

WAVE Documentation

Web accessibility and evaluation tool

Description:

[WAVE](#) is a free web accessibility evaluation tool that identifies ways to make a webpage more accessible to people with disabilities. The WAVE Chrome, Firefox, and Edge extensions allow you to evaluate web content for accessibility issues directly within your browser. WAVE cannot tell you if your web content is accessible. Only a human can determine true accessibility. But, WAVE can help you, as a human, evaluate the accessibility of your web content.

Installing WAVE extension:

Simply add the extension to your preferred browser using these links [Chrome](#), [Firefox](#), and [Edge](#).

Getting Started:

Running WAVE extension:

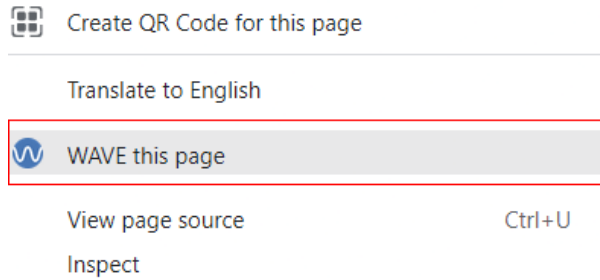
- Three ways to **run** a WAVE report:
 1. By clicking on the WAVE icon to the right of your browser address bar.



2. By pressing Control + Shift + U on windows or Command + Shift + U on Mac.



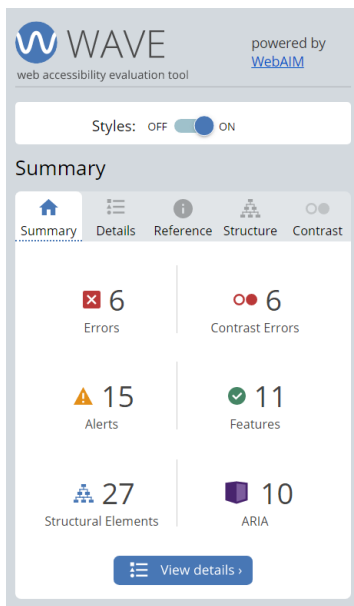
3. By activating the "WAVE this page" context (right-click) menu item.



- To **remove** the WAVE interface click the icon again or refresh the page.



After you run the extension, WAVE displays a summary of its findings in a sidebar on the left of the window.



These findings are organized into **six categories**: Errors, Contrast Errors, Alerts, Features, Structural Elements, and ARIA. The category icons are color-coded, and designed with other visual cues to be accessible to users who have difficulty distinguishing color. There are **four panels** within the sidebar that can be accessed through tabs: Details, Reference, Structure, and Contrast.

Category icons:

RED icons are errors that indicate accessibility errors that need to be fixed.

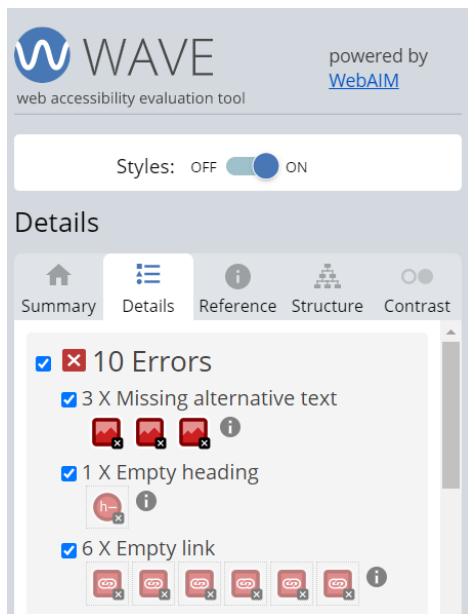
YELLOW icons are alerts indicating elements in the page that may cause accessibility issues (these alerts do not need to be fixed if you have a question please contact the technology services).

GREEN icons indicate Features that will improve accessibility if implemented correctly.

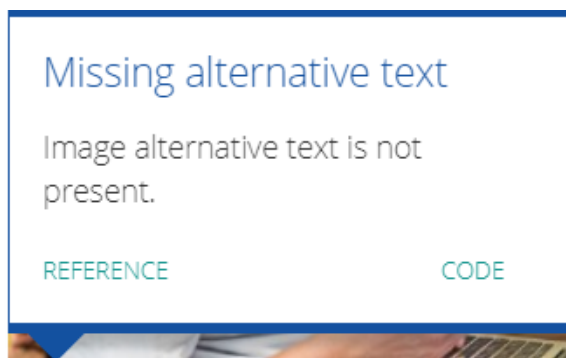
Example:

Category: Errors

Icon: red



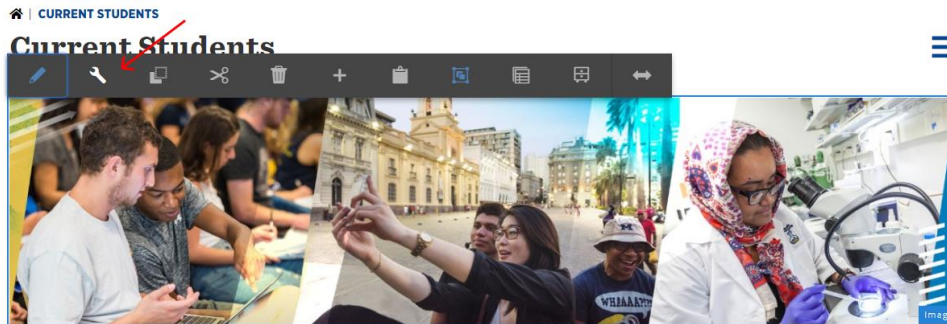
Message: "Missing alternative text"



Solution:

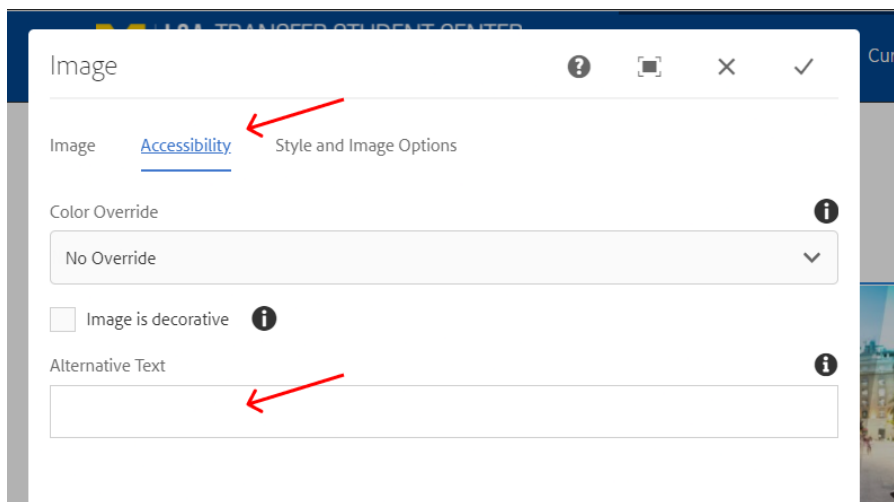
Step 1: Log in to your site, navigate to the page then to the image

Step 2: Click on the configure icon to open the image setting.



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Step 3: Navigate to the accessibility tab then add the alternative text to the image



Note: A decorative image is an image that is non-essential to understanding the content and purpose of a page (this is not an error please skip it).

Help: Still need help with WAVE Browser Extension? First please view the [WAVE help page](#). If you need further please contact the [LSA Technology Services](#).