

A wooden gavel is in the foreground on the left, resting on a wooden surface. In the background, a hand is typing on a laptop keyboard. The text is centered in the lower half of the image.

WEB RIGHTS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

September 2024

Did You Know?

People with disabilities, for example, the blind and hearing impaired, use special tools to process and interpret online content.

Making a few small changes to your web content strategy can greatly improve the user experience for everyone, including people with disabilities.



Section 508, an amendment to the the **Rehabilitation Act of 1973**, protects the rights of people with disabilities who read online content.

Key Points on Section 508:

Makes the web more accessible to everyone.

Provides an avenue for redress and enforcement.

Essential for educating content creators and publishers.



BY THE NUMBERS

1.3 billion

people globally experience a significant disability

96 percent

of websites remain inaccessible

75 percent

of Americans use the Internet daily

Source: Flipsnack

508 Compliance

How can web developers and content creators make sure they are complying with Section 508?



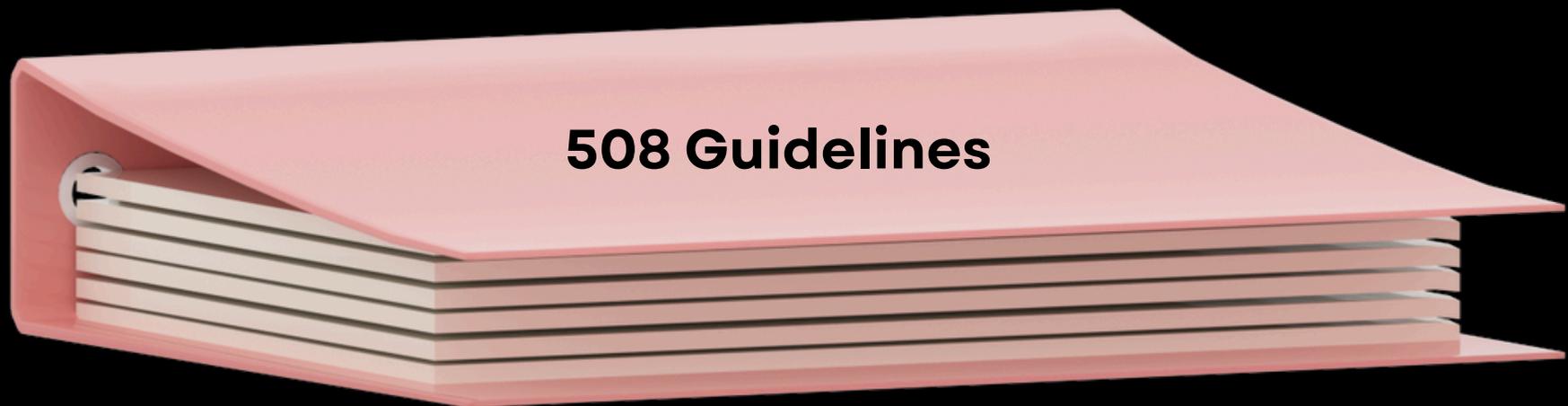
WEB DEVELOPERS

Key Point: Make all interactive elements keyboard navigable.

Just imagine being visually impaired. These changes, along with technology, help disabled users interact with web pages just like someone who has 20/20 vision.

CONTENT CREATORS

Key Point: Make sure all files, images, tables, and videos are 508 compliant (see instructions and examples, slides 8 - 14).



IMAGES

Key Points: All online images must be accompanied by an alt text, which is the technical way of saying caption. An alt text is a description of what users can see in the image displayed on your web page.



Strawberry salsa served with tortilla chips.

TABLES

Key Point: All online tables must be properly structured using a title and clearly labeled columns and rows, if necessary (see example, slide 10).

Student/Book Ratio at New Urban Elementary, Any Town, USA

	# of students	# of books
Class 1	25	12
Class 2	21	14
Class 3	19	19

Source: New Urban Elementary PTA

FILES

Key Points:

All PDF, PPT, and Excel files must:

- Use text to describe graphics and icons.
- Be keyboard navigable if they contain interactive elements.
- Use labels and tags on all form fields.
- Hierarchically structure content when necessary.
- Have properly structured tables with clear column and row headers, if necessary. The table should also include a title that describes its purpose (see example, slide 12).

Source: www.accessibe.com

PDF Example



Click thumbnail to view PDF:
[SEO Checklist for Beginners.](#)

VIDEOS

Key Points: Videos are often accompanied by some sort of track, whether it be a voiceover, music, or a combination of the above. To assist those who are hard of hearing, as well as those who are visually impaired, follow these key accessibility tips.

Use the cc or captions feature on your web editor or upload a .SRT files. Some of the social media sites will do the heavy lifting for you, as well as some web editors. Otherwise, you can create your own .SRT file on your desktop or use a paid SRT solution.

Video Example



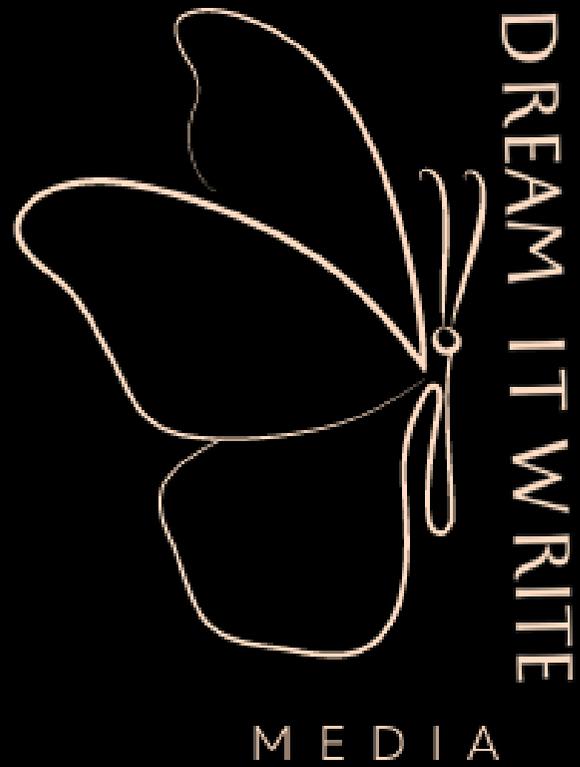
Click thumbnail to view video.



CONCLUSION

Understanding and protecting Section 508 is crucial for creating an inclusive online environment.

By being informed and proactive, individuals can safeguard their rights. Content creators and publishers, meanwhile, can contribute to a more equitable online world.



www.dreamitwrite.com

Thanks for watching!!