

Screen Reader Compatibility Guide

SVG Accessibility & WCAG 2.2 Guidelines

About This Document

This reference accompanies the article: SVG Accessibility & WCAG 2.2 Guidelines

Read the full article at: <https://svgeneration.com/docs/svg-accessibility-wcag>

Article Summary

Making SVG patterns accessible: contrast requirements, screen reader considerations, and motion sensitivity guidelines.

Prefers-Contrast

The prefers-contrast: more media query detects users who have requested increased contrast (e.g., Windows High Contrast Mode, macOS Increase Contrast). When active, replace subtle tonal patterns with higher-contrast versions, or remove them entirely and show a solid background colour. This dramatically improves readability for users with low vision.

Focus Indicators Over Patterns

When interactive elements (links, buttons, form fields) appear over patterned backgrounds, their CSS focus outline must remain visible against the pattern at all points. The WCAG 2.2 Focus Appearance criterion requires a focus indicator with a 3:1 contrast against both the focused component and the adjacent background. Use a double-ring outline (white ring + coloured ring) for maximum visibility over any background.

Free Resources

Visit SVGeneration.com for 600 free SVG background patterns. No attribution required.

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