Laura Kalbag

ACCESSIBILITY FOR EVERYONE

FOREWORD BY Heydon Pickering

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Accessibility for Everyone Laura Kalbag
A guide for the accessibility landscape: understand disability and impairment challenges; get a handle on important laws and guidelines; and learn how to plan for, evaluate, and test accessible design.

Tools and techniques like clear copywriting, well-structured IA, meaningful HTML, and thoughtful design, to create a solid set of best practices

Accessibility for Everyone Details

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From Reader Review Accessibility for Everyone for online ebook

Liang Gang Yu says

More than just being interested in Accessibility, I picked up this book in participation of our UX book club in March 2018. It is a complete high-level introduction of the field, sparing anything technically heavy. Generally a pleasant read, a carefully written primer.

Patty says

An empathetic and highly accessible book about web accessibility. I love her focus on universal design and I hope that more and more web developers and designers take this to heart. Accessibility really DOES make the web better for everyone!

Paula says

I read this from cover to cover and I don't quite recommend it. There is a plethora of information about accessibility and how to use it. Yet you may think you know how to build a web page or web app to be successful, am I right? Well think again! Many of the best practices will make you realize that you don't know much about what makes a page successful. For example, form error messages. We love them we love them when we are using the net. They guide us along and allow us to know when a problem has occurred with a form submittal. But when actually building a page, we suddenly become forgetful and that may be something that the development team doesn't implement before deployment. *gasps* It may seem shocking but accessible things seem to be the things left out of the initial conversation until the team makes a mad dash to deploy or after a successful deployment has happened. It's happened more often than not on teams I've worked with.

I think Kalbag makes a great point that using the internet is a human right. It is an intergral part of communicating and learning daily. Everyone should be allowed to do so without barriers or roadblocks. This is a great sample of accessibility but I wish there was more. A longer version that takes a deep dive with testing and breaking down best practices implemented on an actual page. She has snippets to explain each pertinent parts of a page, but their small sections to cover each of those elements. I wish she'd had a side by side comparison with code and images.

As with most print programming books, I found that some of the information could be found online or was a little outdated. It was just published last year. This book is great for those who are interested in web accessibility for all and wants something easily digestible. Something that can be picked up and scanned quickly for reference.

Eryn says

Very good read. A great primer on the subject.

Furkan Sakar says

it is not a comprehensive guide for accessibility. It creates the awareness for accessibility. Main message inside the book is that accessibility should be a main concern like performance, To understand the rules of accessibility, it is important to understand disabilities.

Michael says

The best accessibility primer I've ever read. Instead of jumping into the minutia of WCAG she explains the principles of inclusive design and keeps the humans at the center.

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chysbl says

Aimed for beginners who just want a general overview of accessibility. The content is easy to digest and I learned some new bits and pieces along the way.

Jess says

This book exceeded my expectations. It's the short, action-packed accessibility guidebook our field needs.

Throughout the book, the author explains accessibility from many angles. She shows you how to write accessible code. She explains how to use color effectively in your visual designs. She even shows you how to include people with disabilities (PWD) in user research studies.

I was delighted to read about the latter. Including PWD in user research is a great way to identify accessibility issues in your designs. Unfortunately, most UX design teams don't include PWD in research studies. Hopefully, that will change.

Overall, this is a fresh, up-to-date guidebook for making your designs accessible. I plan to use it as a reference book for years to come.

Stringy says

Great overview or introduction to accessibility. I'll particularly be recommending this to people in leadership roles who want to know how to support a team in making an accessible product. Developers looking for in-

depth code samples might prefer Heydon Pickering's book, but this will be a great starting point for many people.

Aaron Chu says

As with my other experiences with A Book apart, this book discuss accessibility at a relatively high level. There is one chapter dedicated to a light discussion on the importance of semantic HTML, and the use of WAI-ARIA roles, but the examples to demonstrate these concepts are few. In particular, I agree with Kalbag's evangelism for sematic HTML, but do not agree with her perspectives that considers WAI-ARIA as a last resort for web accessibility (p.120). I think that while WAI-ARIA is a last resort if the structure of the content is semantic, when this semantic structure is lacking (backward compatibility projects, novel interfaces, or even just the way the teams are built etc…), WAI-ARIA, which has garnered a wide support recently, does have the ability to stand in the foreground in place of semantic structure.

The book contains lots of information on the importance of universal design, and suggestions in how teams maybe structured to include Accessibility early on in the process. There focus of the book does not seem to be on the technical aspect of accessibility. That is not to say the book is poorly written. In fact, this can be a good primer for someone who is reaching out for Accessibility for the first time.

Jedi Lin says

Not a tech-heavy book, but a great introduction and concept book for Web Accessibility in this HTML5 era.

Mark says

I think this is a really great book. Good enough that I would like to have my company order several hundred copies and distribute them to developers, designers, and product owners. I think this is a really good entry-level guide to Accessibility. The author covers a lot of great topics and emphasizes many things that I also do professionally.

Amy says

For anyone who cares, even a little, about Web accessibility. An empathetic read with helpful details to get anyone started on accessibility. The resource list alone is worth your time and money!

Monika says

Focuses on a high-level view of accessibility. Great info about the different kinds of disabilities, and adaptive technology but only one chapter of technical info like ARIA.

Daniel Cornwall says

Gave me a new outlook and enthusiasm for web accessibility. Favorite quote, "The point of web accessibility is to create flexible and generous sites that benefit people using the web." Should be required reading for website creation stakeholders.