Overview

The ARC Toolkit is a set of accessibility tools which aids developers in identifying accessibility problems and features for WCAG, EN 301 549, and Section 508. The ARC Toolkit is tightly integrated with your browser’s developer tools and uses the ARC Rule Set, the same rules used by default in the ARC platform. This allows developers and quality assurance testers to take their ARC testing into their development environments and thoroughly investigate issues raised in ARC scans.

Installation

Chrome

1. Install ARC Toolkit from the Chrome Store.
2. Select Add to Chrome button.
3. Once installed, open the Settings menu in Chrome and select /More tools/Developer Tools or select F12.
4. In the DevTools tab bar, select the ARC Toolkit tab.

Firefox

1. Install ARC Toolkit from the Firefox Add Ons site (https://addons.mozilla.org/). Just search for ARC Toolkit. Alternatively, in Firefox, Select Add Ons and Themes from the Tools menu.
2. Select the Add to Firefox button.
3. Once installed, open the Tools menu in Firefox and select /More tools/Web Developer Tools or select F12.
4. In the Web Developer Tools tab bar, select the ARC Toolkit tab.
Using the Toolkit

To analyze a webpage, browse to the page and select the Run Tests button. You can run all the tests together or choose a topic, such as ‘Images’ from the All Topics menu.

Results display in a table in the left pane (1), organized by page element (images, headings, tables etc.) The right pane (2) displays the results organized by error message.

The columns in the results table show the number of errors, alerts and best practices.

1. Errors
2. Alerts
3. Best Practices

You can filter these results with the Only Show options above the table or by checking/unchecking the box next to each topic.
Right Panel

The right panel organizes all errors and alerts found under their related rules (the criteria tested, such as ‘iframe no title’).

Results Definitions:

- **Errors** are results where accessibility issues are found.
- **Alerts** are potential issues that ARC has flagged but require manual verification.
- **Best Practices** are results that are not part of the guidelines but may impact assistive technology users and the usability of the site.

You can switch the view to order the assertions by element and see the issues related to each element.

Use the magnifying glass icon to inspect the element with your browser developer tools. Use the clipboard icon to copy the XPath (for locating the code snippet) to the clipboard.
Exploring Results

To see a visual representation of issues on the web page, select the Highlight button above the results table and choose the elements to emphasize. Visible instances are indicated on the page by a semi-transparent green dashed box and text. The Right Panel shows details of all the elements highlighted in the browser window.

Select any of the elements on the right to see a new red highlight around the corresponding element in the browser window. If there are any issues related to the element select the View issues link to see a report.
Additional Features
Along with the element highlighting you can also display:

- Infos (page metadata)
- Text Spacing
- Page Reflow

Validation Checks
Select the Other Tools button (above results table) to run validation checks including:

- Send URL to W3C validator
- Send page DOM to W3C validator
- Run ARIA checker

These checks open in a new browser window.

Settings
You can customize the Toolkit in the Settings section (cog icon above results table). The options here preset all filters in the tool. Especially useful if you have standardized on certain tests and criteria.

If you’re pages make use of the Shadow DOM, make sure this option is checked.

You can also set preferences for font size in the Toolkit under UI Preferences.

Toolkit Support Site
To track Toolkit development, join our community and get help, check out our GitHub support site at: https://github.com/ThePacielloGroup/ARC-Toolkit