AMI

Technical Specifications and Deliverables

October 2024

Revision History

Document Version	Date	Reason for Revision
Draft	January 2024	Creation of Document
v1.1	August 2024	Updated Sections 4.2, 4.3, 4.5
v1.2	October 2024	Updated Sections 2, 3.3, 3.7, 5.3

1 Introduction

AMI is a not-for-profit media company that entertains, informs, and empowers Canadians with disabilities through the offering of relevant original content. Operating three broadcast services, AMI-tv and AMI-audio in English and AMI-télé in French, AMI's vision is to establish and support a voice for Canadians with disabilities, representing their interests, concerns and values through accessible media, reflection, and portrayal. All of AMI's content, both live and pre-recorded, contains open descriptions either in the form of traditional described video (DV) or integrated described video (IDV) as well as closed captions.

1.1 Our Mission

AMI is a media company that entertains, informs, and empowers Canadians with disabilities through the offering of relevant original content.

1.2 Our Vision

Establish AMI as a leader in the offering of accessible content providing a voice for Canadians with disabilities through authentic storytelling, representation, and positive portrayal.

1.3 Questions and Contacts

Questions regarding the technical requirements of content and the delivery of content should be addressed to:

media.distribution@ami.ca

2 General Quality

Unless otherwise agreed upon, files for distribution, linear or otherwise, must:

- conform to the technical specifications laid out within this document (see: 4. Technical Specifications)
- conform to the technical deliverables laid out within this document (see: 3. Deliverables)
- not have any video or audio impairment such as digital and colorimetric errors, compression or encoding artifacts, etc.
- not contain graphics or other elements containing spelling errors
- not contain partly or wholly standard definition content
- be DV or IDV compliant
- contain embedded closed captioning conforming to EIA-608 (see: 4. Technical Specifications)
- include the entirety of the expected content and not be truncated or short
- not contain any special characters or spaces in the file name

2.1 Right of Refusal

All content undergoes a quality control process; files that do not pass this process will be rejected. It will be up to the producer or production company to correct the issues and resend the rejected files.

AMI reserves the right to reject any production that fails to meet the specifications described in this document.

3 Deliverables

3.1 Full Length Content (Independent, Service, Internal)

3.1.1 File Based Delivery

AMI requires that all content is delivered as digital files. These shall have video and audio together in an .mxf wrapper with linear PCM audio, compliant to Technical Specifications - 4.1 Broadcast Audio/Video Content.

Video resolution shall be 1920x1080 HD, with an interlaced frame rate of 29.97i.

They should contain embedded closed captioning following the EIA-608 format.

They should conform to industry standards and best practices.

They should be produced with IDV that follows the 'Integrated Described Video Best Practices' as created by the Described Video Best Practices (DVBP) Committee.

Where DV is required, it should conform to industry best practices.

Files should not contain any extra content, such as textless elements, after the end credits.

3.1.2 Time Code

Time code shall be continuous throughout the file and be in drop frame.

Actual content shall start at 01:00:00;00.

Time code shall conform to SMPTE Standard 12-1:2014.

3.1.3 Bars, Tone, Visual Slate

Lasting for 20 seconds starting at 00:59:30;00, a visual slate should be included, easy to read, and contain the following information:

- Production Company
- Show Title
- Season and Episode Number (where applicable)
- Episode Title (where applicable)
- Audio Channel Allocation
- Total Run Time of Content
- Individual Segments Start and End Times
- CC Embedded Indication (Yes or No)
- DV or IDV Indication
- Content Language (English or French)

Reference tones should be 1 kHz at -20 dBFS. The reference tone shall be consistent with the recorded program.

Bars should conform to SMPTE RP 219 HD colour bars. They should be produced in the same space that the final edit of content was created and to which the edit suite has been calibrated.

3.1.4 Content Structure

Start of content shall be at 01:00:00;00 and follow the structure listed in the table below:

Time Code	Duration	Audio	Video
00:58:30;00	60 seconds	1 kHz @ reference level	SMPTE RP 219 HD colour bars
00:59:30;00	20 seconds	Silence	Slate
00:59:50;00	9 seconds	Silence	Countdown
00:59:59;00	1 frame	1 kHz @ reference level	SMPTE RP 219 HD colour bars
00:59:59;01	28.97 frames	Silence	Black
01:00:00;00	----	Start of Program	Start of Program

3.1.5 Content Segmentation

Content shall be segmented to create insertion points for the addition of break material.

No more than two (2) seconds of black and silence shall separate segments.

3.1.6 Content Audio Channel Allocation

AMI does not accept a 5.1 or 7.1 surround sound audio mix.

Content shall contain eight (8) tracks of audio and shall conform to the following allocation:

Channel	Allocated Purpose
Ch: 1	Main Stereo Left with DV Left*
Ch: 2	Main Stereo Right with DV Right*
Ch: 3	Main Stereo Left
Ch: 4	Main Stereo Right
Ch: 5	Music and Effects Left (Undipped)
Ch: 6	Music and Effects Right (Undipped)
Ch: 7	Dialogue Only Left
Ch: 8	Dialogue Only Right

*DV only when required

3.1.7 Audio Levels

Audio levels must be mixed to -24 LKFS as per the ATSC A/85 “Establishing and Maintaining Audio Loudness” standard.

Audio Reference Levels: +4 dBu and/or -20 dBFS, as applicable

Peak Levels Range: -18 dBFS to -7 dBFS

Loudness: -24 LKFS +/-2 LUFS

3.1.8 Metadata Requirements

Metadata files shall conform to 4.6 Metadata.

Files shall be named using the show and episode title they are associated with and contain the word “Metadata” in the file name.

Files shall contain the following:

- Show Title
- Season and Episode Number (where applicable)
- Episode Title (where applicable) – maximum 50 characters, including spaces
- Show Synopsis – maximum 300 characters, including spaces
- Episode Synopsis (where applicable) – maximum 255 characters, including spaces
- Host or Participant(s) Biographies – maximum 450 characters, including spaces
- A list of associated key words relevant to the show and episode

3.1.9 Closed Captioning

All closed captioning shall conform to EIA-608 captioning standards.

They shall be in the pop-on closed captioning style.

They shall be free of spelling errors.

Best efforts shall be made to include all dialogue as spoken by the content subjects/narrators, excluding when the narration is a part of a described video narration.

They shall include obvious sounds and noises.

They shall follow industry best practices and standards.

3.1.10 End Credits

Content must contain completed end credits within the finished file and comply with 6 Credits and Graphics Best Practices.

3.2 Short Form Content – Interstitials and Related Content

AMI defines Short Form Content as content that is shorter than a traditional broadcast length of content but does not include promotional material or advertising material.

AMI defines Related Content as all content produced by either an independent company or by AMI. Related Content is separate, but complimentary, to the primary media. It is primarily for, but not exclusive to, online viewing.

Files should not contain any extra content, such as textless elements, or bars, tone, and slate.

3.2.1 File Based Delivery

AMI requires that all content is delivered as digital files. These shall have video and audio together in an .mxf wrapper with linear PCM audio, compliant to Technical Specifications – 4.1 Technical Specifications.

They should contain embedded closed captioning following the EIA-608 format.

They should contain DV or IDV that follows the 'Post Production Described Video Best Practices Artistic and Technical Guidelines' or the 'Integrated Described Video Best Practices' as created by the Described Video Best Practices (DVBP) Committee.

Where DV is required, it should conform to industry best practices.

3.2.2 Time Code

Time code shall be continuous throughout the file and be in drop frame.

Actual content shall start at 01:00:00;00.

Time code shall conform to SMPTE Standard 12-1:2014.

3.2.3 Start of Content

Start of content shall be at 01:00:00;00 at the start of playback of the file.

3.2.4 Content Audio Channel Allocation

AMI does not accept a 5.1 or 7.1 surround sound audio mix.

Content shall contain eight (8) tracks of audio and shall conform to the following allocation:

Channel	Allocated Purpose
Ch: 1	Main Stereo Left with DV Left*
Ch: 2	Main Stereo Right with DV Right*
Ch: 3	Main Stereo Left
Ch: 4	Main Stereo Right
Ch: 5	Music and Effects Left (Undipped)
Ch: 6	Music and Effects Right (Undipped)
Ch: 7	Dialogue Only Left
Ch: 8	Dialogue Only Right

*DV only when required

3.2.5 Audio Levels

Audio levels must be mixed to -24 LKFS as per the ATSC A/85 “Establishing and Maintaining Audio Loudness” standard.

Audio Reference Levels: +4 dBu and/or -20 dBFS, as applicable

Peak Levels Range: -18 dBFS to -7 dBFS

Loudness: -24 LKFS +/-2 LUFS

3.2.6 Metadata Requirements

Metadata files shall conform to 4.6 Metadata.

Files shall be named using the show and episode title they are associated with and contain the word “Metadata” in the file name.

Files shall contain the following:

- Show Title
- Season and Episode Number (where applicable)
- Episode Title (where applicable) – maximum 50 characters, including spaces
- Show Synopsis – maximum 300 characters, including spaces
- Episode Synopsis (where applicable) – maximum 255 characters, including spaces
- Host or Participant(s) Biographies – maximum 450 characters, including spaces
- A list of associated key words relevant to the show and episode

3.2.7 Closed Captioning

All closed captioning shall conform to EIA-608 captioning standards.

They shall be in the pop-on closed captioning style.

They shall be free of spelling errors.

Best efforts shall be made to include all dialogue as spoken by the content subjects/narrators, excluding when the narration is a part of a described video narration.

They shall include obvious sounds and noises.

They shall follow industry best practices and standards.

3.2.8 End Credits

Content must contain completed end credits within the finished file and comply with 6 Credits and Graphics Best Practices.

3.3 Live Program Video, Audio, and Images Playback Elements

AMI requires that all content for playback during a live program is delivered as digital files.

3.3.1 Video

Where these files contain video and audio together, they should be in an .mp4 wrapper with linear AAC audio when required, compliant to Technical Specifications – 4.8 Live Playback Video Elements.

3.3.2 IDV Compliance

Video that contains audio shall conform to AMI's IDV standards. The live content should be produced with IDV in mind; preparing graphics and text elements that contain the same information that is spoken and using B-roll that complements the audio.

3.3.3 Start of Content

Start of content shall be at the start of playback of the file.

3.3.4 Content Audio Channel Allocation

AMI does not accept a 5.1 or 7.1 surround sound audio mix.

Content shall contain two (2) tracks of audio and shall conform to the following allocation:

Channel	Allocated Purpose
Ch: 1	Main Stereo Left with DV Left*
Ch: 2	Main Stereo Right with DV Right*

*DV only when required

3.3.5 Audio

Where there are audio-only files, they shall conform to Technical Specifications - 4.10 Live Playback Audio Elements.

Audio levels must be mixed to -24 LKFS as per the ATSC A/85 "Establishing and Maintaining Audio Loudness" standard.

Audio Reference Levels: +4 dBu and/or -20 dBFS, as applicable

Peak Levels Range: -18 dBFS to -7 dBFS

Loudness: -24 LKFS +/-2 LUFS

3.3.6 Still Images

Images shall conform to Technical Specifications - 4.9 Live Playback Still Elements.

3.3.7 End Credits

End credits that are produced as a stand-alone playback clip must conform to 6 Credits and Graphics Best Practices.

3.4 Audio Programs and Audio Elements for AMI-audio

3.4.1 Audio Programs and Audio Elements

Audio Programs and Audio Elements shall be sent to AMI-audio as a .wav file and conform to Technical Specifications - 4.2 Audio Content.

Audio levels must be mixed to -24 LKFS as per the ATSC A/85 “Establishing and Maintaining Audio Loudness” standard.

Audio Reference Levels: +4 dBu and/or -20 dBFS, as applicable

Peak Levels Range: -18 dBFS to -7 dBFS

Loudness: -24 LKFS +/-2 LUFS

3.5 Podcasting

3.5.1 Audio Podcasting

Audio-exclusive podcasts and podcasts that contain combined audio and video shall conform to Technical Specifications - 4.3 Podcasts.

In both cases, audio levels must be mixed to -24 LKFS as per the ATSC A/85 “Establishing and Maintaining Audio Loudness” standard.

Audio Reference Levels: +4 dBu and/or -20 dBFS, as applicable

Peak Levels Range: -18 dBFS to -7 dBFS

Loudness: -24 LKFS +/-2 LUFS

3.5.2 Video Podcasting

Video podcasts should be accompanied by an audio-only version and shall conform to Technical Specifications - 4.3 Podcasts.

3.5.3 Time Code

Where video file is .mxf, time code shall be continuous throughout the file and be in drop frame.

Time code shall conform to SMPTE Standard 12-1:2014.

Actual content shall start at 01:00:00;00.

Where video file is .mp4, no time code is required.

3.5.4 Start of Content

Start of content shall be at the start of playback of the file.

3.5.5 Content Audio Channel Allocation

AMI does not accept a 5.1 or 7.1 surround sound audio mix.

Content shall contain two (2) tracks of audio and shall conform to the following allocation:

Channel	Allocated Purpose
Ch: 1	Main Stereo Left with DV Left*
Ch: 2	Main Stereo Right with DV Right*

*DV only when required

3.6 Images

3.6.1 Series Images

These files shall conform to Technical Specifications - 4.7 Images.

Five (5) title screen images are required:

- One (1) in landscape and one (1) in portrait containing just the title of the series with a solid colour background
- One (1) in landscape and one (1) in portrait containing the subjects of the content in the shots for something more dynamic
- One (1) in portrait containing the title of the series as well as the subjects of the content

3.6.2 Episode Images

These files shall conform to Technical Specifications - 4.7 Images.

They shall have relevance to the title of the episode with contents including at least 1-2 people in frames of the show.

They shall contain faces, in focus and clear, from the chest up.

They shall not contain fast-moving subjects.

3.6.3 Digital Platform Images

These files shall conform to Technical Specifications - 4.7 Images.

They shall contain 1-2 people facing the camera and in focus. Promo and group shots are accepted.

Promotional images of primary cast, and behind-the-screen images of the production are required.

3.7 Commercials, PSAs, and Infomercials

AMI will accept commercial, PSA, and infomercial delivery via Extreme Reach, Lamajeure, or Comcast.

Extreme Reach Information:

Destination: AMiTV (Accessibility Media) Hub

connectivity.na@extremereach.com

+1.800.324.5672

Lamajeure Information:

distribution@lamajeure.com

Comcast Information:

Destination: Accessible Media Inc. - AMI-TV

addelivery_support@comcast.com

3.8 Promos

3.8.1 File Based Delivery

AMI requires that all content is delivered as digital files. These shall have video and audio together in an .mxf wrapper with linear PCM audio, compliant to Technical Specifications - 4.1 Broadcast Audio/Video Content.

They should contain embedded closed captioning following the EIA-608 format.

They should contain DV or IDV that follows the ‘Post Production Described Video Best Practices Artistic and Technical Guidelines’ or the ‘Integrated Described Video Best Practices’ as created by the Described Video Best Practices (DVBP) Committee.

3.8.2 Time Code

Time code shall be continuous throughout the file and be in drop frame.

Time code shall conform to SMPTE Standard 12-1:2014.

Actual content shall start at 01:00:00;00.

3.8.3 Start of Content

Start of content shall be at 01:00:00;00 at the start of playback of the file.

3.8.4 Content Audio Channel Allocation

AMI does not accept a 5.1 or 7.1 surround sound audio mix.

Content shall contain two (2) tracks of audio and shall conform to the following allocation:

Channel	Allocated Purpose
Ch: 1	Main Stereo Left with DV Left*
Ch: 2	Main Stereo Right with DV Right*

*DV only when required

3.8.5 Audio

Audio levels must be mixed to -24 LKFS as per the ATSC A/85 “Establishing and Maintaining Audio Loudness” standard.

Audio Reference Levels: +4 dBu and/or -20 dBFS, as applicable

Peak Levels Range: -18 dBFS to -7 dBFS

Loudness: -24 LKFS +/-2 LUFS

3.8.6 Closed Captioning

All closed captioning shall conform to EIA-608 captioning standards.

They shall be in the pop-on closed captioning style.

They shall be free of spelling errors.

Best efforts shall be made to include all dialogue as spoken by the content subjects/narrators, excluding when the narration is a part of a described video narration.

They shall include obvious sounds and noises.

They shall follow industry best practices and standards.

3.9 Described Video Stand-alone

AMI may request stand-alone described video files at its discretion.

These shall conform to Technical Specifications - 4.5 Described Video Stand-alone.

DV Mixes shall contain two (2) tracks of audio and shall conform to the following allocation:

Channel	Allocated Purpose
Ch: 1	Main Stereo Left with DV Left
Ch: 2	Main Stereo Right with DV Right

DV Voice Tracks shall contain one (1) track of audio and shall conform to the following allocation:

Channel	Allocated Purpose
Ch: 1	DV

Described video tracks shall conform to industry best practices and standards.

They should be of good audio quality and clear to understand.

Described video shall not overlap or overpower the program dialogue.

They shall accurately describe the relevant visual and textual elements on screen.

They shall include voice over of the end credits, including names, roles, logos, and copyright.

3.10 Closed Captioning Stand-alone

AMI may request stand-alone closed captioning files at its discretion.

These shall conform to Technical Standards - 4.4 Closed Captioning Stand-alone.

They shall be in the pop-on closed captioning style.

They shall be free of spelling errors.

Best efforts shall be made to include all dialogue as spoken by the content subjects/narrators, excluding when the narration is a part of a described video narration.

They shall include obvious sounds and noises.

They shall follow industry best practices and standards.

4 Technical Specifications

4.1 Broadcast Audio/Video Content

Video	
Wrapper	.mxf in compliance with MXF OP1a
Video Codec	XDCAM HD422@50 Mbps
Bit Rate	50 Mbps
Resolution	1920x1080
Frame Rate	29.97 (Interlaced)
Aspect Ratio	16:9
File Type	MPEG-2 compression
Scan	Interlaced Upper Field First
Time Code Start of Program	01:00:00;00
Drop Frame	Yes
Closed Captioning	Embedded; EIA-608
Audio	
Audio Codec	Linear PCM
Sample Rate	48000 Hz
Bit Depth	24 bits

4.2 Audio Content

Broadcast	
Start of Program	Start of File
Audio Format	.wav
Sample Rate	44100 Hz
Bit Depth	16 bits
Reference Levels	-20 dBFS
Loudness	-24 LKFS
Elements	
Audio Format	.wav
Sample Rate	44100 Hz
Bit Depth	16 bits

4.3 Podcasts

Audio Podcasts	
Start of Program	Start of File
Audio Format	.wav
Sample Rate	44100 Hz
Bit Depth	16 bits
Reference Levels	-20 dBFS
Loudness	-24 LKFS

Video Podcasts – AMI-audio	
Wrapper	.mp4
Video Codec	H.264
Bit Rate	4 Mbps
Resolution	1920x1080
Frame Rate	29.97
Aspect Ratio	16:9
Scan	Progressive
Drop Frame	Yes
Closed Captioning	Sidecar .scc; EIA-608
Transcript	.txt
Audio Codec	AAC
Sample Rate	48000 Hz
Bit Depth	32 bits
Reference Levels	-20 dBFS
Loudness	-24 LKFS
Video Podcasts – AMI-tv/AMI-télé	
Wrapper	.mxf in compliance with MXF OP1a
Video Codec	XDCAM HD422@50 Mbps
Bit Rate	50 Mbps
Resolution	1920x1080
Frame Rate	29.97 (Interlaced)
Aspect Ratio	16:9
File Type	MPEG-2 compression
Scan	Interlaced Upper Field First
Time Code Start of Program	01:00:00;00
Drop Frame	Yes
Closed Captioning	Embedded; EIA-608
Audio Codec	Linear PCM
Sample Rate	48000 Hz
Bit Depth	24 bits

4.4 Closed Captioning Stand-alone

Closed Captioning	
Captioning Standard	EIA-608
File Type	.scc

4.5 Described Video Stand-alone

Described Video	
Audio Format	.wav
Audio Codec	Linear PCM
Sample Rate	48000 Hz
Bit Depth	24 bits

4.6 Metadata

Metadata	
File Types	.xlsx, .docx

4.7 Images

Images	
Size	Minimum 720p (Up to 1080p)
Resolution	300 PPI
Images – AMI+ and Digital Platforms	
Size	1080p preferred (Minimum 720p)
Resolution	72 PPI to 100 PPI
Raw Picture Files	Optional
Ratios	16:9; 9:16; 4:5
File Formats	SVG, PNG, JPG/JPEG, TIFF, Ai, PSD
Logo Files	
Size	72 PPI
Resolution	Minimum 720p
File Formats	SVG, PNG, Ai

4.8 Live Playback Video Elements

Video Elements	
Wrapper	.mp4
Video Codec	H.264
Bit Rate	15 Mbps
Resolution	1920x1080
Frame Rate	29.97 (Interlaced)
Aspect Ratio	16:9
Scan	Interlaced Upper Field First
Drop Frame	Yes
Audio (if required)	
Audio Codec	AAC
Sample Rate	48000 Hz
Bit Depth	32 bits

4.9 Live Playback Still Elements

Still Images	
File Formats	TGA, PNG, JPG/JPEG
Size	1920x1080
Alpha Channel	No
Resolution	300 PPI

Animated Images	
File Format	PNG
Size	1920x1080
Alpha Channel	Yes
Resolution	300 PPI

4.10 Live Playback Audio Elements

Audio Elements	
Audio Formats	.mp3 or .wav
Sample Rate	48000 Hz
Bit Depth	32 bits

5 Accepted Delivery Methods

The accepted media delivery methods are as follows:

5.1 Signiant Media Shuttle

There are multiple Media Shuttle submissions and share portals set up to receive files for the types of assets listed below.

Please reach out to your AMI designated contact or the contact listed in section 1.3 if you require assistance.

- Broadcast Audio/Video Content
- Audio Content
- Podcasts
- Closed Captioning Stand-alone
- Described Video Stand-alone
- Live Playback Video Elements
- Live Playback Still Elements
- Live Playback Audio Elements
- Images

5.2 Email

There are multiple email addresses that can be used for receiving content types listed below.

Please reach out to your AMI designated contact or the contact listed in section 1.3 if you require assistance.

- Images
- Metadata

5.3 Extreme Reach, Lamajeure, and Comcast

- Commercials
- Public Service Announcements (PSAs)
- Infomercials

See section 3.7 Commercials, PSAs and Infomercials for further information on delivering via Extreme Reach, Lamajeure, and Comcast.

6 Credits and Graphics Best Practices

6.1 End Credits

Program end credits must be comprised of single cards with the below information and follow AMI's Accessible Graphics Guidelines outlined in 6.2 Accessible Graphics Best Practices.

Credits should be easy to read.

6.1.1 End Credits Elements

Logos and elements comprising the end credits can be obtained from AMI. Please reach out to your AMI designated contact if you require assistance.

6.1.2 End Credits Layout

Headings highlighted in yellow should be read aloud.

(Single Card)

For AMI

[AMI LOGO]

Integrated Described Video Consultant

NAME

Supervising Producer/Production Executive

NAME

Content Development Specialist (if applicable)

NAME

Consultants (if applicable)

NAME(s)

***

(Single Card)

For Accessible Media Inc.

Director, Programming

Lise-Anne Gagné

Director, Content Development and Production

CARA NYE

Vice President, Content Development and Operations

JOHN MELVILLE

President and CEO

DAVID ERRINGTON

Copyright

(Year)

***

(Single Card)

Production Company Card/Animation

(if required)

***

(AMI Single Animation)

(Licensed) Produced in Association with AMI

OR

(Service or Internal) An AMI Original Production

6.2 Accessible Graphics Best Practices

These guidelines are intended to provide rules and guidelines for use of accessible graphics and text on AMI. These rules are designed to maximize accessibility for a blind and partially sighted audience while not limiting creativity.

These guidelines are based off the research and standards set by Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG 2.0). Relevant sections have been adapted to accommodate the differences in nature of web content compared to television content.

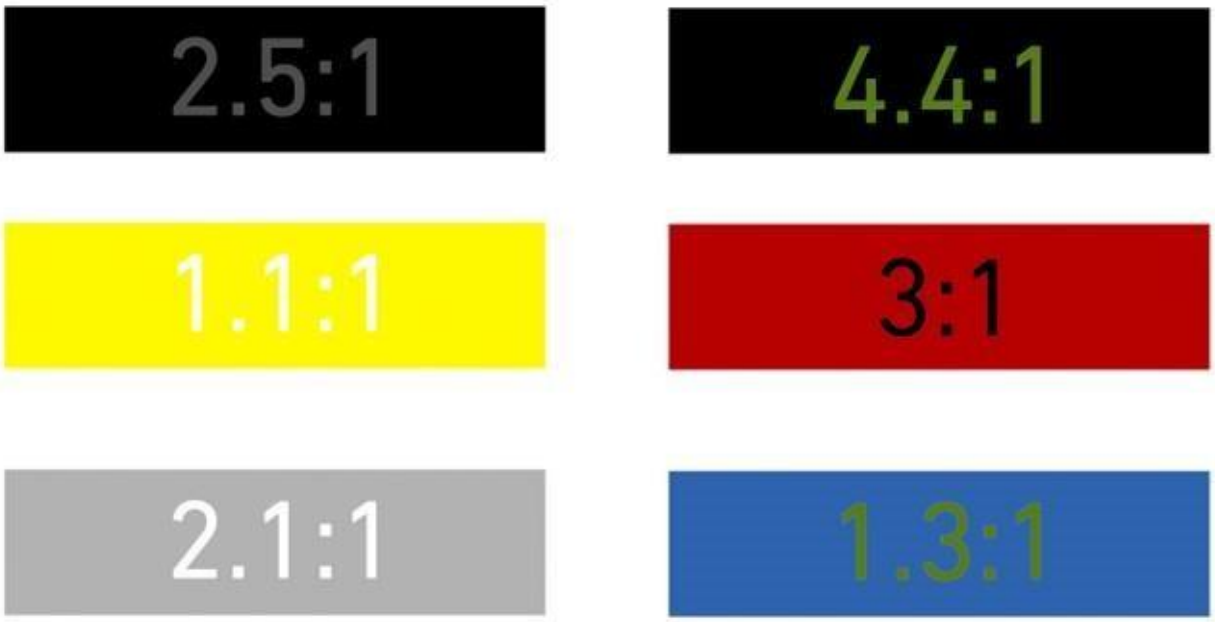
6.2.1 Size

Text presented on screen should adhere to a minimum pixel size of 48px.

6.2.2 Contrast

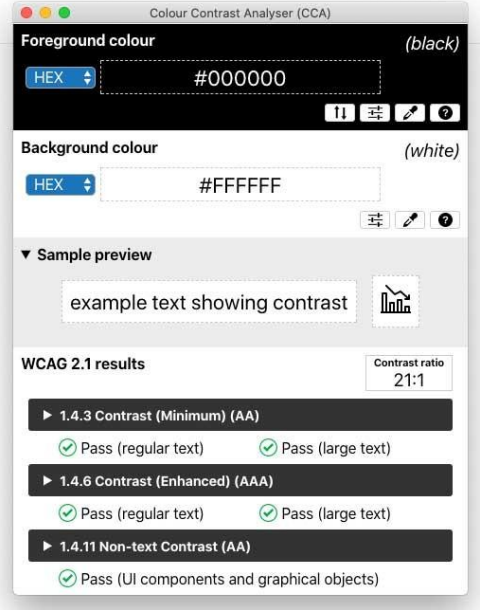
On-screen text requires a minimum contrast ratio of 4.5:1 (based on relative luminance) with the background colour behind it.

Low contrast examples:



High contrast examples:

Use the Colour Contrast Analyser app to check the contrast level between the colour of the text and the colour of the background and ensure it meets the minimum standard.



Colour Contrast Analyser app:

https://developer.paciellogroup.com/resources/contrastanalyser/

6.2.3 Duration

The minimum length of time that text and graphics should remain on screen without obstruction is equal to the time it takes an average person to read aloud the text or describe the content.

6.2.4 Font

Text should be presented with fonts that use recognizable letterforms. Decorative or display fonts that contain extraordinarily thin strokes, unusual characteristics, or proportions that reduce the familiarity of letters can adversely affect legibility and should be avoided. It is also important to note the kerning, tracking, and leading of the presented text. If the kerning, tracking, or leading is too tight then letters can blend together and be difficult to distinguish. Alternatively, if they are too loose, the letters or words can appear to be floating which can negatively affect readability.

Inaccessible font examples:

Lucida Blackletter Font

Braggadocio Font

Brush Script STD Font

Kino MT Font

Accessible font examples:

Din Next LT Pro Font

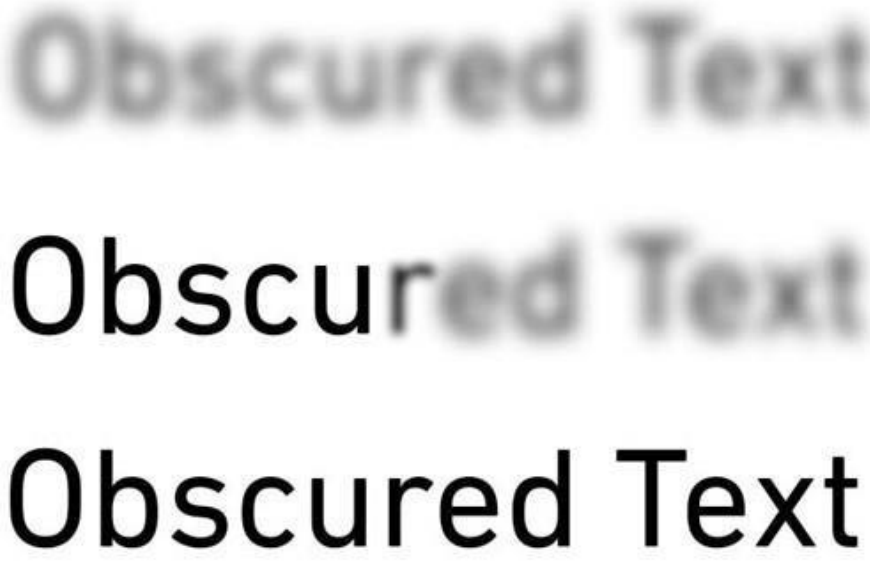
Times New Roman Font

Arial Font

Verdana Font

6.2.5 Obscuration and Transitions

Graphic elements or transitions that obscure the legibility of text or graphics should resolve away from the text or graphics being obscured. The duration of the text should be measured from the time the text is no longer obscured.



6.2.6 Patterned Background or Moving Footage

Text and graphics on top of busy backgrounds or moving footage can decrease legibility. Increases in size, contrast, and duration of text or adding a colour treatment to the background can improve legibility. In some cases, picking a less busy background may be the best option.

Inaccessible title on busy background example:

Accessible title on colour-treated background:

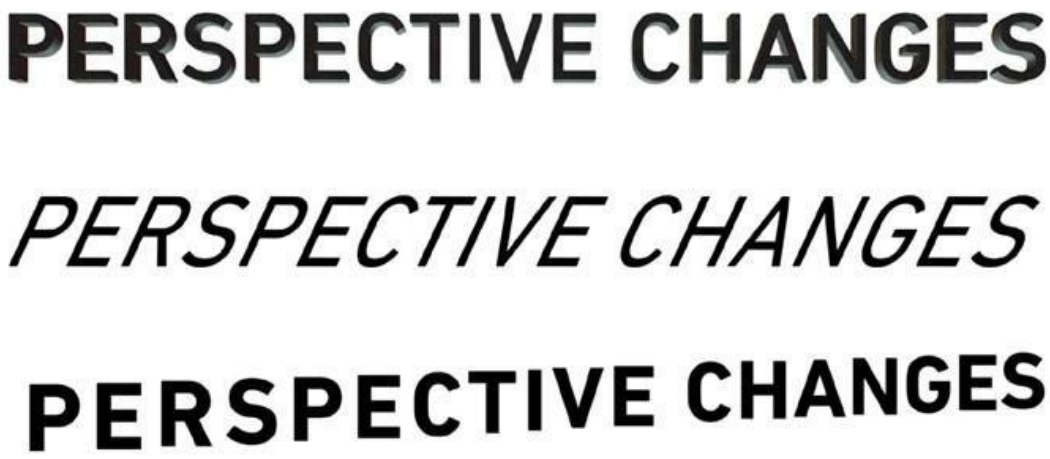
Accessible title on less busy background:

6.2.7 Perspective Changes

Text and graphics that have had their natural perspectives altered can decrease legibility. This includes changes to rotation and skew, as well as 3D extrusions. When using these techniques, extra care and consideration is required to ensure accessibility. Increases in size, contrast, and duration can improve legibility in these cases.

Inaccessible perspective change examples:

Accessible perspective change examples:



6.2.8 Stroke/Drop Shadows

A stroke/drop shadow behind letters can be a helpful tool to add contrast between text and the background. When using strokes/drop shadows, ensure the text colour and the effect colour meet the minimum contrast ratio and that the effect is not hindering the legibility of the text in any way.

Inaccessible stroke/drop shadow examples:

Accessible stroke/drop shadow examples:

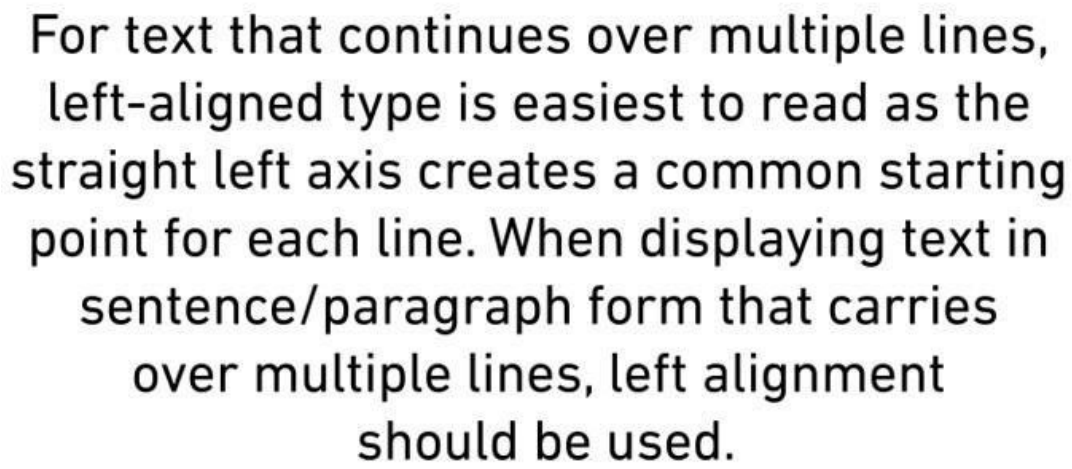
6.2.9 Moving Text

Text that has motion throughout the duration period can decrease readability as it may be harder for the viewer to focus on. Any movement of text, such as crawling or scaling, during the duration period should be gentle and slow. When using these techniques, extra care and consideration is required to ensure accessibility. Increases in size, contrast, and duration can improve legibility in these cases.

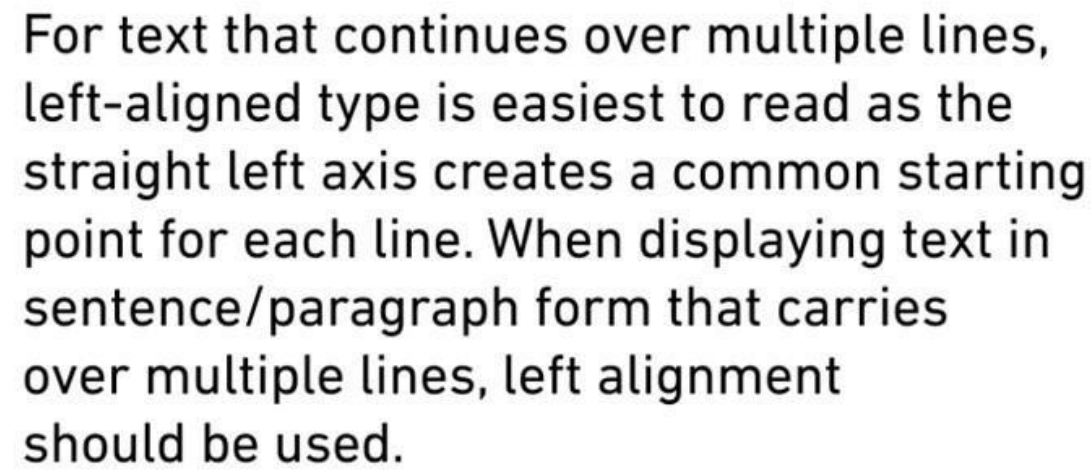
6.2.10 Alignment

For text that continues over multiple lines, left-aligned type is easiest to read as the straight left axis creates a common starting point for each line. When displaying text in sentence/paragraph form that carries over multiple lines, left alignment should be used.

Inaccessible alignment example:



Accessible alignment example:



6.2.11 Font Styles for Lengthy Text

When displaying text in sentence/paragraph form that carries over multiple lines, all capitals should be avoided. While this technique can aid in highlighting key points in shorter segments or headings, it will decrease readability in lengthy segments.

6.2.12 High Luminance or Saturated Red Flashes

While this technique is not directly related to accessibility for a low-vision audience, it is an important note for people who may be prone to seizures from photosensitivity. Flashes or strobe lights that take up more than 25% of the screen and have a high luminance difference or saturated red flashing should be kept to a rate no greater than 3 flashes per second, and not for a duration exceeding 5 seconds.