

## Evaluating Website Accessibility – WAVE Tool

Checking the accessibility of websites and linked content is integral to ensuring full course accessibility for our students and the community. There are many ways to determine the accessibility of webpages; a good tool is the Wave Evaluation Tool, which can be added to Google’s Chrome browser. Wave provides a platform to view and verify website accessibility and provides information and strategies for areas of concern.

1) Go to the Chrome web store, <https://chrome.google.com/webstore>. Search and add ‘Wave Evaluation Tool’ to your Chrome.

2) Once it has been added, an icon will appear in the top right corner of the browser.

3) Go to the website whose accessibility you are trying to determine.



4) Click the icon to open the Wave tool and run the accessibility check.

Figure 1: WAVE icon

5) A window will pop-up on the left side of the screen with a summary of the accessibility review.

- a. The summary will be shown in a prioritized list with errors, alerts, errors, and structural elements.

### Summary

WAVE has detected the following:

- 1 Errors
- 4 Alerts
- 6 Features
- 20 Structural Elements
- 38 HTML5 and ARIA
- 27 Contrast Errors

Figure 2: Summary Panel

6) Click the ‘Details’ icon on the left side and view the full report. This report provides a list of issues with documentation explaining the need for correction.



DETAILS: A listing of all the WAVE icons in your page.

Figure 3: Details Icon

7) Review this report and, if possible, provide remediation to the problems.

You now know how to use the Wave Evaluation Tool to determine website accessibility. If you have any concerns or questions about the accessibility report, reach out to the Instructional Accessibility Manager, Gabe Christie at [gchris11@msudenver.edu](mailto:gchris11@msudenver.edu).