Mobile Web Best Practices (MWBP) vs. WCAG and MWABP

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## Purpose of this document

* Compare and contrast WCAG and MWBP and MWABP
* Understand the extra work to be done to meet MWABP

## WCAG and MWBP

WCAG and MWBP both aim to improve the Web interaction of users who experience barriers due to either disabilities or the device used to access the Web. However, WCAG and MWBP have slightly different approaches. For example, a key feature of WCAG 2.0 success criteria is that they are specifically designed to be testable statements. Although some of the Mobile Web Best Practices are testable, they are not all intended to be testable.

## Mapping WCAG to MWBP and MWABP

The relationship between WCAG and MWBP is too complex for a simple mapping table to adequately communicate what developers need to do to meet both. For example, in some cases complying with a specific WCAG provision will meet the related MWBP; however, the inverse is not always true and complying with the MWBP provision will not necessarily meet the related WCAG provision. Thus, there is no simple mapping table between WCAG and MWBP. The same situation applies to the MWABP when mapping specific WCAG or MWBP provision to MWABP provisions.

MWABP collects the most relevant engineering practices, promoting a better user experience and warning against harmful practices.

As defined by W3C the following phrases explain the relationship between WCAG and MWBP.

Nothing: If a provision is labeled “Nothing” then content that complies with WCAG 2.0 already complies with the provision and no further effort is necessary. The following list includes all of the provisions that are marked “Nothing”.

Something: If a provision is labeled “Something” then more effort of some kind is necessary to comply with the provision. All of the provisions marked “Something” are included in the list below. Each item in the list is a link to an explanation of what is required, in the next section of this report. For each there is a list of the provisions that may provide some compliance or are in some way related.

### Possibly vs. Partially:

There is no direct correspondence between one provision and another. In some cases, it may be necessary to make an extra effort or to consider a more diverse range of user needs. In these cases, the word “possibly” is used. In other cases scope may be different, giving partial compliance. In these cases the word “partially” is used.

Everything: For all other BPs, WCAG 2.0 does not ensure compliance and it will be necessary to do the work involved. These BPs are not related to any WCAG 2.0 success criteria.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No** | **MWBP** | **Relationship**  **(compliance with WCAG)** | **WCAG** | **MWABP** |
|  | [AUTO\_REFRESH](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#AUTO_REFRESH) | Nothing | [3.2.5 Change on Request](http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/#consistent-behavior-no-extreme-changes-context) |  |
|  | [FONTS](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#FONTS) | Nothing | [1.3.1 Info and Relationships](http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/#content-structure-separation-programmatic). |  |
|  | [LINK\_TARGET\_ID](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#LINK_TARGET_ID) | Nothing | [2.4.9 Link Purpose (Link Only)](http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/#navigation-mechanisms-link) |  |
|  | [NON-TEXT\_ALTERNATIVES](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#NON-TEXT_ALTERNATIVES) | Nothing | [1.1.1 Non-text Content”](http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/#text-equiv-all) |  |
|  | [STYLE\_SHEETS\_USE](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#STYLE_SHEETS_USE) | Nothing | [1.3.1 Info and Relationships](http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/#content-structure-separation-programmatic) | [Include Background Image Inline in CSS Style Sheet](http://www.w3.org/TR/mwabp/#bp-conserve-css-images) |
|  | [TAB\_ORDER](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#TAB_ORDER) | Nothing | [2.4.3 Focus Order](http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/#navigation-mechanisms-focus-order). |  |
|  | [USE\_OF\_COLOR](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#USE_OF_COLOR) | Nothing | [1.4.1 Use of Color](http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/#visual-audio-contrast-without-color). |  |
|  | [VALID\_MARKUP](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#VALID_MARKUP) | Nothing | [4.1.1 Parsing](http://www.w3.org/TR/UNDERSTANDING-WCAG20/ensure-compat-parses.html) |  |
|  | [BACKGROUND\_IMAGE\_READABILITY](http://www.w3.org/TR/mwbp-wcag/wcag20-mwbp.html#mwbp10_BACKGROUND_IMAGE_READABILITY) | Something | possibly covered at level AA by [1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum)](http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/#visual-audio-contrast-contrast) and at level AAA [1.4.6 Contrast (Enhanced)](http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/#visual-audio-contrast7) |  |
|  | [COLOR\_CONTRAST](http://www.w3.org/TR/mwbp-wcag/wcag20-mwbp.html#mwbp10_COLOR_CONTRAST) | Something | partially covered at level AA by success criterion [1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum)](http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/#visual-audio-contrast-contrast) and at level AAA [1.4.6 Contrast (Enhanced)](http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/#visual-audio-contrast7) |  |
|  | [LINK\_TARGET\_ID](http://www.w3.org/TR/mwbp-wcag/wcag20-mwbp.html#mwbp10_LINK_TARGET_ID) | Something | Partially covered at level A by [2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context)](http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/#navigation-mechanisms-refs). |  |
|  | [NAVIGATION](http://www.w3.org/TR/mwbp-wcag/wcag20-mwbp.html#mwbp10_NAVIGATION) | Something | partially covered at level AA by [3.2.3 Consistent Navigation](http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/#consistent-behavior-consistent-locations) and at level AAA [2.4.10 Section Headings](http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/#navigation-mechanisms-headings) |  |
|  | [NON-TEXT\_ALTERNATIVES](http://www.w3.org/TR/mwbp-wcag/wcag20-mwbp.html#mwbp10_NON-TEXT_ALTERNATIVES) | Something | partially covered at level AAA by [1.2.7 Full Text Alternative](http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/#media-equiv-text-doc) (but covered already at that level by [1.1.1 Non-text Content](http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/#text-equiv-all)) |  |
|  | [CONTROL\_POSITION](http://www.w3.org/TR/mwbp-wcag/wcag20-mwbp.html#mwbp10_CONTROL_POSITION) | Something | possibly covered at level A by [1.3.1 Info and Relationships](http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/#content-structure-separation-programmatic) |  |
|  | [CONTROL\_LABELLING](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#CONTROL_LABELLING) | Something | possibly covered at level A by [1.3.1 Info and Relationships](http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/#content-structure-separation-programmatic), 3.3.2 Labels or Instructions |  |
|  | [MEASURES](http://www.w3.org/TR/mwbp-wcag/wcag20-mwbp.html#mwbp10_MEASURES) | Something | possibly covered at level AA by [1.4.4 Resize text](http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/#visual-audio-contrast-scale) | [Ensure Paragraph Text Flow](http://www.w3.org/TR/mwabp/#bp-presentation-flow) |
|  | [PAGE\_TITLE](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#PAGE_TITLE) | Something | possibly covered at level A by 2.4.2 Page Titled |  |
|  | [POP\_UPS](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#POP_UPS) | Something | partially covered at level A by 3.2.1 On Focus and 3.2.2 On Input and possibly at level AAA by [3.2.5 Change on Request](http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/#consistent-behavior-no-extreme-changes-context) |  |
|  | [REDIRECTION](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#REDIRECTION) | Something | partially covered at level A by 2.2.1 Timing Adjustable, and at level AAA by 2.2.4 Interuptions and [3.2.5 Change on Request](http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/#consistent-behavior-no-extreme-changes-context) | [Avoid Redirects](http://www.w3.org/TR/mwabp/#bp-redirect-minimize) |
|  | [STRUCTURE](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#STRUCTURE) | Something | possibly covered at level A by 1.3.1 Info and Relationships and at level AA by 2.4.6 Headings and Labels and at level AAA by 2.4.10 Section Headings |  |
|  | [CLARITY](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#CLARITY) | Something | partially covered by 3.1.5 Reading Level |  |
|  | [OBJECTS\_OR\_SCRIPT](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#OBJECTS_OR_SCRIPT) | Something | partially covered by 2.1.1 Keyboard and 2.1.3 Keyboard (No Exception) | [Support non-JavaScript Variant if Appropriate](http://www.w3.org/TR/mwabp/#bp-devcap-scripting-support) |
|  | [ACCESS\_KEYS](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#ACCESS_KEYS) | Everything | N/A | [Offer users a choice of interfaces](http://www.w3.org/TR/mwabp/#bp-devcap-user-choice) |
|  | [DEFAULT\_INPUT\_MODE](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#DEFAULT_INPUT_MODE) | Everything | N/A |  |
|  | [NAVBAR](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#NAVBAR) | Everything | N/A |  |
|  | [TABLES\_LAYOUT](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#TABLES_LAYOUT) | Everything | N/A |  |
|  | [NO\_FRAMES](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#NO_FRAMES) | Everything | N/A |  |
|  | [SCROLLING](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#SCROLLING) | Everything | N/A | [Use Meta Viewport Element to identify Desired Screen Size](http://www.w3.org/TR/mwabp/#bp-viewport) |
|  | [TABLES\_NESTED](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#TABLES_NESTED) | Everything | N/A |  |
|  | [PROVIDE\_DEFAULTS](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#PROVIDE_DEFAULTS) | Everything | N/A |  |
|  | [CENTRAL\_MEANING](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#CENTRAL_MEANING) | Everything | N/A |  |
|  | [IMAGE\_MAPS](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#IMAGE_MAPS) | Everything | N/A |  |
|  | [LIMITED](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#LIMITED) | Everything | N/A |  |
|  | [THEMATIC\_CONSISTENCY](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#THEMATIC_CONSISTENCY) | Everything | N/A | [Ensure Consistency of state between devices](http://www.w3.org/TR/mwabp/#bp-consistency) |
|  | [CAPABILITIES](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#CAPABILITIES) | Everything | N/A | [Use device classification to simplify content adaptation](http://www.w3.org/TR/mwabp/#bp-devcap-classify)  [Make Telephone Number “Click to call”](http://www.w3.org/TR/mwabp/#bp-interaction-uri-schemes)  [Consider Mobile Specific Technologies for initiating web apps](http://www.w3.org/TR/mwabp/#bp-conserve-usepush) |
|  | [EXTERNAL\_RESOURCES](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#EXTERNAL_RESOURCES) | Everything | N/A | [Minimize External Resources](http://www.w3.org/TR/mwabp/#bp-conserve-ext-files) |
|  | [CHARACTER\_ENCODING\_SUPPORT](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#CHARACTER_ENCODING_SUPPORT) | Everything | N/A |  |
|  | [ERROR\_MESSAGE](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#ERROR_MESSAGES) | Everything | N/A |  |
|  | [MINIMIZE\_KEYSTROKE](http://www.w3.org/TR/mobile-bp/#MINIMIZE_KEYSTROKES) | Everything | N/A | [Preserve focus on dynamic page updates](http://www.w3.org/TR/mwabp/#bp-presentation-focus) |

MWABP exclusive usability criteria

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| **No** | **WCAG** | **MWABP** |
|  |  | [Ensure the user is informed about use of personal and device information](http://www.w3.org/TR/mwabp/#bp-inform-personalinfo) |
|  |  | [Minimize perceived latency](http://www.w3.org/TR/mwabp/#bp-presentation-perceived) |
|  |  | [Optimize for application start-up time](http://www.w3.org/TR/mwabp/#bp-presentation-startup) |
|  |  | [Design for multiple interaction methods](http://www.w3.org/TR/mwabp/#bp-presentation-interaction) |
|  |  | [Consider use of canvas element or SVG for dynamic graphics](http://www.w3.org/TR/mwabp/#bp-canvas) |
|  |  | [Prefer server-side detection where possible](http://www.w3.org/TR/mwabp/#bp-devcap-detection) |
|  |  | [Use client-side detection when necessary](http://www.w3.org/TR/mwabp/#bp-devcap-scripting) |
|  | [2.2.5 Re-authenticating](http://www.w3.org/TR/UNDERSTANDING-WCAG20/time-limits-server-timeout.html) | [Enable automatic sign-in](http://www.w3.org/TR/mwabp/#bp-enable-automatic-login) |

Resources:

<http://www.w3.org/2007/02/mwbp_flip_cards#use_the_network_sparingly>

<http://www.w3.org/2005/MWI/Activity>