of a technical nature.

The IET aims to ensure accessibility of its websites by:

- including accessibility in our internal policies
- integrating accessibility into our procurement practices
- having clear accessibility goals and accountabilities
- continuously monitoring our sites for accessibility conformance

[AbilityNet](#) provides advice on making your device easier to use if you have a disability.

Technical specifications

Accessibility of IET websites relies on the following technologies to work with the web browser, and any assistive technologies or plugins, installed on your computer:

- HTML
- WAI-ARIA
- CSS
- SVG
- JavaScript

These technologies are relied upon for conformance with our stated accessibility standards.

Compatibility with browsers and assistive technology

Our sites are designed to be compatible with the following technologies:

- Current and recent versions of Chrome, Edge, Firefox and Safari browsers on Windows, MacOS, Android and iOS operating systems.

Conformance status

The [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(WCAG\)](#) defines requirements for designers and developers to improve accessibility for people with disabilities. This site is partially conformant with WCAG 2.2 level AAA. Partially conformant means that some features or content do not fully conform to the accessibility standard.

WAI-ARIA markup is used in most components.

Automated monitoring of conformance with accessibility standards, including WCAG 2.2, currently records a score of 81.1 for this site; details can be found below.

Assessment approach

The IET assesses the accessibility these sites using the following approaches:

- self-evaluation (manual audits, automated monitoring)
- external evaluation (engaging external agencies to review specific sites)

Limitations and alternatives

Despite our ongoing efforts to ensure accessibility of our sites, there are some limitations. Below is a description of known issues, and potential solutions. This list is unlikely to be exhaustive; please contact us (see details above) if you observe an accessibility issue not described here.

Issues

The following issues have been reported by our automated monitoring tool and need addressing.

Issues	Conformance	Success criteria	Abilities affected
Link missing a text alternative	A	2.4.4: Link Purpose (In Context), 2.4.9: Link Purpose (Link Only), 4.1.2: Name, Role, Value	Cognition, Mobility, Vision
Visible label and accessible name do not match	A	2.5.3: Label in Name	Mobility
Page title is not descriptive	A	2.4.2: Page Titled	Cognition, Reading, Vision
Menu item missing a text alternative	A	4.1.2: Name, Role, Value	Vision
Links in the same context with the same text alternative	A	2.4.4: Link Purpose (In Context)	Cognition, Mobility, Vision
Container element is empty	A	1.3.1: Info and Relationships	Vision
Empty headings	A	1.3.1: Info and Relationships	Vision

Links are not clearly identifiable	A	1.4.1: Use of Colour	Cognition, Colour perception, Vision
Hidden element has focusable content	A	4.1.2: Name, Role, Value	Vision
Interactive element does not meet minimum size nor spacing	AA	2.5.8: Target Size (Minimum)	Mobility
Heading is not descriptive	AA	2.4.6: Headings and Labels	Cognition, Reading, Vision
Colour contrast does not meet minimum requirement	AA	1.4.3: Contrast (Minimum)	Colour perception, Vision
Interactive element does not meet enhanced size	AAA	2.5.5: Target Size (Enhanced)	Mobility
Links on the same page with the same text alternative	AAA	2.4.9: Link Purpose (Link Only)	Cognition, Vision
Font size is fixed	AAA	1.4.8: Visual Presentation	Cognition, Reading, Vision
Line height is below minimum value	AAA	1.4.8: Visual Presentation	Cognition, Reading
Colour contrast does not meet enhanced requirement	AAA	1.4.6: Contrast (Enhanced)	Colour perception, Vision
Text not included in an ARIA landmark	WAI-ARIA authoring practices	WAI-ARIA authoring practices	Vision
ARIA attribute unsupported or prohibited	WAI-ARIA authoring practices	WAI-ARIA authoring practices	Vision
Headings are not structured	Accessibility best practices	Accessibility best practices	Cognition, Vision
Page does not start with a level 1 heading	Accessibility best practices	Accessibility best practices	Vision

Content missing after heading	Accessibility best practices	Accessibility best practices	Cognition
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Potential issues

The following issues have been reported by our automated monitoring tool and need further investigation

Potential issues	Conformance	Success criteria	Abilities affected
Do these links (in the same context) go to the same page?	A	2.4.4: Link Purpose (In Context)	Cognition, Mobility, Vision
Is it clear which page element has focus from the keyboard?	AA	2.4.7: Focus Visible	Cognition, Mobility
Is there a minimum contrast ratio between the text and background?	AA	1.4.3: Contrast (Minimum)	Colour perception, Vision
Is there an enhanced contrast ratio between the text and background?	AAA	1.4.6: Contrast (Enhanced)	Colour perception, Vision
Are these links identical?	AAA	2.4.9: Link Purpose (Link Only)	Cognition, Vision
Do page sections with the same name serve the same purpose?	WAI-ARIA authoring practices	WAI-ARIA authoring practices	

Interactive functionality

Further manual investigation of the more complex interactive elements of the site (including with NVDA screen reader) has identified the following issues (note that there may be some overlap with the issues listed in the tables above). Work is currently in progress with our supplier to address these potential limitations for some users.

Journals landing page:

- Links in "Publication type" and "Collections" have redundant titles
- Duplicate links to journals (cover image and title)

Journal home page:

- Redundant title attributes on author links (though these are not announced by screenreader)

Journal article:

- Fieldset missing legend (Citations download format) – possibly redundant
- Redundant title attributes on author links (though not announced)

Books landing page:

- Links in "Subject" and "Authors" filter lists have redundant title attributes
- Duplicate links to books (cover image and title)

Book page:

- Links to buy ebook or print edition or recommend to librarian are placed after main content, so difficult to access using keyboard
- Redundant title attributes on multiple links (though not announced)

Checkout:

- Non-text (empty) link on "remove discount" icon
- Billing information is presented using a layout table (this may be confusing for screen reader users)
- Orphaned form labels (label not properly associated with form controls): card information form
- No visible focus indicator on "Card information" field

Formal approval of this accessibility statement

This Accessibility Statement is approved by:

Hendrik Wittkopf
Product Manager for IET Digital Library

Feedback and formal complaints

We're working continuously to improve the accessibility of our sites. If you find any problems not listed on this page or think we're not meeting accessibility requirements, please let us know:

- Phone: +44 (0) 333 049 9123
- Email: webmaster@theiet.org
- Post: The IET, Futures Place, Six Hills Way, Stevenage SG1 2UA

Appendix 1 – Detailed breakdown of compliance score

Conformance	Issue name	Issue score
A	Empty headings	73.24/100
A	Visible label and accessible name do not match	5.15/100
A	Page missing a title	100/100
A	All roles are invalid	100/100
A	Role not inside the required context	100/100
A	Container element is empty	27.99/100
A	Links are not clearly identifiable	66.91/100
A	Link missing a text alternative	36.61/100
A	Button missing a text alternative	100/100
A	Hidden element has focusable content	33.97/100
A	Image missing a text alternative	100/100
A	Form field missing a label	100/100
A	Role with implied hidden content has keyboard focus	100/100
A	Scrollable element is not keyboard accessible	100/100
A	Field input error is not announced in full	100/100
A	Page language has not been identified	100/100
A	Page language not recognised	100/100
A	Links in the same context with the same text alternative	99.98/100
A	Page title is not descriptive	73.74/100
A	Decorative image is exposed to assistive technologies	100/100
A	Required ARIA attribute is missing	100/100
A	Menu item missing a text alternative	24.56/100
A	Audio plays automatically and can't be switched off	100/100
A	Video missing captions	100/100
A	Multiple inline frames with the same text alternative	100/100
A	Vector image missing a text alternative	100/100
A	Table headers aren't referenced correctly	100/100

A	Object missing a text alternative	100/100
A	Audio missing a transcript	100/100
A	Table header cell is missing a header role	100/100
A	Table cell missing context	100/100
A	Video without audio missing an accessible alternative	100/100
A	Summary element missing an accessible name	100/100
A	Page refreshes or redirects without warning (within 20 hours)	100/100
A	Image button missing a text alternative	100/100
A	No data cells assigned to table header	100/100
A	Video with audio missing an accessible alternative	100/100
A	Inline frame missing a text alternative	100/100
A	Image file name is not an appropriate text alternative	100/100
AA	Interactive element does not meet minimum size nor spacing	27.3/100
AA	Content language not recognised	100/100
AA	Heading is not descriptive	76.38/100
AA	Keyboard focus indicator is missing	100/100
AA	Autocomplete does not work as intended	100/100
AA	Colour contrast does not meet minimum requirement	99.81/100
AA	Page orientation is locked	100/100
AA	Video missing an audio-description	100/100
AA	Line height does not meet minimum requirement	100/100
AA	Letter spacing does not meet minimum requirement	100/100
AA	Word spacing does not meet minimum requirement	100/100
AA	Page zoom is restricted	100/100
AAA	Page refreshes or redirects without warning	100/100
AAA	Line height is fixed	100/100
AAA	Line height is below minimum value	17.1/100
AAA	Uneven spacing in text	100/100
AAA	Interactive element does not meet enhanced size	1.44/100

AAA	Colour contrast does not meet enhanced requirement	57.01/100
AAA	Links on the same page with the same text alternative	99.97/100
AAA	Font size is fixed	76.43/100
WAI-ARIA authoring practices	Text not included in an ARIA landmark	13.73/100
WAI-ARIA authoring practices	Page region missing an accessible name	100/100
WAI-ARIA authoring practices	ARIA attribute does not exist	100/100
WAI-ARIA authoring practices	ARIA attribute unsupported or prohibited	34.4/100
WAI-ARIA authoring practices	Invalid state or property	100/100
WAI-ARIA authoring practices	Page sections with the same name do not serve the same purpose	100/100
Accessibility best practices	Improper use of preformatted text element	100/100
Accessibility best practices	Page does not start with a level 1 heading	43.5/100
Accessibility best practices	Grouped form controls missing an accessible name	100/100
Accessibility best practices	Skip to main content link is missing	100/100
Accessibility best practices	Headings are not structured	51.03/100
Accessibility best practices	Presentational element is exposed to assistive technologies	100/100
Accessibility best practices	Font size is too small	100/100
Accessibility best practices	HTML element is deprecated or obsolete	100/100
Accessibility best practices	Some roles are invalid	100/100

Accessibility best practices	Overuse of italics	100/100
Accessibility best practices	Content missing after heading	41.1/100
Accessibility best practices	Page missing headings	100/100
Accessibility best practices	Text in all caps	100/100