COURSE: MAKING POWERPOINTS ACCESSIBLE

Screen #	Content (Text on Screen)	Graphic Description or Links
1	1. WELCOME	Image:
_		Making PowerPoints Accessible
	IMAGE: Making PowerPoints Accessible	
	SCRIPT:	
	In this course we will step through the ways to make 2016	MAKING POWERPOINTS ACCESSIBLE
	PowerPoints (PC/MAC) accessible. While all screenshots are	
	from a PC, these practices transfer to a Mac. However, the	
	location of some items will be different.	M
	Ma will begin with a foundations protest, and then evalors the	
	We will begin with a foundations pretest, and then explore the benefits of accessible PowerPoints. Next, we will learn how to	
	make PowerPoints accessible from planning to presentation. We	
	will wrap up with an opportunity to Practice your Skills .	
	To get started, click on the Next arrow below.	
2	2.1. FOUNDATIONS PRETEST	Canvas Embedded Quiz :
	The following protect will gether information about what you	5 Multiple Choice questions
	The following pretest will gather information about what you already know regarding making PowerPoints accessible. There are	
	5 possible points. You will see the correct answers once you	
	complete the pretest.	
	Question 1: Making PowerPoints accessible benefits the creator of the document.	
	True	
	False	
	Question 2: Using Alt Text for an image is not always necessary.	
	True	
	False	
	Question 3: Selecting an accessible PowerPoint template guarantees accessibility.	
	True	
	 	1
	False	
	Question 4: Using slide layouts is the most important thing one can do to ensure PowerPoint accessibility.	
	Question 4: Using slide layouts is the most important thing one	

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"A design is only useful if it's accessible to the user: any user, anywhere, anytime. We often mistake the concept of accessibility as involving people with disabilities. However, we're all disabled in many contexts and circumstances. Accessibility is all about people." The Interaction Design Foundation (https://www.interaction-design.org/literature/article/accessibility-usability-for-all?utm source=newsletter&utm medium=email&utm content=

m medium=email&utm conten t=letter02152017&utm_campai gn=subscribers)

What are the benefits of an accessible PowerPoint?

letter02152017&utm campaign=subscribers)

SCRIPT:

- It is usable by more people
- It is more functional for all users
- It is more aesthetically pleasing
- It allows for enhanced software features

Who benefits from an accessible PowerPoint?

SCRIPT:

- People with vision impairments
- People using assistive devices
- English Language Learners
- All learners
- The creator of the document

mage:

A finger presses an Accessibility key on a keyboard

Coccessibility City

4.1. HOW TO MAKE AN ACCESSIBLE POWERPOINT

SCRIPT:

5

It would be nice to press a key and have your PowerPoint magically made accessible. However, the real key to making an accessible PowerPoint is to follow these user-friendly guides. These "How-To" tips are current for PowerPoint 2016 (PC/MAC). Using these native formatting elements will result in making an accessible PowerPoint.

IMAGE: A finger presses an Accessibility key on a keyboard

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4.1.A. OUTLINE VIEW Image: Outline view SCRIPT: To begin, developing your presentation in the Outline View File Edit View Insert Format Arrange Normal **£1** makes it more accessible to screen readers. The Outline View is **£2** Slide Sorter Notes Page **#3** helpful in checking that all the slides have titles and in ensuring 0 ✓ Outline View ₩4 Presenter View that the text appears in the slides in the logical reading order. To 0= Slide Show display a presentation in Outline View: 1. Select the View tab on the ribbon 2. Click on Outline View IMAGE: Outline view 7 4.1.B. TEMPLATES & THEMES Image: **Themes** SCRIPT: The first step in creating a PowerPoint presentation is choosing a slide theme or template. The **Design** tab contains many built-in **Themes** and color **Variants** that can be used to change the look of a presentation, as well as the ability to create custom themes. **IMAGE: Themes** SCRIPT: Be sure to choose a theme with a simple background and a strong contrast between the background and text. Using dark text on a white or off-white background is a good accessibility choice. Using white and black schemes makes it easier to distinguish text and shapes. If the presentation will be viewed on a projector, the contrast and readability may need to be even more pronounced. When selecting a template, you can search for a template by selecting **File > New**, then describing the template in the **Search** field. Add the word "accessible" to the search for templates that are tagged as "accessible" by the creator. While this does not guarantee accessibility, it increases the likelihood of finding a good template. Microsoft has identified several templates that are optimized for accessibility. 4.1.C. SLIDE LAYOUTS 8 Image: Master slide layout with title and placeholders SCRIPT: The use of slide "layouts" is the most important part of PowerPoint accessibility. When used correctly, these will ensure

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information on the slides have the correct heading structure and reading order.

Most slide layouts include a slide "title," usually at the top of the slide. The title will be presented as a heading to screen reader users. The title will be the first thing read on each slide. People who are blind, have low vision, or a reading disability, rely on slide titles to navigate, so be sure to use unique slide titles. For example, by skimming or using a screen reader, they can quickly scan through a list of slide titles and go right to the slide they want.

Slide layouts usually contain one or more "placeholder" areas where you add content like images, tables, and SmartArt.

IMAGE: Master slide layout with title and placeholders



9 4.1.C.1. CREATE A NEW SLIDE

SCRIPT:

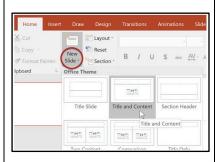
Although you can change the layout of a slide at any time, it is easiest to choose your layout when creating a new slide. Some people like to start with a blank slide and add content with text boxes, etc. Doing so is not a best practice, however. By using a template, PowerPoint can identify the nature of all items and the correct reading order. This is important for learners who use screen readers or other assistive technology.

On a PC, select either the **small arrow** or the text "**New Slide**" right below the icon, and a menu will drop down with all of the available slide layouts. Select one of the options to create a new slide with this layout.

IMAGE: Creating a new slide on a PC

Images:

Creating a new slide on a PC



10 4.1.C.2. CHANGE SLIDE LAYOUT

SCRIPT:

Since we all change our minds, we will learn how to change the layout of an existing slide in three easy steps:

- 1. Select the slide you want to change
- 2. On the Home tab, select Layout
- 3. Choose the desired layout from the dropdown

IMAGE: Change slide layout

Image:

Change slide layout



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11 4.1.D. SLIDE READING ORDER

SCRIPT:

By default, a screen reader will read the slide title first, followed by other content in elements defined in the slide layout. It will then read any additional content on the slide in the order it was added to the slide. If you insert other content with this principle in mind, it should be presented to screen reader users in a logical order.

To check or fix the reading order, select **Home > Arrange > Selection Pane**. The Selection Pane will appear in the right-hand sidebar. The pane will show every object on the slide. The reading order for the elements in this page is **bottom to top**. This may seem illogical but think of these objects as layers on a slide. The first object on the slide will be read first. To change the reading order, click and drag or use the **up/down arrow buttons**.

IMAGE: Selection Pane

Image: Selection Pane



12 4.1.E. FORMATTING TEXT

SCRIPT:

People who have dyslexia often see text merged or distorted. By reducing the reading load, people who have dyslexia or have low vision benefit. People with low vision benefit from the use of strong contrast between text and background. White and black schemes also make it easier for people who are colorblind to distinguish text and shapes.

Ways to format text for accessibility include:

- Using familiar sans serif fonts such as Arial or Calibri
- Avoid using all capital letters
- Avoid using excessive italics or underlines
- Using a larger font size (18pt or larger)
- Including ample white space between sentences and paragraphs
- Using dark text on a white or off-white background, or reverse it and use white text on a dark background
- Using white and black schemes

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4.1.F. HYPERLINK TEXT AND SCREENTIPS Image: Insert Hyperlink and ScreenTip SCRIPT: People who use screen readers sometimes scan a list of links. Links should convey clear and accurate information about the destination. For example, instead of linking to the text Click here, include the full title of the destination page. You can also add ScreenTips that appear when your cursor hovers over text or images that include a hyperlink. Short, clear hyperlinks like oit.utk.edu are fine to use "as is." However, longer and/or random hyperlinks need to be converted into real-word hyperlinks. For example, utk.instructure.com/course/88492/90hfeh899f should be converted to a hyperlinked "today's lesson" or another word or phrase that clearly indicates what is being linked. To add Hyperlink Text and ScreenTips: Select the text to which you want to add the hyperlink, 1. and then right-click Select **Link**. The text you selected displays in the **Text to** display box. This is the hyperlink text If necessary, change the hyperlink text In the Address box, enter the description address for the hyperlink Select the ScreenTip button and, in the ScreenTip text 5. box, type a ScreenTip To apply the changes, select **OK** > **OK** IMAGE: Insert Hyperlink and ScreenTip 14 4.1.G. ALTERNATE TEXT TO IMAGES Image: Format Picture Alt Text SCRIPT: Images need equivalent alternative text which presents the content and function of the image. A person who cannot see the image uses a screen reader to read the description provided through the alternative (Alt) text. Decorative graphics do not need Alt text. To add alternative (Alt) text to an image: 1. Select the image on the slide 2. Right-click on the image and select Format Picture 3. The Format Picture pane will open. Select the Size and **Properties** tab 4. Select Alt Text.

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5. Type the title and appropriate descriptive text in the **Description** field only (not the Title field)

IMAGE: Format Picture Alt Text



15 **4.1.H. TABLES**

SCRIPT:

Screen readers keep track of their location in a table by counting table cells. You should use a simple table structure and specify column header information. If a table is nestled within another table or if a cell is merged or split, the screen reader loses count and can't provide helpful information about the table after that point. Blank cells in a table can also mislead someone using a screen reader into thinking that there is nothing more in the table.

In the **Table Styles** section, select a style where the table headers are clearly identified visually. Make sure the style has good contrast as previously discussed on the Templates and Themes page. (Templates and Themes)

LINK:

https://utk.instructure.com/courses/64130/pages/templates-and-themes

IMAGE: Table styles

SCRIPT:

PowerPoint allows you to identify a single column of row headers. To use table headers:

1. Position the cursor anywhere in a table

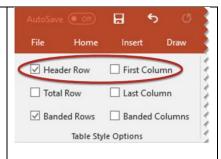
Image: **Table Styles** Table Styles Image: **Table Tools Design Table Tools** Sign in AT Design Layout Dra Tab ∠ Pen Color ▼ Fa Draw Border: Image: **Header Row Checkbox**

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- 2. Select the Design tab
- 3. In the **Table Style Options**, select the **Header Row** check box
- 4. If the first column of the table contains headers for each row, make sure the **First Column** checkbox is checked
- 5. In the table, type the column headings

IMAGES: Table Tools Design
Header Row Checkbox

Although most screen readers will not identify table headers in PowerPoint, we recommend going through this process. It is important to identify headers visually, and support for table headers in Microsoft Office is improving constantly. Plus, these headers will be identified when saving to PDF in the most up-to-date versions of PowerPoint.



16 4.1.I. ACCESSIBILITY CHECKER

SCRIPT:

PowerPoint includes a tool that will identify many common accessibility issues. The accessibility checker is basically the same on a PC and on a Mac, but the steps to start the check are different.

To run the accessibility checker on a PC, select **File > Info**. Select the **Check for Issues** button and choose **Check Accessibility**.

To run the accessibility checker on a Mac, select the **Review** tab, then choose **Check Accessibility**.

IMAGE: Accessibility checker on a PC

SCRIPT:

Running the accessibility checker on a PC

IMAGE: Accessibility checker on a Mac

SCRIPT:

Running the accessibility checker on a Mac

On a PC and on a Mac, the **Accessibility Checker** sidebar will appear to the right. The checker presents accessibility errors (e.g., images with no alternative text), warnings (e.g., unclear link text) and tips (e.g., check slide reading order for slides with custom content). Selecting an item in the report will highlight the issue within the slide. Information about the issue, and instructions on how to repair it, will also appear at the bottom of the sidebar.

Image:

Accessibility checker in Windows



IMAGE:

Accessibility checker in Mac



IMAGE:

Accessibility checker

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IMAGE: Accessibility checker

SCRIPT:

When the issue is addressed, it will disappear from the report automatically.

Accessibility Checker

Inspection Results

Errors

Missing alternative text
Picture 4 (Slide 7)

Table has no header row
Content Placeholder 3 (Slide 10)

Warnings

Table has merged or split cells
Content Placeholder 3 - - 1 Cell (Slide 10)

Tips

Check reading order
Additional Information

Why Fix?

Alternative text for images and other objects is very important for people who can't see the screen. Screen readers read alternate text aloud, so it's the only information many have about the image. Good alternate text helps them understand the image.

Steps To Fix:

To add alternative text to an image:
1. Select the Item for the error. This makes an outline of the image appear.

Read more about making documents accessible

17 4.1.J. OTHER ACCESSIBILITY PRINCIPLES

SCRIPT:

Lastly, here are a few more accessibility principles to follow when preparing PowerPoints:

- Transitions and animations should be simple.
- Complex or automatic transitions and animations can be distracting.
- Use clear and simple language.
- If you have embedded video, ensure the video is captioned.
- If you have embedded audio, include a transcript.

18 5.1. PRACTICE YOUR SKILLS

SCRIPT:

Making PowerPoints accessible is not difficult. Implementing accessibility tools while designing a PowerPoint presentation benefits all learners. Now it's your turn to practice your skills. Feel free to link back to the lesson for help.

1. From the Office template website

(https://templates.office.com/) choose an accessible PowerPoint template, by entering "accessible PowerPoint template" in the search field (Templates and Themes)

https://utk.instructure.com/courses/64130/pages/templates-and-themes

2. Create a new "Title and Content" slide (Create a New Slide)

https://utk.instructure.com/courses/64130/pages/create-anew-slide

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3. Create text using three accessibility formats (Formatting Text) LINK:

https://utk.instructure.com/courses/64130/pages/formatting

4. Insert an image and apply alternate text to the image (Alternative Text for Images)

LINK

https://utk.instructure.com/courses/64130/pages/alternative -text-for-images

5. Run the accessibility checker and repair any issues (Accessibility Checker)

LINK:

https://utk.instructure.com/courses/64130/pages/accessibility-checker

19 **6.1. RESOURCES**

Portable Document Format (PDF)

Creating Accessible Documents: How-To Guide for MS Office 2016

Links

Accessibility Checker Rules (https://support.office.com/en-us/article/rules-for-the-accessibility-checker-651e08f2-0fc3-4e10-aaca-74b4a67101c1)

Make your PowerPoint presentations accessible (https://support.office.com/en-us/article/make-your-powerpoint-presentations-accessible-6f7772b2-2f33-4bd2-8ca7-dae3b2b3ef25)

Office Template website (https://templates.office.com/)

The Interaction Design Foundation

(https://www.interaction-

<u>design.org/literature/article/accessibility-usability-for-all?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=letter02152017&utm_campaign=subscribers)</u>

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville Accessibility (https://accessibility.utk.edu)

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville Course Syllabus Template (https://teaching.utk.edu/the-syllabus/)

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The University of Tennessee, Knoxville Office of Information	
Technology Instructional Design & Support Accessibility of	
Learning Materials	
(https://oit.utk.edu/instructional/strategies/accessibility-of-	
<u>learning-materials/)</u>	
The University of Tennessee, Knoxville Student Disability Services	
(https://sds.utk.edu)	
©WebAIM PowerPoint Accessibility	
(https://webaim.org/techniques/powerpoint)	