

ACCESSIBILITY

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WHAT DOES ACCESSIBILITY MEAN?

- *the quality of being able to be reached or entered*
- *the quality of being easy to obtain or use*
- *the quality of being easily understood or appreciated*
- Places that can be '**easily**' entered or reached are considered to be '**accessible**'
- Things that can be '**easily**' obtained are '**accessible**'
- things that can be '**easily**' used is deemed '**accessible**'
- Concept that can be '**easily**' understood is **accessible**

WHAT DOES ACCESSIBILITY IN THE CONTEXT OF DISABILITY RIGHTS MEAN?

- Accessibility means persons with disabilities are provided with equal opportunity to acquire the same information, visit the same places, engage in the same interactions, and enjoy the same services as persons without such disabilities.
- A place that can be easily entered or reached by persons with disabilities despite their disability, is accessible. For example, a universally designed building.
- A thing that can be easily obtained by persons with disabilities despite their disability is accessible. For example, accessible shopping systems for the blind.
- A thing that can be easily used by persons with disabilities is accessible. For example, an accessible website.

WHY IS ACCESSIBILITY SUCH AN IMPORTANT ISSUE?

- Accessibility is a prerequisite for inclusion and full realisation of human rights for persons with disabilities. Without accessibility there is no inclusion; and exclusion in itself is a violation of human rights. If we go by the theories of the [social model of disability](#), **inaccessibility is the cause of a person's disability, not their impairment.**
- Accessibility ensures that persons with disabilities get their well-deserved right to have full access and to fully participate in social, cultural, economic, political, and civil life, on an equal level with persons without a disability.

ACCESSIBILITY (OR LACK THEREOF) IN THE REAL WORLD

- Unlike what many people think, accessibility is ***not*** limited to making a building wheelchair accessible or accommodating visually impaired person's needs on a website or a [video song that deaf may also understand](#). It is a very narrow approach to see accessibility. In its true sense, accessibility includes both the physical and virtual environment of a person as well as rules, practices, and attitude of people affecting their life. An accessible website is as important as an accessible public building. An accessible e-commerce site is equally important as an accessible physical store. A non-discriminatory work environment is as important as the accessible entrance to the workspace.

WHAT DOES ACCESSIBLE MEAN?

- The term “people with disability” includes people who are blind, have low vision, are deaf or hard of hearing, have mobility impairments, or have cognitive disabilities. **Accessible means that something is designed or modified in a way that allows people with disabilities to use it or access it without encountering [accessibility barriers](#).** Accessibility is all about **ensuring that everyone, regardless of their abilities or disabilities, can access information, products, services, and environments in a way that is inclusive and equal.**
- This includes **making adjustments** to the physical environment, such as ramps or braille signs, as well as **to [digital environments](#), such as websites, applications, and other digital technologies.** Accessibility is essential for creating a more inclusive and equitable society where everyone has **equal access and opportunities to participate fully**

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF ACCESSIBILITY?

- To summarize, it is inclusion! **The purpose of accessibility is to create a more inclusive environment that is accessible to everyone.**
- But when we talk about [digital accessibility](#), it is focused on the digital environments. The way of [building an accessible web](#) is making digital content accessible, so people with disabilities can access the same information and services as everyone else, which can lead to greater opportunities and a more equitable society.
- **Accessibility also benefits everyone**, as it can make technology easier to use and understand and ensures that everyone has access to the same resources, information, and opportunities. For example, [captions on videos](#) not only help people who are deaf or hard of hearing, but they can also help people who are learning a new language or who have difficulty understanding spoken language.
- In addition to promoting inclusivity and equal opportunity, accessibility also has legal and ethical implications. **Many countries have [laws and regulations](#) that require public places, digital platforms, and other environments to be accessible to people with disabilities.** Therefore, **investing in accessibility is an indispensable requirement for companies to be in [compliance with the law](#).** That's because failure to comply with accessibility standards can result in legal consequences, such as [fines and lawsuits](#).
- **From an ethical standpoint, accessibility is the right thing to do. Everyone deserves to be able to access information, products, and services, and participate fully in society, regardless of their abilities or disabilities.**

THANK YOU FOR WATCHING