

Accessible Content Core Skill 3: Contrast

Strong contrast ratios between the colour of your text and background are very important for accessibility. Black and white give us the best possible contrast ratio of brightness to darkness (21:1). The Board's All Access Washroom signs are an example of high contrast (with Braille) as a best practice.



Braille translation: Barrier Free All Access Washroom

Colour can still be an effective way to show visual information, but it should be used in moderation. Consider the following tips when using colour to show, emphasize or differentiate information.

Do...

- Use a free online [contrast checker](#) to test the contrast ratios between colours.
- Make sure to use a second visual cue when using colour to show information. For example: **complete**, **in progress**, **incomplete**.
- Use larger font sizes when

possible – text larger than size 18 (or size 14 bold) can have lower contrast ratios.

Don't...

- **Don't** use too many colours or low contrast colours.
- **Don't** use colour as the only way to show information.