

Learnlight Accessibility

What is accessibility?

Web accessibility means giving equal access to information and functionality to all users, regardless of their physical or cognitive disability.

Web accessibility tends to also benefit people without disabilities, for example:

- » people using mobile phones, smart watches, smart TVs, and other devices with small screens, different input modes, etc.
- » older people with changing abilities due to ageing
- » people with “temporary disabilities” such as a broken arm or lost glasses
- » people with “situational limitations” such as in bright sunlight or in an environment where they cannot listen to audio
- » people using a slow Internet connection, or who have limited or expensive bandwidth

Who gets the benefits of accessible websites?

At a user level: everyone. Designing for extreme cases has been proved to be the best way to cover all possible circumstances in which the user can make use of the platform, and it also enforces the most easy-to-get way to interact with a system.

At a company level: Social inclusion is a legal requirement for most big companies. Providing a platform that gives them the possibility to access the same functionalities and content is essential to maintain equality among all workers.

Not to forget that access to information and communications technologies, is defined as a basic human right in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN CRPD).

Learnlight Compliance with Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG)

WCAG 2.0 is a stable, referenceable technical standard developed by the Accessibility Guidelines Working Group, which is part of the **World Wide Web Consortium** (W3C). It has 12 guidelines that are organized under 4 principles: perceivable, operable, understandable, and robust. For each guideline, there are testable success criteria, which are at three levels: A, AA, and AAA.

Learnlight is compliant with WCAG 2.0 Guidelines, at AA level, and has also passed an accessibility audit performed by T-Systems Multimedia Solutions GmbH's Test and Integration Center, which is an accredited software testing laboratory.

Even though each country has its own standard principles for web accessibility, all of them are based on WCAG, and take these regulations as a base to make their own version, which is why these guidelines are the ones that were taken as the standard to make the Learnlight platform compliant.

Platform accessibility has been considered in a way to make it particularly accessible for people with auditory, physical or partial visual impairment.

[Learnlight platform detailed application of the WCAG 2.0 principles](#)

The following section summarizes the accessibility standards that we have aimed to achieve in the Learnlight platform, together with the areas of necessary compromises. We have designed our platform to be non-discriminatory and in accordance with best practice guidelines defined by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) as far as is technically possible. We set out its attributes and limitations in this section. Our learning platform meets the following 4 criteria:

- » Perceivable
- » Operable
- » Understandable
- » Robust

Perceivable

We make every effort to ensure that content can be perceived in a useful way by most browsers, including text-only browsers used by blind or visually impaired users.

- » All page layout has been achieved using a combination of <div> elements and a CSS style sheet, as is required by the latest accessibility guidelines. In particular, <table> elements were used only for tabular data, never for layout or positioning.
- » Content elements have been presented in the correct hierarchy and sequence so that they may degrade gracefully when presented in limited browsers, like for example text-only browsers. This applies in particular to navigation menus, headers, footers and headings.
- » All navigation menus are presented as unordered lists, as recommended.
- » Non-text content, including images, video and audio, has a descriptive text alternative, as recommended.
- » Color is not used as the only visual means of conveying information or indicating an action, and minimum contrast is preserved.

- » Different CSS stylesheets have been used for different media, where appropriate, to ensure the same content is rendered differently depending on the final intent.

The result is an extraordinarily accessible web application, even when viewed with a text-only browser, which is perhaps the most extreme accessibility test of all.

The platform is very perceivable even in a text-only browser. However, there is some content that, by its very nature, cannot possibly be presented in some browsers or perceived by some users. In particular, this includes any audio and video content and for these we provide alternative text that can act as a placeholder for text-only browsers.

Operable

We have ensured that maximum functionality is accessible from a keyboard. In particular, when viewed in a text-only browser, all links, including navigation menus, are clearly presented so that they can be selected with a keyboard.

Furthermore, keyboard shortcuts allow users to navigate to common pages and sections with a single keypress. While originally intended for power users, this is a convenient shortcut for users that prefer or require keyboard input.

To help the user navigate, find content and determine where they are, we have designed our header, footer, navigation menus and headings in a way that is both clear and coherent with the full visual version of the page. In particular, in the text-only version the title and navigation menu is presented at the top of every page, so the user may navigate out of a page quickly, and each section of content is preceded by a heading of appropriate depth, so that the user understands its relative context.

Understandable

We have put great effort to make our platform clear, intuitive and understandable. We pride ourselves in using clear and concise language, with a direct informal style, avoiding unusual words and technical jargon. Where possible, we use no language at all, relying on the structure and layout to do much of the communication.

One of the best ways to make the platform understandable is to ensure it is in the local language of the user. To this end, we have ensured the platform is available in 16 languages, translated and verified by local software translation specialists local to each area.

Finally, we are consistent in our visual and structural paradigm. All navigation menus, headings, links, buttons, input forms and other content are presented in the same way to ensure consistent and coherent user experience. Media-dependent style sheets ensure that the content is consistent and can degrade in a controlled way in more limited browsers.

Robust

The best way to be widely compatible, now and in the future, is to be as standard compliant as possible. We are obsessive about using standard technologies, deviating only where absolutely necessary and

justified. In particular, we use strict HTML5, CSS3, ES5/6 for the browser layer, and use jQuery and jQuery UI to ensure compatibility across browsers that deviate from the standard implementations. This ensures we are compatible with all major browsers, including all major desktop ones (Chrome, Firefox, IE11+, Edge 13+, Safari) and key mobile ones in iOS and Android.