

Design System

# HOW TO SCALE ACCESSIBILITY IN YOUR DIGITAL PRODUCT



Designer for over 14 years

Background in Product design and Business Process

Created and led the accessibility initiative at XP Inc.



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A Design System is a set of standards to manage design at scale by reducing redundancy while creating a shared language and visual consistency across different pages and channels.

nngroup.com

#### Why use

Work can be created and replicated quickly and at scale.

It alleviates strain on design resources to focus on larger, more complex problems.

It creates a unified language within and between cross-functional teams.

It creates visual consistency across products, channels, and departments.

Educational tool and reference for junior-level designers and content contributors.

#### Why not use

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Creating and maintaining a design system requires time and a dedicated team.

It takes time to teach others how to use the design system.

There may be a perception that projects are static, one-off creations, which generally don't require reusable components.



## But I can tell you one thing I know for sure: If the Design System is not accessible, there is no way the final product will be accessible

Sheri Byrne-Haber



## YOUR DESIGN SYSTEM IS UNLIKELY TO ADDRESS

Labels and complementary texts

Page semantic hierarchy

Description of visual elements

Business and product strategy

Flow and concept of the experience

Content

Usage of the Design
System itself

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## In most situations, it is not necessary to differentiate usability from accessibility, because the two concepts are complementary

Anna Cook, 2021

## What to do and what steps can you take to build your accessible Design System?

### Follow the masters!



#### Supporting Accessibility

When customizing components, be careful to preserve code that ensures a the arria attributes.

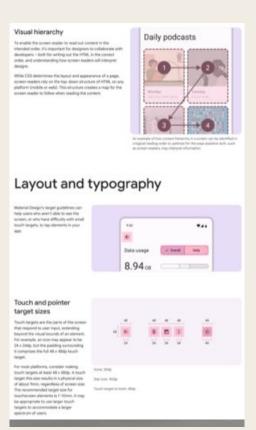
Accessible software and assistive technology enable users with disabilities with the products you build. Aura components are created according to W that they work with common assistive technologies. We recommend that y Guidelines for accessibility when developing with the Lightning Componer guide explains the accessibility features on components in the Lightning are also known as base Lightning components.

- Button Labels
- Audio Messages
- · Forms, Fields, and Labels
- . Using Images and Icons
- Events
- Menus



Visual impairments can include low vision, color blindness, and complete blindness. Carbon components are designed to accommodate the entire spectrum of visual impairment, though designers still need to exercise diligence to ensure that the components are used correctly.

- 4 Color contrast
- & Low vision
- 4 Tools
- 4 Resources



#### **Inclusive design**

We all differ in our abilities to see, perceive colors, hear, control our motions, concentrate, and understand concepts. Inclusive design makes room for as many people as possible.



Get inspired

Pay attention to design conventions

Follow widely used technologies

## Understand your product



Make sure you understand your product and your organization:

- Goals
- Backlog
- Scalability

- Company organization
- Involved teams
- Internal processes

If your design system already exists, run a **quality test** to understand which **accessibility criteria** it already meets and which it doesn't.

If your company does not have a design system yet (but wants to build one), understanding your final product will also help you better plan the next steps

### **Prioritize**



Align with your team which elements are priorities in your design system;

In cases of refactoring, breaking down the design and technology deliveries will speed up the scalability of accessibility;

If your design system already exists, analyze the elements usage metrics;

Interaction components end up being the most prioritized elements due to their wide usage and the importance of completing core tasks of the application;

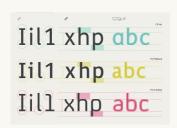
Prioritize with the PM and developers so you can take into account variables such as complexity and impacted services/squads;

## **Create and Specify**





Contrast



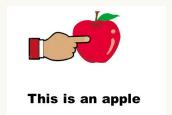
Fonts



Low complexity



Spacing



Material honesty



Icons and images



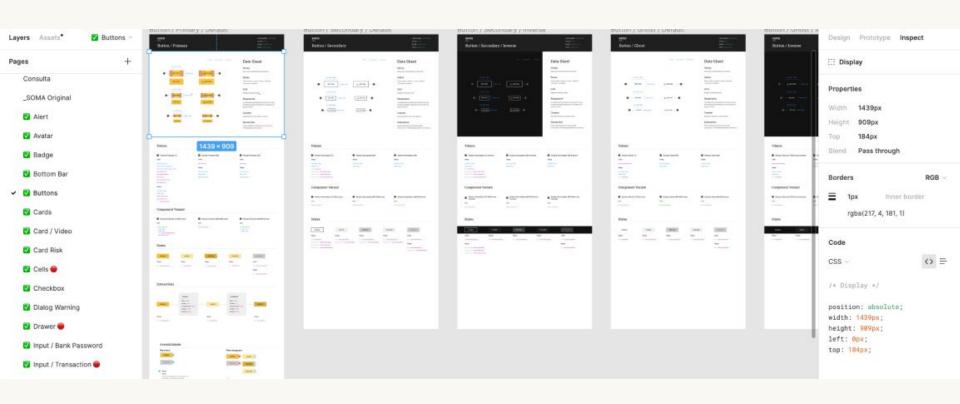
Examples of use



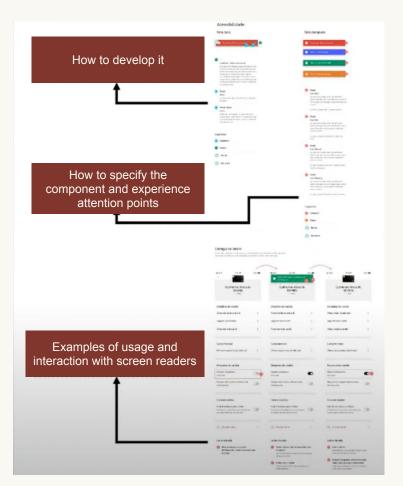
Designers and developers











#### **Key benefits**

Reading and navigation focus order will be standardized and embedded in the code;

Handy guide for the proper use of labels, complementary texts and the element itself;

Easy to specify new experiences;

Scalability of tweaks in the experiences;

Possibility of customization (eg: if the component does not meet the customer's need);

Tip: Engage a group of ambassadors to discuss use-cases and continuously evolve the elements;

### Anatom Design checklist

Intera

➤ When a navigatio

active indicator a

providing feedbar

+ A touch ripple pa

■ The icon switches

+ The icon changes

dark theme

is selected

indicator

filled

Touch

#### All interactive states

Includes all interactive states that are applicable (hover, down, focus, keyboard focus, disabled).

#### All color themes

Works properly across all four color themes (lightest, light, dark, darkest).

#### All platform scales

Includes a desktop scale (UWP, macOS, web desktop) and a mobile scale (iOS, Android, web mobile).

#### Accessible use of color

Color is not used as the only visual means of conveying information (WCAG 2.0 1.4.1).

#### Accessible contrast for text

Text has a contrast ratio of at least 4.5:1 for small text and at least 3:1 for large text (WCAG 2.0 1.4.3).

#### darker in a light to Accessible contrast for UI components

Visual information required to identify components and states (except inactive components) has a contrast ratio of at least 3:1 (WCAG 2.11.4.11).

#### Content design

UI language and information design considerations have been incorporated into component design.

#### Defined options

Includes relevant options (variant, style, size, orientation, optional iconography, decorations, selection, error state, etc.)

#### Usage guidelines

Includes a list of dos and don'ts that highlight best practices and common mistakes.

#### Writing guidelines

Includes content standards or usage guidelines for how to write or format in-product content for the component.

#### Internationalization guidelines

Works properly across various locales and includes guidelines for bidirectionality (RTL).

#### Keyboard interactions

Follows WCAG 2.0 standards for keyboard accessibility guidelines and includes a description of the keyboard interactions.

#### Design tokens

All design attributes (color, typography, layout, animation, etc.) are available as design tokens.

#### UI kit

Includes a downloadable XD file that shows multiple options, states, color themes, and platform scales.

#### Generated UI kit

Includes a downloadable XD file, generated by code using design tokens defined in Spectrum DNA, and shows multiple options, states, color themes, and platform scales.

#### In Spectrum for Adobe XD plugin

Component is included in the Spectrum for Adobe XD plugin.



Label **Home** 

Role **Tab** 

ext.

## **Cool tips for developers**



Enable customization utilizing native tools from devices.

Create placeholders where labels must be filled out for each component.

Beware of browser-specific codes that goes against the concept of a design system.

Remember, the first rule of ARIA is not to use ARIA.

Don't change native semantics with ARIA, use roles accordingly, and remember to cover all the statuses of an interaction element, just inserting ARIA is not enough.

## Testing your design system



35%

of the accessibility problems can be identified using tools that validate the code semantic.

65%

of the accessibility problems are related to wrong usability, content, navigation and cannot be identified by these tools.

- Tools to evaluate code semantics:
   Lighthouse | Chrome
   Wave | Chrome e Firefox
   Axe | Chrome, Firefox e Android
   Accessibility Suite | Android
   Xcode | IOS
   Funkify | Chrome
   Nocoffee Vision Simulator | Chrome
- Manual testing
- Test with customers and establish criteria for organic feedback

## **Cool tips for testing**

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Involve users.

Test on each operating system.

Use the most-used screen reader in the operating system (NVDA, Talk back voice over).

Test if the reading makes sense linearly.

Test if the reading makes sense through interactive elements.

Make sure the elements are properly recognized.

Complement a tool analyzes with a manual test.

Specify the severity of issues.

Meet with the developers and go through the report.



All text fielnds have a screen reader problem. The label of the field is not connected to the field it self. More details of how it should work here.

Now the scrend reader is not only separating the label from the field, but also reading the "start" for the required field.

- Title hierarchy missing. This H2 should be an H1.
- There are 3 no script elements. One in the footer and 2 in the header.

<noscript>-iframe src="https://
www.googletagmanager.com/ns.html?id=GTM-TFLZVFW8gtm\_auth=8gtm\_preview=8gtm\_cookies \_win=x\* height="0" width="0" style="display.nonevisibility.htidden" id="tagmanager">cfiframe></noscript>

<noscript>You need to enable JavaScript to run this app.</noscript>

<noscript><img height="1" width="1"
style="display.none" src="https://
www.facebook.com/tr?
id=239736077207119&mp;ev=PageView&mp;nos
cript=1"></noscript>

- The label is with the same problem as the text field. The placeholder is being readen and should not. More details of how it should work here.
- The radio button should be attached to the label and in a option group. The radio button is not being identified by the screen reader.

Group title: I work for a bookkeeping or accounting firm
Option 1, [status] yes

- Option 2 , [status] no

  login details title should be H2
- Show password [button]
   Hide password [button]
- Set as a list and group so the user can "jump"this list.
  Title of the list group should be "Password Hint"

Don't focus in the images, integrate the check with the text.

The items should be readen:

### Training the team



...will allow your them to use the Design System correctly.

...will help you refine the Design System over time based on real use-cases.

The majority of accessibility issues are generated still in the design concept phase, so it is important to make sure your team takes this knowledge into consideration early on.

























Portuguese form of "to include"



Pages of a training material about ableism in portuguese.

You need to give a nudge to the culture and pillars that dictate the day-to-day of employees and projects



## THANKS!

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