Creating Accessible PowerPoints

PowerPoint can be an effective tool to use during live demonstrations, online presentations or webinars. Please consider Accessibility when using them.

The following are some guidelines that would help to make PowerPoint Presentations more Accessible.

Use an accessible slide layout and design

To access the pre-set Accessible layouts go to **Insert** tab, click on the **New Slide** option and select the desired Layout. Refrain from adding Text Boxes to avoid Accessibility Problems. Screen Readers do not read the text inside the text boxes.



Format text for accessibility

- 1. Select your text.
- 2. Select the **Home** tab.
- In the Font group, which provides options for font type, size, style, and color, select your formatting choices.



On the **Design** tab, in the **Themes** group, select **Office Theme**.

The Office Theme is designed for accessible colors, contrast, and fonts. It's also designed so that screen readers can more easily read slide



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Try to use San Serif Fonts types and font sizes of 18pt or larger.

Font Types		Font Size	
Serif Fonts	San-Serif Fonts	Small size font is hard to read	Larger size font is easier to read
Fonts with small finishing strokes at the end of a character.	(Recommended)	12 points	18 points
This font is Garamond	This font is Arial	14 points	24 points
This font is Georgia This font is Times New Roman	This font is Tahoma This font is Verdana	16 points	32 points



Color and Contrast

When using PowerPoint do not concentrate on color extensively to provide content. The presentation should provide enough color contrast in each slide



THIS IS HARDER TO READ

C	olor Contrast/\	isibility Char/	t	
Best		Fair		
Black/Yellow	Black/Yellow	Red/Yellow	Red/Yellow	
Black/White	Black/White	Red/Black	Red/Black	
Black/Orange	Black/Orange	Red/Orange	Red/Orange	
Blue/White	Blue/White	Poor		
Green/White	Green/White	Red/Blue	Red/Blue	
Red/White	Red/White	Red/Green	Red/Green	

It is recommended to place text on a plain, solid colored background for better visibility and contrast

Add Alt Text to images

Add alt text to images, such as pictures, clip art, and screenshots, so that screen readers can read the text to describe the image to users who can't see the image.

- 1. Right-click an image.
- 2. Select Size and Position.
- 3. In the right pane, select **Alt Text**.
- 4. Type a description and a title.

Tip: Include the most important information



Add Alt Text Description to Graphics

When using graphs, please add both, the Alternative Text with a brief description of the meaning of the Graph and a fu Version 1

For Line Graphs use different styles and colors.







For Bar Graphs use different patterns and colors.

Use captions, subtitles, and alternative audio tracks in videos

To make your PowerPoint presentations accessible, ensure the following:

- Videos include an audio track with video descriptions, if needed, for users that are blind or visually impaired.
- Videos that include dialogue also include closed captions or subtitles in a supported format for users that are deaf or hard of hearing.
- If a video is embedded in the PowerPoint please ensure that it is captioned, and that the player controls are

Use Outline and Normal Views

Outline View will display the titles and body text. Always verify the reading order of the PowerPoint. You will learn the order as to how it will be read by a Screen Reader and verify that it is the way you want to present it. In this view you can easily identify the text and the order in which it will be read by a Screen Reader.





Outline View



Normal View



Normal View will display the thumbnails of all the slides with the design elements that have been added.

Accessibility Checker

Also, PowerPoint 2013 has the Accessibility Checker feature to make sure your presentation is accessible.

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References:

https://support.office.com/en-us/article/Make-your-PowerPoint-presentationsaccessible-6f7772b2-2f33-4bd2-8ca7-dae3b2b3ef25

