What is WAVE and how do I use it?

WAVE is a tool to help web developers make their web content more accessible. Go to [http://wave.webaim.org/](http://wave.webaim.org/) and simply enter the web page address of your page and click on the WAVE icon!

WAVE Documentation Panel: SUMMARY

What do all these icons mean?

WAVE will present your page with embedded icons and indicators. Each icon, box, and piece of information added by WAVE presents some information about the accessibility of your page.

The report section at the top of the page indicates if WAVE detected any errors or not. **The absence of errors DOES NOT mean your page is accessible.**

- **RED** icons indicate accessibility errors.
- **YELLOW** icons indicate alerts.
- **GREEN** icons indicate accessibility features.
- **BLUE** icons indicate structural elements

You can view a brief overview of what each icon or indicator means by clicking it and viewing its documentation or by accessing the documentation panel.
WAVE Documentation Panel: Documentation/Outline

**DOCUMENTATION:** an explanation of the WAVE icons

- What It Means
- Why It Matters
- How to Fix It
- Standards and Guidelines

**OUTLINE:** the heading structure of the page

- Heading 1
- Heading 2
- Heading 3
- Heading 4
**WAVE views:** displays accessibility information in three ways:

1. Styles
2. No Styles
3. Contrast

**Styles View** presents your page with the embedded accessibility icons and indicators. This is the default view with most WAVE features enabled. Because of the complexity of this view, some pages may become difficult to read. If this occurs, you can select the No Styles View.

**No Styles View** displays your page with styles disabled and tables linearized, thus revealing the unstyled HTML and the WAVE icons and indicators. This view also presents the underlying reading and navigation order, the order in which keyboard-only and screen reader users will access the page.

**Contrast View** shows only contrast issues on your page, based on WCAG 2.0 guidelines. You can use the tools in the details panel to review your color contrast, and even get updated colors that meet these guidelines.

In addition to the views above, you can select the **Code** tab at the bottom of the page to view the underlying markup of your page (note that the markup might be slightly different than the original, due to us necessarily removing scripting from your page).

**How is the WAVE toolbar different?**

The **WAVE Firefox toolbar** evaluates content as it appears within your web browser. This means that you can evaluate private, intranet, password protected, dynamically generated, or scripted web content. All evaluation happens directly within your browser. The toolbar also evaluates content after scripting has been applied, whereas the server version of WAVE removes all scripting.
In order for a Web page to conform to WCAG 2.0, all of the following conformance requirements must be satisfied:

**Conformance Level A:** For Level A conformance (the minimum level of conformance), the Web page satisfies all the Level A Success Criteria, or a conforming alternate version is provided.

**Conformance Level AA:** For Level AA conformance, the Web page satisfies all the Level A and Level AA Success Criteria, or a Level AA conforming alternate version is provided.

**Conformance Level AAA:** For Level AAA conformance, the Web page satisfies all the Level A, Level AA and Level AAA Success Criteria, or a Level AAA conforming alternate version is provided.

In order for a Web page to conform to