

Disclaimer: This resource provides general guidance and is not legal advice. Consult qualified counsel for jurisdiction-specific requirements.



ADA Compliance Checklist

Digital accessibility compliance verification framework

Prepared by: Halytic

Version: 1.0

Date: October 18, 2025

Standards: ADA Title III, WCAG 2.2 AA, Section 508

Disclaimer: This checklist supports ADA compliance efforts but is not legal advice. Consult qualified counsel for specific legal requirements.

ADA Compliance Checklist

Use this comprehensive checklist to verify digital accessibility compliance under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Title III and related regulations.

Legal Context

ADA Title III requires places of public accommodation to provide equal access to goods and services, including digital platforms. The **Department of Justice (DOJ)** and courts have consistently interpreted this to include websites and mobile applications.

Technical Standard: WCAG 2.0/2.1 Level AA (DOJ guidance and industry standard)

1. Perceivable Information

1.1 Text Alternatives

- ☐ All images have appropriate alt text
- ☐ Decorative images use alt=""
- ☐ Complex graphics have long descriptions
- ☐ Icons have accessible names
- ☐ Audio/video content has captions or transcripts

1.2 Time-based Media

- ☐ Videos have synchronized captions
- ☐ Audio-only content has transcripts
- ☐ Media players have accessible controls
- ☐ Caption quality is accurate and synchronized

1.3 Adaptable Content

- ☐ Content can be presented without losing information
- ☐ Heading hierarchy is logical (H1 → H2 → H3)

- ☐ Form fields are properly labeled
- ☐ Tables have headers (<th>) and scope attributes
- ☐ Lists use semantic HTML (,)

1.4 Distinguishable Content

- ☐ Text contrast ratio meets WCAG AA (4.5:1 for normal text, 3:1 for large text)
- ☐ Color is not the only means of conveying information
- ☐ Text can be resized up to 200% without loss of functionality
- ☐ Images of text are avoided (except logos)
- ☐ No content flashes more than 3 times per second

2. Operable Interface

2.1 Keyboard Accessible

- ☐ All functionality is keyboard accessible
- ☐ No keyboard traps
- ☐ Focus order is logical
- ☐ Focus indicators are visible
- ☐ Skip links are provided for main content

2.2 Enough Time

- ☐ Time limits can be turned off, adjusted, or extended
- ☐ Auto-updating content can be paused, stopped, or hidden
- ☐ No automatic timeouts without warning

2.3 Seizures and Physical Reactions

- ☐ No content flashes more than 3 times per second
- ☐ Motion animations can be disabled (prefers-reduced-motion)

2.4 Navigable

- ☐ Multiple ways to find pages (navigation, search, sitemap)
- ☐ Page titles are descriptive and unique
- ☐ Link text is descriptive (not "click here")
- ☐ Headings and labels are descriptive

- ☐ Focus order is logical

2.5 Input Modalities

- ☐ All functionality is available via keyboard
- ☐ Touch targets are at least 44×44 pixels
- ☐ Gestures have keyboard alternatives

3. Understandable Information

3.1 Readable

- ☐ Language is identified in HTML (lang attribute)
- ☐ Abbreviations are defined
- ☐ Unusual words are explained
- ☐ Reading level is appropriate for the audience

3.2 Predictable

- ☐ Navigation is consistent across pages
- ☐ Components with the same functionality are identified consistently
- ☐ Changes of context are initiated only by user request
- ☐ No unexpected pop-ups or redirects

3.3 Input Assistance

- ☐ Errors are identified and described
- ☐ Labels or instructions are provided for inputs
- ☐ Error suggestions are provided
- ☐ Error prevention (reversible, confirmed, checked)

4. Robust Implementation

4.1 Compatible

- ☐ Valid HTML markup
- ☐ Proper use of ARIA attributes
- ☐ Custom components have accessible names, roles, and states

- ☐ Status messages are announced to assistive technologies

5. Testing & Documentation

Automated Testing

- ☐ Axe DevTools or similar automated scanner used
- ☐ Lighthouse accessibility audit run
- ☐ Critical issues identified and documented

Manual Testing

- ☐ Keyboard-only navigation tested
- ☐ Screen reader testing (NVDA, JAWS, VoiceOver)
- ☐ Zoom testing (200% and 400%)
- ☐ Color contrast verified with tools

Documentation

- ☐ Accessibility statement published
- ☐ Known issues documented with remediation plans
- ☐ Feedback mechanism provided
- ☐ Remediation timeline established

6. Remediation Priority

Critical (Immediate)

- ☐ Keyboard traps
- ☐ Missing alt text on primary images
- ☐ Focus indicators removed
- ☐ Form fields without labels

High (30 days)

- ☐ Contrast failures
- ☐ Missing ARIA labels on custom components
- ☐ Heading structure issues

- ☐ Modal accessibility

Medium (90 days)

- ☐ Link text improvements
- ☐ Caption quality
- ☐ Skip link implementation
- ☐ Color coding alternatives

7. Ongoing Compliance

- ☐ Accessibility testing integrated into development workflow
- ☐ Automated checks in CI/CD pipeline
- ☐ Regular manual audits scheduled
- ☐ Training provided to development team
- ☐ Accessibility statement reviewed quarterly

Enforcement & Legal Considerations

DOJ Enforcement: Department of Justice can investigate complaints and seek injunctive relief and civil penalties.

Private Lawsuits: Individuals can file lawsuits seeking injunctive relief and attorneys' fees.

Penalties: Up to \$75,000 for first violation, \$150,000 for subsequent violations.

Best Practice: Maintain documentation of accessibility efforts, testing results, and remediation activities.

Sign-off

Reviewed By: _____ **Date:** _____

Technical Lead: _____ **Date:** _____

Legal Review: _____ **Date:** _____

Next Review Date: _____