

# 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	80.7
Site URL	Last reviewed date
<a href="https://digital-library.theiet.org">https://digital-library.theiet.org</a>	June 2025

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

This website is designed to comply with the [technical standard for websites and mobile apps, EN 301 549, v.3.2.1](#). This closely follows level “AA” of the [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(WCAG\) version 2.2](#).

This website is partially compliant with [technical standard EN 301 549 v.3.2.1](#) and the [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(WCAG\) 2.1 Level AA](#). See ‘Limitations and alternatives’ for more details.

WAI-ARIA markup is used in most components.

Automated monitoring of conformance with accessibility standards, including WCAG 2.2, currently records a score of 81.4 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
<b>Link missing a text alternative</b>	A	2.4.4: Link Purpose (In Context), 2.4.9: Link Purpose (Link Only), 4.1.2: Name, Role, Value	Cognition, Mobility, Vision
<b>Visible label and accessible name do not match</b>	A	2.5.3: Label in Name	Mobility
<b>Menu item missing a text alternative</b>	A	4.1.2: Name, Role, Value	Vision
<b>Links in the same context with the same text alternative</b>	A	2.4.4: Link Purpose (In Context)	Cognition, Mobility, Vision
<b>Container element is empty</b>	A	1.3.1: Info and Relationships	Vision
<b>Empty headings</b>	A	1.3.1: Info and Relationships	Vision

<b>Links are not clearly identifiable</b>	A	1.4.1: Use of Colour	Cognition, Colour perception, Vision
<b>Colour contrast does not meet minimum requirement</b>	AA	1.4.3: Contrast (Minimum)	Colour perception, Vision
<b>Interactive element does not meet minimum size nor spacing</b>	AA	2.5.8: Target Size (Minimum)	Mobility
<b>Interactive element does not meet enhanced size</b>	AAA	2.5.5: Target Size (Enhanced)	Mobility
<b>Colour contrast does not meet enhanced requirement</b>	AAA	1.4.6: Contrast (Enhanced)	Colour perception, Vision
<b>Font size is fixed</b>	AAA	1.4.8: Visual Presentation	Cognition, Reading, Vision
<b>Line height is below minimum value</b>	AAA	1.4.8: Visual Presentation	Cognition, Reading
<b>Links on the same page with the same text alternative</b>	AAA	2.4.9: Link Purpose (Link Only)	Cognition, Vision
<b>Text not included in an ARIA landmark</b>	WAI-ARIA authoring practices	WAI-ARIA authoring practices	Vision
<b>ARIA attribute unsupported or prohibited</b>	WAI-ARIA authoring practices	WAI-ARIA authoring practices	Vision
<b>Invalid state or property</b>	WAI-ARIA authoring practices	WAI-ARIA authoring practices	Vision
<b>Headings are not structured</b>	Accessibility best practices	Accessibility best practices	Cognition, Vision
<b>Page does not start with a level 1 heading</b>	Accessibility best practices	Accessibility best practices	Vision
<b>Content missing after heading</b>	Accessibility best practices	Accessibility best practices	Cognition

## 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.

### All pages:

- Search form in header (in desktop view) is not clearly announced by screen reader
- No visible focus indicator on links in footer (including "Back to top")

### Journals landing page:

- Links in "Publication type" and "Collections" have redundant titles

- Results per page selector is not announced
- Duplicate links to journals (cover image and title)
- Duplicate links to current issue of each journal

#### **Journal home page:**

- Cannot skip secondary nav (About, Contribute etc.); links in secondary nav point to another site
- Redundant title attributes on author links (though not announced)

#### **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 titles?
- Results per page selector is not announced
- 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 by NVDA)

#### **Conferences landing page:**

- Titles of individual conferences are not announced, as link text contains volume and issue number only

#### **Checkout:**

- Visible focus indicator on buttons could be more distinct
- Billing information form: cannot return to the top of the form using keyboard only ("Billing contact" section)
- Focus does not return to incomplete country field (VAT/Tax) on form submission

- Focus is not visible on incomplete field with error message displayed
- Poor contrast on red error message text
- Orphaned form labels (labels are not properly associated with form controls):  
discount code form, card information form
- Billing information is presented using a layout table (this may be confusing for screen reader users)
- Non-text (empty) link on “remove discount” icon
- 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)1438 313311
- Email: [webmaster@theiet.org](mailto:webmaster@theiet.org)
- Post: The IET, Futures Place, Six Hills Way, Stevenage SG1 2UA
- X/Twitter: @TheIET



## Appendix 1 – Detailed breakdown of compliance score

Created: 19/06/2025 12:18:11

Site: Digital Library

Conformance	Issue name	Issue score
A	Page missing a title	100/100
A	Link missing a text alternative	37.11/100
A	All roles are invalid	100/100
A	Button missing a text alternative	100/100
A	Inline frame missing a text alternative	100/100
A	Visible label and accessible name do not match	11.03/100
A	Multiple inline frames with the same text alternative	100/100
A	Required ARIA attribute is missing	100/100
A	Hidden element has focusable content	100/100
A	Image missing a text alternative	100/100
A	Video missing captions	100/100
A	Image button missing a text alternative	100/100
A	Audio missing a transcript	100/100
A	Video without audio missing an accessible alternative	100/100
A	Video with audio missing an accessible alternative	100/100
A	Image file name is not an appropriate text alternative	100/100
A	Page language has not been identified	100/100

<b>A</b>	Role not inside the required context	100/100
<b>A</b>	Vector image missing a text alternative	100/100
<b>A</b>	Table headers aren't referenced correctly	100/100
<b>A</b>	No data cells assigned to table header	100/100
<b>A</b>	Page language not recognised	100/100
<b>A</b>	Audio plays automatically and can't be switched off	100/100
<b>A</b>	Field input error is not announced in full	100/100
<b>A</b>	Page language tags don't match	100/100
<b>A</b>	Links are not clearly identifiable	37.01/100
<b>A</b>	Object missing a text alternative	100/100
<b>A</b>	Empty headings	75.19/100
<b>A</b>	Decorative image is exposed to assistive technologies	100/100
<b>A</b>	Container element is empty	28.42/100
<b>A</b>	Table header cell is missing a header role	100/100
<b>A</b>	Table cell missing context	100/100
<b>A</b>	Form field missing a label	100/100
<b>A</b>	Links in the same context with the same text alternative	99.95/100
<b>A</b>	Scrollable element is not keyboard accessible	100/100
<b>A</b>	Page refreshes or redirects without warning (within 20 hours)	100/100

<b>A</b>	Role with implied hidden content has keyboard focus	100/100
<b>A</b>	Menu item missing a text alternative	26.64/100
<b>AA</b>	Autocomplete does not work as intended	100/100
<b>AA</b>	Interactive element does not meet minimum size nor spacing	25.01/100
<b>AA</b>	Video missing an audio-description	100/100
<b>AA</b>	Page orientation is locked	100/100
<b>AA</b>	Page zoom is restricted	100/100
<b>AA</b>	Line height does not meet minimum requirement	100/100
<b>AA</b>	Colour contrast does not meet minimum requirement	96.02/100
<b>AA</b>	Content language not recognised	100/100
<b>AA</b>	Text is clipped when resized	100/100
<b>AA</b>	Letter spacing does not meet minimum requirement	100/100
<b>AA</b>	Word spacing does not meet minimum requirement	100/100
<b>AA</b>	Keyboard focus indicator is missing	100/100
<b>AAA</b>	Interactive element does not meet enhanced size	1.35/100
<b>AAA</b>	Links on the same page with the same text alternative	99.97/100
<b>AAA</b>	Colour contrast does not meet enhanced requirement	72.72/100
<b>AAA</b>	Uneven spacing in text	100/100
<b>AAA</b>	Line height is below minimum value	4.42/100
<b>AAA</b>	Font size is fixed	63.61/100
<b>AAA</b>	Line height is fixed	100/100

<b>AAA</b>	Page refreshes or redirects without warning	100/100
<b>WAI-ARIA authoring practices</b>	Invalid state or property	81.38/100
<b>WAI-ARIA authoring practices</b>	Page region missing an accessible name	100/100
<b>WAI-ARIA authoring practices</b>	ARIA attribute unsupported or prohibited	33.65/100
<b>WAI-ARIA authoring practices</b>	ARIA attribute does not exist	100/100
<b>WAI-ARIA authoring practices</b>	Text not included in an ARIA landmark	6.61/100
<b>WAI-ARIA authoring practices</b>	Page sections with the same name do not serve the same purpose	100/100
<b>Accessibility best practices</b>	Text in all caps	100/100
<b>Accessibility best practices</b>	Font size is too small	100/100
<b>Accessibility best practices</b>	Content missing after heading	21.06/100
<b>Accessibility best practices</b>	Improper use of preformatted text element	100/100
<b>Accessibility best practices</b>	Overuse of italics	100/100
<b>Accessibility best practices</b>	Presentational element is exposed to assistive technologies	100/100
<b>Accessibility best practices</b>	HTML element is deprecated or obsolete	100/100
<b>Accessibility best practices</b>	Page does not start with a level 1 heading	48.7/100
<b>Accessibility best practices</b>	Skip to main content link is missing	100/100
<b>Accessibility best practices</b>	Page missing headings	100/100
<b>Accessibility best practices</b>	Headings are not structured	30.76/100

<b>Accessibility best practices</b>	Some roles are invalid	100/100
<b>Accessibility best practices</b>	Grouped form controls missing an accessible name	100/100