# Explainer for W3C WCAG2ICT Group Note

NOTE: If you would like to contribute to this document, please add your name in parenthesis on the heading(s) you’d like to help us develop.

## Abstract

This Explainer accompanies the [WCAG2ICT Note](https://www.w3.org/TR/wcag2ict-22/).

## Status of this Document (don’t need to work on this now)

*This section describes the status of this document at the time of its publication.*

This is an updated draft of the WCAG2ICT Explainer. It is informative, not normative, and is not expected to become a W3C Recommendation. It provides background on [Guidance on Applying WCAG 2 to Non-Web Information and Communications Technologies (WCAG2ICT)](https://www.w3.org/TR/wcag2ict/).

This document was published by the [WCAG2ICT Task Force](https://www.w3.org/WAI/about/groups/task-forces/wcag2ict/work-statement/#participation)  as an Editor's Draft.

Publication as an Editor's Draft does not imply endorsement by W3C and its Members.

This is a draft document and may be updated, replaced or obsoleted by other documents at any time. It is inappropriate to cite this document as other than work in progress.

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This document is governed by the [03 November 2023 W3C Process Document](https://www.w3.org/policies/process/20231103/).

## Introduction

Excerpt content from the [Guidance in this Document](https://www.w3.org/TR/wcag2ict-22/#guidance-in-this-document) section of the WCAG2ICT Note.

WCAG2ICT provides:

* informative guidance (guidance that is not [normative](https://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG22/#dfn-normative) and that does not set requirements)
* interpretation of Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0, 2.1, and 2.2 Level A and AA success criteria when applied to non-web information and communications technologies (ICT) - specifically to non-web documents and software (including mobile apps)

## Background and Development History for WCAG2ICT (Bruce)

A brief description excerpted from the [Background](https://www.w3.org/TR/wcag2ict-22/#background) section of the WCAG2ICT Note.

## Goals

Brief description of the main goal for WCAG2ICT - in a sentence or two.

### Intent and Usage of the WCAG2ICT Note

This is the main intent in having an explainer. To explain that this document doesn’t tell developers how to discern what requirements apply/don’t apply to their technology. Its focus is to provide standards development guidance and verbiage replacements for web-based language to non-web language. Will look into DoJ references to WCAG2ICT to point out specific expectations there that aren’t actually covered in WCAG2ICT to inform some of this content.

### What WCAG2ICT Does Not Do (Mary Jo, Sam,)

Intend to repeat some of the [Excluded from Scope](https://www.w3.org/TR/wcag2ict-22/#excluded-from-scope) content from the WCAG2ICT Note. For example, we don’t provide techniques. May take some of the expectations from the DoJ language and turn it into Out of Scope statements, if that is deemed appropriate.

Here’s what’s in the WCAG2ICT Note “Out of Scope” section that we can paraphrase:

* This document does not seek to determine which WCAG 2 provisions (principles, guidelines, or success criteria) should or should not apply to non-web documents and software, but rather how they would apply, if applied.
* This document does not propose changes to WCAG 2 or its supporting documents; it does not include interpretations for implementing WCAG 2 in web technologies. During the development of this document, the WCAG2ICT Task Force did seek clarification on the intent of a number of the success criteria, which led to clarifications in the Understanding WCAG 2 document.
* This document is not sufficient by itself to ensure accessibility in non-web documents and software. As a web standard, WCAG does not fully cover all accessibility requirements for non-user interface aspects of platforms, user-interface components as individual items, nor closed product software (where there is no Assistive Technology to communicate programmatic information).
* This document does not comment on hardware aspects of products, because the basic constructs on which WCAG 2 is built do not apply to these.
* This document does not provide supporting techniques for implementing WCAG 2 in non-web documents and software.
* The WCAG2ICT Note is not a standard and does not describe how non-web ICT should conform to WCAG.
* Something about when to use hardware or software to meet SC or if you need it in both?

## Glossary (if needed)

W3C uses some technical language including the following

* Informative: definition needed
* Normative: definition needed
* Technical note: definition needed
* Editor’s draft: definition needed
* Explainer: definition needed
* WCAG
* WCAG2ICT

## References

### Informative References

* [Fact Sheet: New Rule on the Accessibility of Web Content and Mobile Apps Provided by State and Local Governments | ADA.gov](https://www.ada.gov/resources/2024-03-08-web-rule/)
* https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/04/24/2024-07758/nondiscrimination-on-the-basis-of-disability-accessibility-of-web-information-and-services-of-state
* https://labs.etsi.org/rep/HF/en301549/-/issues/219

# Alternative outlines

## Outline from WAI [WCAG2ICT Overview](https://www.w3.org/WAI/standards-guidelines/wcag/non-web-ict/)

1. Introduction
   1. Versions
2. Who WCAG2ICT is for
3. What is in WCAG2ICT
   1. Technical document format
4. Who develops WCAG2ICT
   1. Comments

## TAG [Explainers](https://tag.w3.org/explainers/) template

* the user-facing problem which needs to be solved;
* the proposed approach to solving the problem;
* the way the proposed solution may be used in practice to address the intended use cases, via example code;
* any other venues (such as mailing list, pull requests or issue threads external to the location of the explainer) where the reader may catch up on discussions regarding the proposed feature or features;
* what other proposed features the proposed solution depends on, if any;
* the alternatives which have already been considered and why they were not chosen;
* accessibility, security and privacy implications which have been considered as part of the design process.