

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	86.0
Site URL	Last reviewed date
https://digital-library.theiet.org	27/02/2025

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

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 86.0 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
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
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
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
Font size is fixed	AAA	1.4.8: Visual Presentation	Cognition, Reading, Vision
Text not included in an ARIA landmark	WAI-ARIA authoring practices	WAI-ARIA authoring practices	Vision
Invalid state or property	WAI-ARIA authoring practices	WAI-ARIA authoring practices	Vision
Content missing after heading	Accessibility best practices	Accessibility best practices	Cognition
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

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
- Post: The IET, Futures Place, Six Hills Way, Stevenage SG1 2UA
- X/Twitter: @TheIET

Appendix 1 – Detailed breakdown of compliance score

Conformance	Issue name	Issue score
A	Page missing a title	100/100
A	Link missing a text alternative	74.17/100
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	0.06/100
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
A	Role not inside the required context	100/100
A	Vector image missing a text alternative	100/100
A	Table headers aren't referenced correctly	100/100
A	No data cells assigned to table header	100/100
A	Page language not recognised	100/100
A	Audio plays automatically and can't be switched off	100/100
A	Field input error is not announced in full	100/100
A	Page language tags don't match	100/100
A	Links are not clearly identifiable	100/100

A	Object missing a text alternative	100/100
A	Empty headings	71.73/100
A	Decorative image is exposed to assistive technologies	100/100
A	Container element is empty	28.27/100
A	Table header cell is missing a header role	100/100
A	Table cell missing context	100/100
A	Form field missing a label	100/100
A	Links in the same context with the same text alternative	86.61/100
A	Scrollable element is not keyboard accessible	100/100
A	Page refreshes or redirects without warning (within 20 hours)	100/100
A	Role with implied hidden content has keyboard focus	100/100
A	Menu item missing a text alternative	100/100
AA	Autocomplete does not work as intended	100/100
AA	Interactive element does not meet minimum size nor spacing	100/100
AA	Video missing an audio-description	100/100
AA	Page orientation is locked	100/100
AA	Page zoom is restricted	100/100
AA	Line height does not meet minimum requirement	100/100
AA	Colour contrast does not meet minimum requirement	53.28/100
AA	Content language not recognised	100/100
AA	Text is clipped when resized	100/100
AA	Letter spacing does not meet minimum requirement	100/100
AA	Word spacing does not meet minimum requirement	100/100
AA	Keyboard focus indicator is missing	100/100
AAA	Interactive element does not meet enhanced size	1.53/100
AAA	Links on the same page with the same text alternative	93.57/100
AAA	Colour contrast does not meet enhanced requirement	35.05/100
AAA	Uneven spacing in text	100/100

AAA	Line height is below minimum value	27.35/100
AAA	Font size is fixed	42.16/100
AAA	Line height is fixed	100/100
AAA	Page refreshes or redirects without warning	100/100
WAI-ARIA authoring practices	Invalid state or property	81.72/100
WAI-ARIA authoring practices	Page region missing an accessible name	100/100
WAI-ARIA authoring practices	ARIA attribute unsupported or prohibited	100/100
WAI-ARIA authoring practices	ARIA attribute does not exist	100/100
WAI-ARIA authoring practices	Text not included in an ARIA landmark	10.94/100
WAI-ARIA authoring practices	Page sections with the same name do not serve the same purpose	100/100
Accessibility best practices	Text in all caps	100/100
Accessibility best practices	Font size is too small	100/100
Accessibility best practices	Content missing after heading	78.29/100
Accessibility best practices	Improper use of preformatted text element	100/100
Accessibility best practices	Overuse of italics	100/100
Accessibility best practices	Presentational element is exposed to assistive technologies	100/100
Accessibility best practices	HTML element is deprecated or obsolete	100/100
Accessibility best practices	Page does not start with a level 1 heading	46.66/100
Accessibility best practices	Skip to main content link is missing	100/100
Accessibility best practices	Page missing headings	100/100
Accessibility best practices	Headings are not structured	74.41/100
Accessibility best practices	Some roles are invalid	100/100
Accessibility best practices	Grouped form controls missing an accessible name	100/100