Dreaming of Accessible Development

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a11yTO Conference



Warning

I'll be talking about my accessibility experience



Img. description: A dog trying to assure himself that everything is fine, despite sitting in a room that is engulfed in flames

Slides



https://bit.ly/dreaming-a11y-development

Scan me!



He / Him

Hola!

Senior Manager - Accenture

Accessibility Lead (a11y fixer)

Pet Lover (cats & dogs)

Knowledge collector

Meme lover



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What is accessible development?

Let's start with what's not

My website passes all automated tests

Automated tools only cover XYZ%

Click here to fix all issues

We have a button that can fix all your website issues, and we use artificial intelligence.

Conform to [acronym here]

[acronym] is a minimum standard, not a comprehensive solution

Your responsibility*

you're part of a team / collective / group / organization



Img. description: Drake saying no (meme)

Accessible development is

The practice of creating websites and web applications that can be used by all individuals, especially those with disabilities.

The goal is to ensure that content and functionality are accessible to people with various types of impairments.



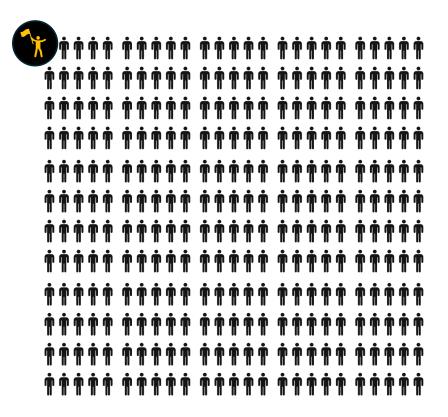
Img. description: Drake saying yes (meme)

A practice requires

- Leadership commitment
- Inclusive mindset & support
- Proactive accessibility in design & development
- Cross functional collaboration
- Tools, resources, and processes
- Continuous learning & training
- Metrics & KPIs
- Regular Tests with people with disabilities
- Accessible communication & customer support
- Empower employees with disabilities



Who is	s responsib	ole for <mark>acce</mark>	essible dev	velopment?









a11y SME



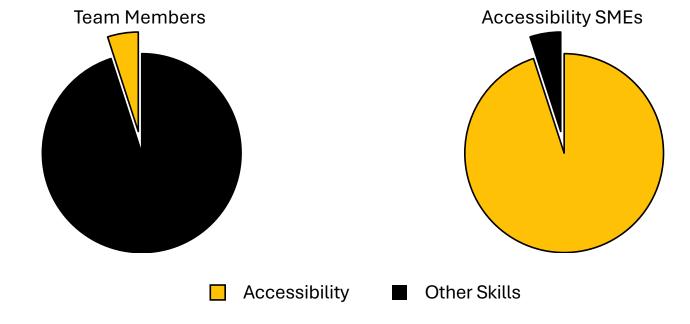
Project Members



multiple projects



multiple countries



Sometimes it feels like me,

and only me...



Img. description: three Images from Netflix Series showing Pablo Escobar alone waiting for things to happen.

What I think works

What I think works

Get business support

(reactive or proactive)

• Shift left(er), up, down, right

(reactive vs pro-active)

Learn by doing

(training is great, doing is better)

Document

(if you have learned something, document it!)

If requirements are not concise or clear, mistakes are inevitable

What I think works

- Improve design intent annotations (communicate intent and usage)
- Component Name / Structure (clear expectations / requirements)
- Hidden Elements
 (how do you communicate what you can't see)
- Content Priority
 (Priority flow, heading order, focus order)



Decorative image

What I think works

• Keyboard interaction (ENTER, SPACE, ESC, TAB, ... etc.)

• ARIA requirements (I.E.: show / hide elements)

- Special interactions (click here > this happens)
- Dynamic Content (warning, error, success messages)



Decorative image

Some examples

(if time permits) if not...

Thank you

Example 1: Clear Acceptance Criteria

Accordion

Accordion component lets users show and hide sections of related content on a page.

By following these criteria, you can ensure your component is accessible and usable by a wide range of users, including those with disabilities. Use the following buttons to copy the criteria into your clipboard and import into JIRA or Azure Devops

Copy Criteria (TEXT)

Download Criteria (zip)

Gherkin Format

- WHEN I use a keyboard and screenreader and move focus to the accordion panel
- I SEE it receives a visible focus outline
- I HEAR its purpose is clear
- I HEAR it identifies its role of a button
- I HEAR it expresses its state (expanded/collapsed)
- THEN I activate the accordion panel by
- Desktop: SPACEBAR or ENTER key
- Mobile: double tapping
- · AND
- I SEE the hidden content is revealed

Img. Description: Accessibility acceptance criteria (AC) for an Accordion component, including description & AC Gherkin Format

Anatomy

- Heading: section title button, reveals / hides the content panel (interactive).
- 2. Icon: Indicates if the panel is open or closed (not interactive).
- 3. **Content panel:** section of content associated with the accordion heading (not interactive).



Img. Description: Accordion component anatomy description

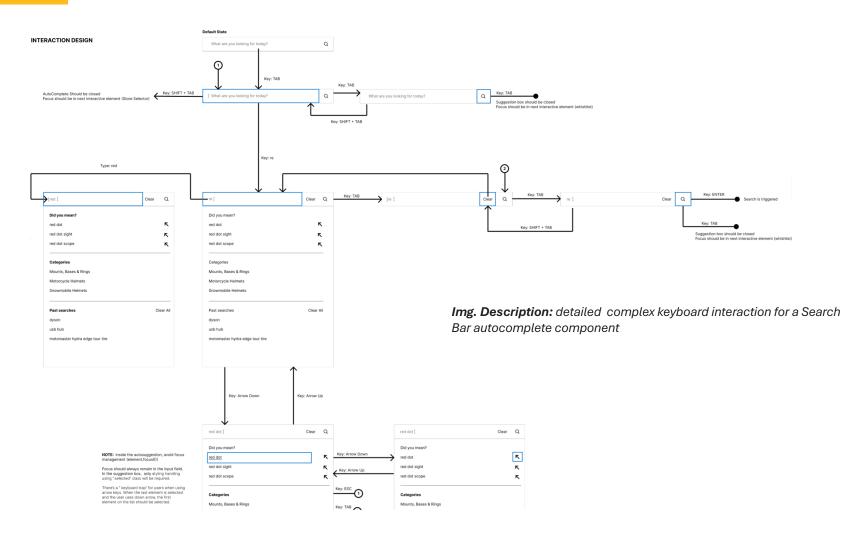
Example 2: complex component interactions

What are you looking for today?

Q

Img. Description: search bar component, with placeholder text: what are you looking for today? and a magnifier icon on the right

Example 2: complex component interactions

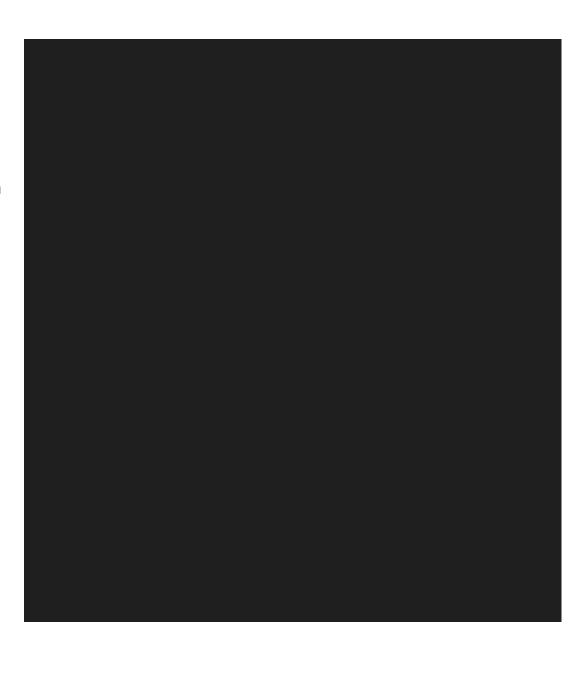


Example 3: focus order / heading hierarchy

Not only it indicates an order, but it also helps communicate design intent on user interaction (interactive elements).



Img. Description: a card component with an image, a blue font text, a title, description text and a button



Example 3: focus order / heading hierarchy

Not only it indicates an order, but it also helps communicate design intent on user interaction (interactive elements).



Img. Description: HTML code example to represent the card on the left

Example 3: focus order / heading hierarchy

Not only it indicates an order, but it also helps communicate design intent on user interaction (interactive elements).



```
<a href="greece.html">
                                         Missing alt text
 <img src="santonni.jpg />
                                Error
                                         Missing alt text translation
   <a href="Greece.html">Greece</a>
                                    Skipping heading level
 <h2> Santorini </h2>
                            Error
 Santorini is a stunning destination
      that boasts breathtaking views. It should be
     on the bucket list of every traveler
     who loves nature.
 <button onClick="openModal('Santorini')">Learn More</button>
                                                 Learn more not descriptive
                                                    Nested links/buttons
```

Img. Description: card code with highlighted accessibility errors

