



FOREST PATHWAYS

Your accessibility journey starts here.

Accessible Names

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Description

An accessible name is a string or words that are attached to an element. This provides additional information for screen readers beyond the elements code.

An accessible name is a short string of words providing meaning to an element which is useful for screen readers.

Why

Screen readers encountering a button will read the code <button> and that doesn't provide enough information to inform the screen reader what action will take place if it is pressed.

A button indicates an action is going to happen if clicked and not to be confused with a link which is not an action.

An example of a button might be a button on a website to enable a mobile app to be launched. In this instance the screen would need to know this.

How

For each <button> element, provide an accessible name using one of the following methods. For this example we have a button with an image with the word find visible.

Good

- title attribute

Better

- aria-label attribute
- aria-labelledby attribute referencing visible text

Best

Inner text that's available to assistive technologies (not marked with display: none or aria-hidden="true")

Example

Fail - This button contains an image of binoculars to visually convey its purpose, but it doesn't have an accessible name. People who use assistive technologies can't determine its purpose.

```
<button id="find"></button>
```

Pass - Visible inner text gives the button an accessible name. Its purpose is communicated to everyone

```
<button id="find">Find</button>
```