

Screen Reader UX

Using your visual as a starting point, use the following steps to document the screen reader UX for your component.

①

Pencil and paper

Do a rough sketch of the component.



⑥

Define the announced content

For a comparable experience to that of the visual, document the content or text that should be announced for each element.



②

Cross out elements you don't need

Are there any elements in the visual user experience that you don't need in the screen reader UX? Best practice would almost always be to have the same elements for all users. Though sometimes there may be an exception.



⑦

Add any UX improvements

Consider additional semantic roles and hints. Also document states for relevant actionable elements, changes to language and any additional functionality that would improve the UX, such as a live region for dynamic content.



③

Add any extra elements

Would any additional elements improve the user experience for screen reader users? Any such elements will be rarely needed and should be used sparingly. Label them as visually hidden elements.



⑧

Define focus order and behaviour

Add a directional line between actionable elements (such as links and buttons). Also document when focus needs to be moved on the users behalf after an in-page interaction.



④

Define the content order

In what order should a screen reader read through the elements? To illustrate this, add a number next to each element.



⑨

Define any landmarks or containers

If appropriate, provide a way for screen readers to identify areas of web pages (landmarks) or native app screens (containers), with any relevant labels.



⑤

Define native semantic roles

Convey meaning and structure of content to screen reader users by defining native semantic roles for elements, such as heading, button, link, image etc.



⑩

Validate the experience

Describe the screen reader UX to the reviewer as part of an accessibility design review.