

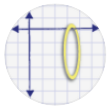
perpendicular angel design

organizing and simplifying, one illumination at a time

AN EVENT APART OT 2021: ACCESSIBILITY AND PROGRESSIVE ENHANCEMENT: A FRAMEWORK FOR A MORE INCLUSIVE WEB BY SARA SOUeidAN

Next up: an encore presentation of Sara Soueidan's presentation (from last year?)
Accessibility and Progressive Enhancement: A Framework for a More inclusive Web. Sara
was unable to record a new talk this year because **Lebanon is in a sustained food and
fuel crisis.**

Because this year I used Twitter's threading / topics feature, it's giving me 2 tweets in
each embed I do here. I'm embedding every other tweet for readability. There's a PDF at
the bottom of the page in case this all collapses.



Anne Gibson @perpendicularme · Oct 12, 2021

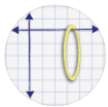


Replying to @perpendicularme

Sara starts out describing the demos that Adobe did years ago for new CSS features.

Adobe brought Food Network's Cupcakes app to the web. It was optimized for the context for which it was going to be used.

[#aeaot](#)



Anne Gibson

@perpendicularme

You want a way to navigate the app without getting your dirty hands on the screen because you're cooking. They built voice navigation for the application. They also built gestural input

[Now I am hungry for cupcakes.]

[#aeaot](#)

1:43 PM · Oct 12, 2021

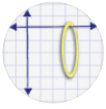


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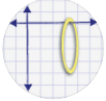
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They added the ability to adjust the recipe by number of cupcakes, and a timer as well.

The application was built with the user in mind. #aeaot



Anne Gibson
@perpendicularme

Voice and hand gestures make the web app more inclusive, are human, and more memorable. This was from 10 years ago.

accessibility doesn't have to be a burden.

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1:46 PM · Oct 12, 2021

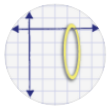


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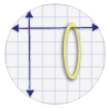
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"Expanding interactions to become more inclusive and seeing diversity differently: as a dynamic inspiration for creatives"
Microsoft, on inclusive experiences

[#aeaot](#)



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Some people are born with permanent disabilities. Others might have temporary disability. Situational disabilities also occur. Over 1 billion people live with some form of disability. [#aeaot](#)

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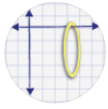


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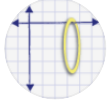
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The more you work on accessibility the more efficiently you do it and it becomes less of a burden. you can cover a lot of ground and build resilient experiences by building a solid foundation.

[#aeaot](#)



Anne Gibson

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Semantic markup is part of that foundation. Semantic — descriptive, and providing meaning — HTML means using the correct element for the structure and meaning of the content. [#aeaot](#)

1:49 PM · Oct 12, 2021

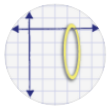


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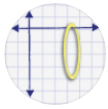
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Screen reading software rely on html semantics to help screen reader users navigate efficiently.

Here there's a video of VoiceOver and the rotor to jump to different parts of the information. [#aeaot](#)



Anne Gibson

@perpendicularme

What if you don't have textual headers because the sighted user can infer information from the page?

Sara built the basic structure of the page, then tested. Headings were a problem, landmarks were a problem.

Add a heading exposed only to screen readers. [#aeaot](#)

1:55 PM · Oct 12, 2021

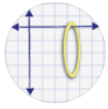


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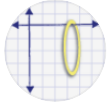


Anne Gibson @perpendicularme · Oct 12, 2021



Replying to @perpendicularme

Being familiar with how screen readers navigate the page and use headings, semantic markup regularly. it will help you figure out what the bugs are before you introduce them. #aeaot



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@perpendicularme

You can use aria-labelledby to ensure that the right parts are labeled even when the text is outside of the landmark that it refers to. #aeaot

1:59 PM · Oct 12, 2021



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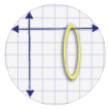


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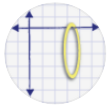
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Use HTML 5 landmarks.

Provide headings where needed and follow proper heading order on the page.

Don't skip headings. If it doesn't look like the right size, adjust your CSS.

If a heading is to be visually hidden, provide one for screen reader users. [#aeaot](#)



Anne Gibson

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80% of respondents will use regions to navigate, but only if you provide them. Otherwise you're building a frustrating and accessible page.

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2:01 PM · Oct 12, 2021



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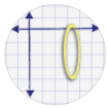


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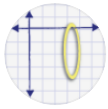
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Displaying a list of products on a page and its add to cart buttons is a standard e-commerce pattern.

If you navigate the page with voiceover 50 buttons that say 'add to cart' are pretty damn useless [#aeaot](#)



Anne Gibson
@perpendicularme

You could make the buttons more specific - "add [product name] to cart".

Inserting visually hidden strings of text to visual text is bad by the way, it can break the experience for people using voice recognition software. [#aeaot](#)

2:07 PM · Oct 12, 2021



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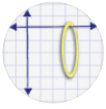


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The next tweet references a video by Level Access, which you can find here:





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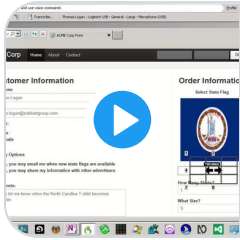


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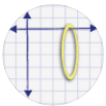
Watch a demo by @LevelAccessA11y on how Dragon Naturally Speaking works if you haven't seen a voice interface in action before.

youtu.be/kJKQmTumFP0

#aeaot



Web Accessibility 101: Dragon NaturallySpeaking Demo
See how this speech recognition software ...
[youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)



Anne Gibson
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Visual labels are important for people using voice interfaces — if you have hidden text in the middle of a string, like a button name, the voice interface will break.

We can fix a scenario for one person and break it for someone else. It's a challenge.

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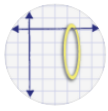


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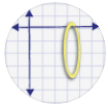


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If you're going to add hidden extra text to a visual label, make sure it's at the end of the string. [#aeaot](#)



Anne Gibson

@perpendicularme

Dot navigation in carousels can be hard for visual labels. Users might need to use voice commands for tab. The next option is to show a label on focus. Don't make the users use the mouse grid if you don't absolutely have to.

[#aeaot](#)

2:17 PM · Oct 12, 2021



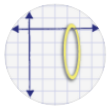
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I always feel obligated to link to [fuck carousels](#) whenever someone mentions restyling them. Yes, they should be accessible if you have to use them, but for god's sake do everything you can not to use them. Anyway, moving on...



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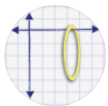
Icons and icon buttons also need visible labels on tab for voice control users.

They have other challenges too.

You can inspect elements using your browser's dev tools - check the accessibility tab.

2 most important attributes are accessible name and role.

[#aeaot](#)



Anne Gibson

@perpendicularme

There are lots of way to hide content from screens.

* clip path: inset (100%)

* opacity: 0

* visibility: hidden;

* display: none.

The bottom 2 also hide from screen readers so they're the wrong tools. [#aeaot](#)

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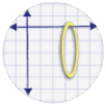


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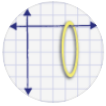
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HTML "hidden" attribute is the html equivalent of display:none.

aria-hidden attribute helps hide duplicative content.

Make sure that the text next to an icon and the icon either have different meanings, or hide one of them from screen readers.

[#aeaot](#)



Anne Gibson

@perpendicularme

[@SaraSoueidan](#) provides a lot of good detail in this talk and is getting into code at this point. You should sign up for [@aneventapart](#) so you can get access to the code.

[#aeaot](#)

2:23 PM · Oct 12, 2021



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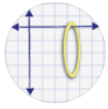


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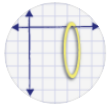


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Creating a .visually-hidden utility class on text (specifically text) is the most efficient way to hide text. #aeaot



Anne Gibson

@perpendicularme

the aria-label attribute will let you add a label on a button without a visual text label. aria-label overrides the content of the button. These contents aren't translatable so be aware of impacts on translation tools.

#aeaot

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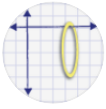


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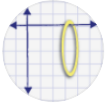


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you can also expose button text to screen readers via the `aria-labelledby` attribute. The value comes from the element ID it points to. This technique provides the name of the button in a span that's hidden. CSS isn't needed for this technique. The contents are translatable [#aeaot](#)



Anne Gibson
@perpendicularme

Read [sarasoueidan.com/blog/accessible...](https://sarasoueidan.com/blog/accessible-icon-buttons) for more information on accessible icon buttons [#aeaot](#)



Accessible Icon Buttons

sarasoueidan.com

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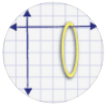


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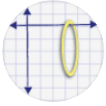
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You may need to hide native interactive elements accessibly - such as when restyling checkboxes or radio buttons, which can't be restyled otherwise.

[#aeaot](#)



Anne Gibson
@perpendicularme

Using the `.visually-hidden` utility class or moving the checkbox off canvas with absolute positioning to hide the native checkbox will also hide the checkboxes by touch. Android touch devices allow screen reader users to touch the screen and hear interactive elements.

[#aeaot](#)

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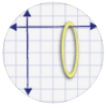


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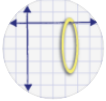


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Hide the checkbox visually but leave it present: First use absolute positioning to put it under the SVG checkbox you mad, then visually hide it by setting its opacity to 0. Then add aria-hidden and focusable="false" for the native checkbox. #aeaot



Anne Gibson

@perpendicularme

Read sarasoueidan.com/blog/inclusive... for more information on these techniques #aeaot



Inclusively Hiding & Styling Checkboxes and Radio Buttons

sarasoueidan.com

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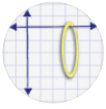


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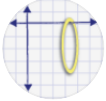


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optimize keyboard navigation! First, you must provide accessible focus styles. Then, use tab index and aria to make it easier to navigate. You want users to be able to navigate quickly. #aeaot



Anne Gibson
@perpendicularme

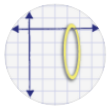
For example, a blog might have thumbnail, post title, and read more link on each article on a menu page... all of which go to the same article. The more posts there are the longer the tabbing journey will be. This happens a lot on news and long form writing sites. #aeaot

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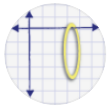


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If you're repeating yourself like this, prevent the extra links from being tabbed using `tab index = -1` and hid the link from screen readers using `aria-hidden true` so that the screen reader doesn't expose a link to screen reader users that they can't actually use. [#aeaot](#)



Anne Gibson
@perpendicularme

Make sure that you're not breaking the experience — make sure it's still easy to access the article. [#aeaot](#)

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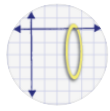


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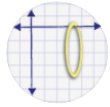


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There is no "one rule fits all" #aeaot



Anne Gibson

@perpendicularme

Read sarasoueidan.com/blog/keyboard-... for more information on this technique.

While you're at it, sarasoueidan.com/blog/ is a link to all @SaraSoueidan's blog posts and they are full of gold. #aeaot



Blog

sarasoueidan.com

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Here's a PDF of this post (which might not be accessible because I'm using print-to-PDF to generate it, my apologies) in case Twitter kicks it and all the tweets disappear. **[An Event Apart OT 2021 Accessibility and Progressive Enhancement: A Framework for a More inclusive Web by Sara Soueidan – Perpendicular Angel Design](#)**