PDF Files

* PDF files can be made Section 508 compliant, but most are not by default.

* If the source document you convert is not compliant, neither is the PDF. For example, images in Word files need to have "alt" attributes assigned to have the equivalent tag in the resulting PDF document.

PDF Files

* Accessibility problems with PDF files fall into 3 main categories:

    * Missing "alt" attributes for visual elements

    * Improper or missing reading order

    * Missing language specification

* PDFs with column-based layouts, lots of graphics, or tables are likely to represent problems.

PDF Files

* What constitutes a "compliant" PDF?

  * Files must be manually tested.

    * Option A: CommonLook

    * Option B: Integrated Acrobat Testing

      * "Advanced," "Accessibility," "Full Check"

  * Documents **must** be fully remediated before posting.

PDF Files

✳ It is critical that you make every effort to fix the documents you post. It is **not** advised that you post non-compliant "fancy" and compliant "plain" versions side by side. In most cases, the Department will not allow this.

✳ **Facts and Opinions About PDF Accessibility**

✳ http://www.alistapart.com/articles/pdf_accessibility

✳ The **best** article available on the topic

PDF Files

✳ Adobe Acrobat has a built-in screen reader to allow you to test the reading order.

✳ "View," "Read Out Loud"