



Digital accessibility quick scan report Briar App

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Introduction

The Accessibility Foundation is the center of expertise in the field of digital accessibility and based in the Netherlands. We research, test and develop digital accessibility solutions. We provide support, recommendations and audit services for websites, media, technology and apps. Through our work in W3C and the EU we are actively helping to set the standards that shape accessibility. We cooperate with (inter) national stakeholders and leading European partners. We participate in relevant working groups at national and international level. The Accessibility Foundation was founded in 2001 by Bartiméus, a large Dutch health and education organization for people with a visual disability. In Europe, Accessibility is an important provider of expertise in the digital accessibility domain and active in many European and local projects.

Read more about our foundation on our website: <https://www.accessibility.nl/english>.

Suggestions on how to use this quick scan evaluation

This quick scan evaluation describes how much of your widget is compliant to the requirements of the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.1 (WCAG). The result research also contains common failures. These can be used to recognize reoccurring problems. Websites that comply with these guidelines are accessible to people with disabilities as well as older individuals with changing abilities due to aging.

The result research below contains examples of problems that have been found in the evaluation. This is not a complete list of all the problems that were found. When upgrading the website or application based on this report it is important to remember to not only solve the problems given in the report but to also look at other pages. It is possible that despite targeted searches not all problems have been found. These problems might come up in a future evaluation. We would therefore advise that when improving the website the focus should not be limited to the problems described in this report.

Web Content Accessibility Guidelines

WCAG 2 guidelines are divided over four principles (perceivable, operable, understandable and robust). These make up the core of WCAG 2. Every guideline is then divided into one or more measurable success criteria. Because WCAG 2 is designed independent of any specific technology, all web content, including file formats such as PDF and Microsoft Office Word can be evaluated with WCAG 2.

Result research

This accessibility quick scan was completed on September 10th 2020. The standard for this quick scan audit is WCAG 2.1, level AA (see <https://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG21>).

1.1.1 Non-text Content

On the screen 'Choose password' a bar appears showing the status using red/orange/yellow/green colours to indicate the strength of the password. This bar needs a textual alternative, f.i. a percentage, that conveys how weak/strong the password is.

On the screen 'Background connections' you can choose to 'Allow connections'. When you have allowed that, a checkmark appears next to this button. This checkmark needs a textual alternative.

When a contact has been 'added from a distance', a screen appears where the '1' above 'Exchange links' has transformed into a checkmark. This checkmark needs a textual alternative.

When choosing to 'Add a contact nearby' a series of images/icons appear that show the possibilities of adding a contact (f.i. by means of QR code; no email). These icons need a textual alternative.

1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence

When choosing to add a contact from a distance, a screen appears showing two steps: 1 - Exchange links and 2 - Choose nickname. When using the TalkBack navigation this is being read from left to right: 1, 2, Exchange links, Choose nickname; probably because this is the DOM order. This sequence is not meaningful.

1.4.1 Use of Color

On the bottom of the main menu there are three buttons 'Internet', 'WiFi' and 'Bluetooth'. Color differences indicate whether it's on or off (green or grey). A second visual cue should be provided so that colorblind people can discern the state of the buttons.

1.4.3 Contrast (minimum)

The placeholder texts seem to have a low contrasting value. This should be at least 4.5:1 for "normal" text, or 3.0:1 for "large" text (defined as 18px or 14px +

bold). Because no screenshots were allowed by the application, we could not test this. Please verify that the color combinations used throughout the app have a sufficient contrast ratio.

1.4.11 Non-text Contrast

Some of the colors used in the bar on the screen 'Choose password' seem to have a low contrasting value (a minimum of 3.0:1 is required). When providing a text alternative, such as mentioned in 1.1.1, the colors do not need to meet this requirement because an alternative is available.

3.3.2 Labels or Instructions

On the screen 'Choose nickname' the input field visually misses a label. This is the case for most of the input fields throughout the application, such as the input fields under 'Import RSS feed', 'Feedback form' and under 'Reblog' ('Add a comment'). Placeholder text does not count as a label because it disappears when one starts to type.

4.1.2 Name, Role, Value

On the screen 'Welcome to Briar' there is a 'More information' button (i-icon). It lacks a role (button). This button appears on multiple screens.

On the screen 'Contacts' the button 'New contact' ('+') is unlabelled (it lacks a name).

The options under the '+' sign miss a role (the texts on the left side) or a name (the icons on the right side). The best practice is to only make the right icon an interactive element and give it a proper name + role, and then increase the clickable area so that one can click on either the text or the icon. We have seen this type of menu before, so it seems to be a standard option provided by the Android framework. However, this standard option is not accessible. If it is not possible to manually change it, we advise to put the role inside the name of the button. So f.i. instead of 'Add contact from a distance' change the name to 'Add contact from a distance, button'.

The buttons under the main menu have a name and value, but lack a role. The three buttons 'Internet', 'Wifi' and 'Bluetooth' lack a value (connected or not).

Throughout the app several buttons lack a role, f.i. 'Create private group', the three dotted 'More options' and the options under this three dotted button.

Next to the textual input field (f.i. in a chat) there appears an emoticon. This

button lacks a name. The 'Reply' button lacks a role.

When navigating with TalkBack in a chat, two buttons receive the focus, but do not have a name/role/value, are not visible and do not work. It seems that these buttons were meant to scroll up and down, and have been deleted but not hidden from screenreader users.

Under 'Blogs' the button 'Reblog' has the name 'Add a comment'. It's function is to reblog, so 'Reblog' is a better name.

4.1.3 Status Messages

Under 'Pending contact requests' appear messages such as 'Connecting' and 'Waiting for contact to come online'. These are status messages. The focus needs to be placed on these messages, or an alternative method should be used to make sure assistive technology reads these messages as they change. Probably the same method that has been used to convey the 'Password too weak' messages can be used - these messages were being read out loud by TalkBack while typing.

Evaluation information

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|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Organisation | Conversations |
| Evaluation type | Quick scan |
| Evaluation level | WCAG 2.1, level AA |
| Evaluation date | September 10 th , 2020 |

User Agents

The following user agents have been used in this evaluation:

- Android version 9

Scope

The app Briar