

Evaluating Basic Accessibility Features of Technology Tools

01

AUDIO

Does the software support closed captioning and/or transcripts?

Articulate Storyline 360, iSpring Suite, and Adobe Captivate all provide these features

Does the software support Alt Text for Image Descriptions?

Articulate Storyline 360, iSpring Suite, and Adobe Captivate all provide these features

02

IMAGE

Does the software support keyboard-only navigation?

Articulate Storyline 360, iSpring Suite, and Adobe Captivate all provide these features

03

NAVIGATION

Does the software support learners utilizing screen-readers? Proper Reading Order?

Articulate Storyline 360, iSpring Suite, and Adobe Captivate all provide these features

04

SCREEN-READERS

tips:

TO REMEMBER

As an author, remember how various users perceive the course: low vision would text-to-speech features, while low hearing would want subtitles and captions

COMPARING ACCESSIBILITY TOOLS

ADOBE

STORYLINE 360

Articulate's Storyline 360 is a course-creation software designed for eLearning. According to the Articulate website, their commitment to accessibility is centered on the belief that "everyone deserves equal access to learning and development opportunities - regardless of ability". Articulate is on a continuous journey of improving their accessibility features as shown in their current Accessibility Conformance Report which meets the majority of WCAG standards. For those standards not met, Articulate either partially supports, does not support, or the criterion is not applicable to any of the Articulate features.

CAPTIVATE

Adobe's creative product line includes many software products to create and design content across many mediums such as publications, photo editing, and eLearning using their Captivate product. Captivate features a new Adobe interface that simplifies course creation for their users. Animations, fonts, images, etc. across different sized screens easily and quickly. Adobe allows some of the more basic WCAG features such as open captioning and alt text, but also adds a number of navigation criteria too. Learners have a focus indicator, can resize text up to 200%, and consume content in the correct hierarchy or tab order.

ISPRING SUITE

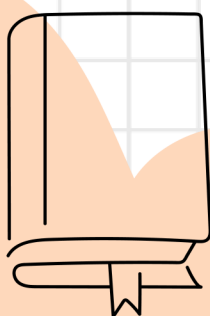
iSpring Suite is one of the most popular eLearning authoring tools for Windows that makes course creation easy and intuitive. A major plus with iSpring is that it works as a PowerPoint integration and has a familiar WYSIWYG interface that's very easy to use. You can start with an existing PowerPoint presentation and enhance it with more sophisticated eLearning content, like interactive quizzes, video lectures and screencasts, or role-plays with branching. It is a multi-level tool that offers many products: iSpring Learn LMS, iSpring Suite, iSpring Market, and iSpring Presenter to name a few.

OVERALL ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES

All three of the tools mentioned above support the basic accessibility features required to be a useful authoring tool for course creators. These basic features are closed-captioning, subtitles, control over reading order, supports speech-to-text and vice versa, and keyboard/mouse navigation tools that allow learners to "tab" through the course or use arrow keys.



RANKING



Upon researching the 3 tools mentioned above, Articulate's Storyline 360 was ranked the most accessible technology tool. The accessibility tools are readily available and easy to navigate. The software also supports accessibility tools like screen-readers and braille keyboards and provides alt-text features for image descriptions. Storyline360 also provides focus order to define each slide with a reading order and tab order.