

CREATING ACCESSIBLE MICROSOFT POWERPOINT 2016 PRESENTATIONS (MAC)





Slide Layouts

Use slide layouts provided within PowerPoint to ensure files have correctly structured headings and lists, and proper reading order.

- 1. Select *Home > New Slide*, then choose a layout from the dropdown.
- 2. To change a slide layout, select *Home > Layout*, then choose a layout from the dropdown.



Slide Reading Order

If you *Insert* other content (e.g, a text box) it will be read by a screen reader in the order it is added to the page. To check or fix reading order,



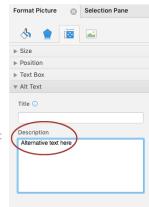
select *Home > Arrange > Selection Pane*. Reading order is shown in reverse, bottom to top. Click and drag or use the arrow buttons to change reading order.

Alternative Text

Images should be given appropriate alternative text in PowerPoint. This alt text is read by a screen reader in a PowerPoint file and should remain intact when exporting to HTML or PDF.

- 1. Right-click on the image and choose Format Picture.
- 2. Select the Size & **Properties** icon and choose Alt Text.
- 3. Enter appropriate alt text only in the *Description* field (not the *Title* field).

See webaim.org/techniques/ alttext for more information.



Data Tables

Accessible tables need a clear table structure and table headers to help guide a screen reader user.

- Select the *Insert* tab on the ribbon, then select *Table* > Insert Table.
- Keep tables simple. There is no way to add table header information in a way that will be identified by a screen reader.
- If you have Adobe Acrobat Pro (not just the free Reader), save your presentation to PDF and add table headers in Acrobat Pro.

Insert

Table

Home

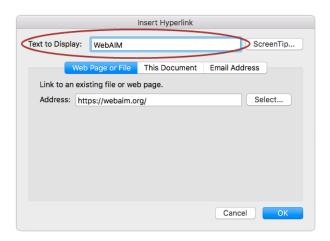
New

Slide

Hyperlinks

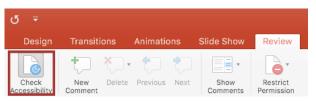
PowerPoint *automatically creates a hyperlink* when a user pastes a full URL onto a slide and presses *Enter* or *Space*. These may not make sense to screen reader users or others, so make the link text descriptive.

- 1. Select a hyperlink, right click, and select *Edit Hyperlink* or hit Cmd + k.
- 2. Change the text in the *Text to Display* field to a more meaningful description.



Accessibility Checker

- 1. Select *File > Info*.
- 2. Select the *Review* tab and choose *Check Accessibility*.



The *Accessibility Checker* task pane will show accessibility errors, warnings, and tips on how to repair the errors.

Select specific issues to see *Additional Information* at the bottom of the pane.

Other Principles

- Ensure *font size is sufficient*. If your presentation will be viewed on a projector, font size may need to be even larger.
- Provide *sufficient contrast*. If your presentation will be viewed on a projector, sometimes the contrast needs to be even more pronounced.
- Do not use color as *the only way* to convey meaning.
- Avoid automatic slide transitions.
- Use *simple slide transitions* when possible.
- Do not put accessibility information like alternative text in the *Notes* pane.
- If you have embedded video, ensure it is captioned.
- If you have embedded audio, include a transcript.
- If your slides contain animations, ensure they are brief and do not distract from the most important content on the page.
- Use simple language.