Discovering the Undiscovered with Designers

508

AUDIT

ARIA

ADA

WCAG

Agenda

- Why shift-left ?

- A11Y Designer toolkit today

- Top TWO challenges we heard

- Our Vision & Experiment

- What if …

- Can you contribute to our continuous discovery ?

Why shift-left ??

Because

DESIGNER is the TRUE ENABLER of ACCESSIBILITY today

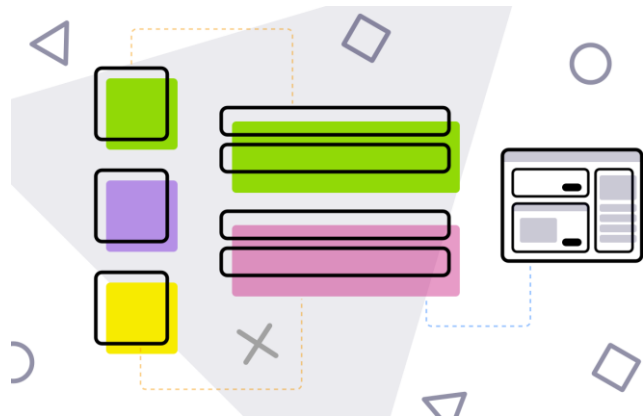Source, Forrester article: [40% of US and Canadian design spending will emphasize accessibility requirements](#)

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Why shift-left ??

Because

ACCESSIBLE DESIGN SYSTEMS

can make a11y implementations

EASY & development teams **EFFICIENT**

Why shift-left ??

Because

it will be LESS INVESTMENT for Organizations and there is an INCREASE in investment during PANDEMIC

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Why shift-left ??

We truly believe that we should give this world-class experience to everybody, not just a specific set of customers. By becoming accessibility compliant, we believe that it opens a lot of room for us to grow as a company, grow our products, and make the end user's life easier

Senthilnathan Shanmugam
Senior Manager for Design, FreshService, Freshworks

Source: https://www.deque.com/freshworks-accessible-business-automation-software/

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A11Y Designer toolkit today

A11Y Designer toolkit today

(1)   Empathy & Awareness

A11Y Designer toolkit today

2 Instructor-led trainings

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A11Y Designer toolkit today

(3)   Heuristics Checklist / Framework

A11Y Designer toolkit today

(4) Design Review of
Component Libraries &
Design Systems
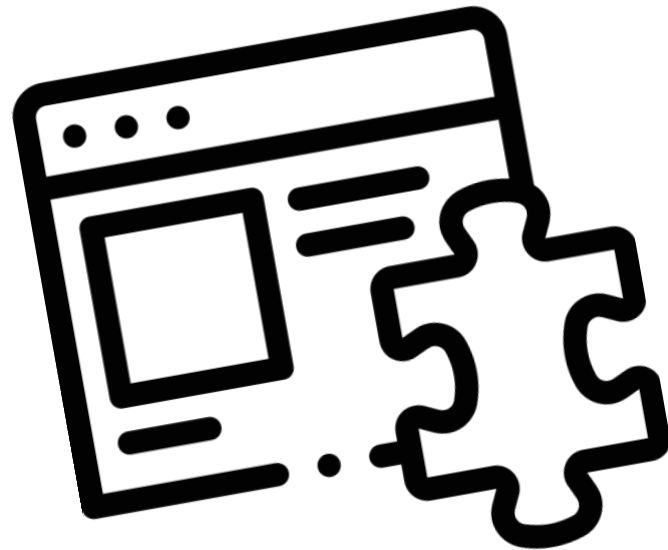
A11Y Designer toolkit today

5   Annotations & Documentation
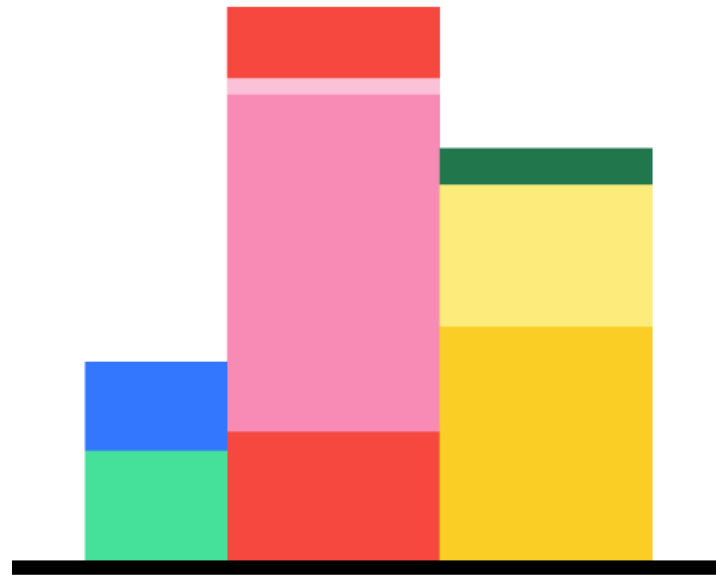

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A11Y Designer toolkit today

6   Plugins

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Poll # 1

Are you using any other solutions or techniques beyond these solutions ? If yes, can you mention?
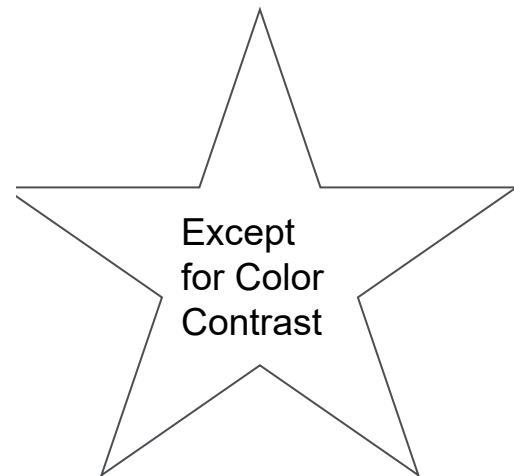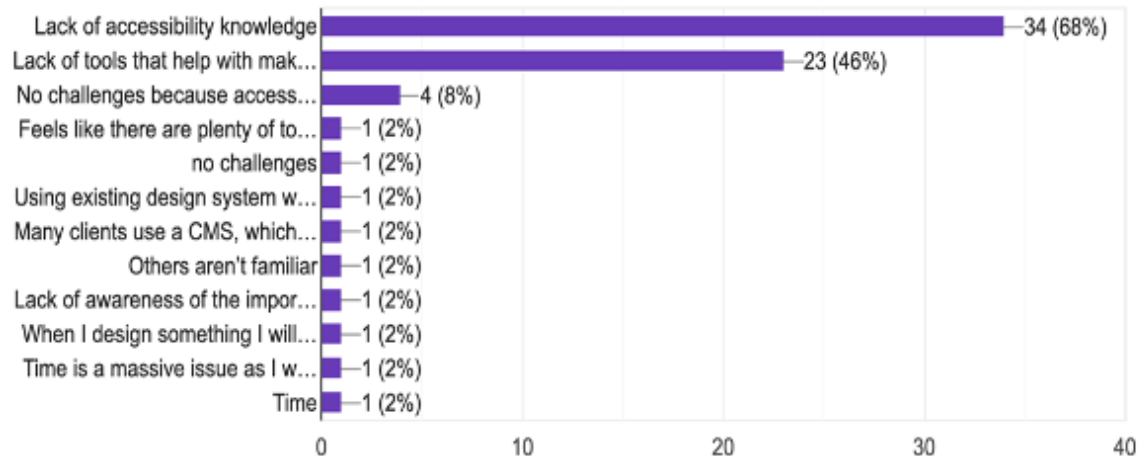
Top TWO challenges we heard…

Challenges : No automated tools within editors

What are your challenges while making designs accessible?

50 responses

Challenge	Responses
Lack of accessibility knowledge	34 (68%)
Lack of tools that help with mak...	23 (46%)
No challenges because access...	4 (8%)
Feels like there are plenty of to...	1 (2%)
no challenges	1 (2%)
Using existing design system w...	1 (2%)
Many clients use a CMS, which...	1 (2%)
Others aren't familiar	1 (2%)
Lack of awareness of the impor...	1 (2%)
When I design something I will...	1 (2%)
Time is a massive issue as I w...	1 (2%)
Time	1 (2%)

Except for Color Contrast

Please drop a note in chat window if you are using any automated tool for checking any a11y rules in any design editors

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Challenges : Design-Dev collaboration

Mismatch between the designer's vision and developed outcome is common due to lack of deep collaboration between design and dev.
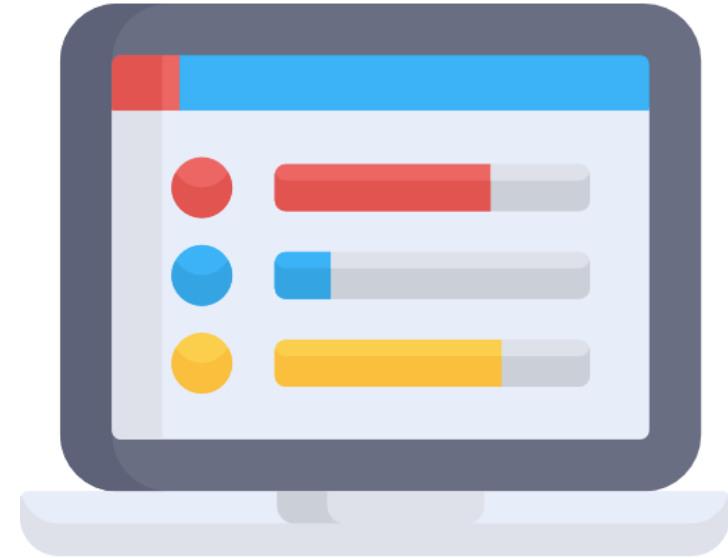
 Miranda Capra, Director of Inclusive Design, Truist

Poll # 2

Do you agree if these are indeed top challenges ? If not, what is your top challenge ?

<interactive poll link>

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Our Vision & Experiment

Our Vision

Bring right & integrated accessibility tools and education to designer-developer community enabling collaboration & efficiency
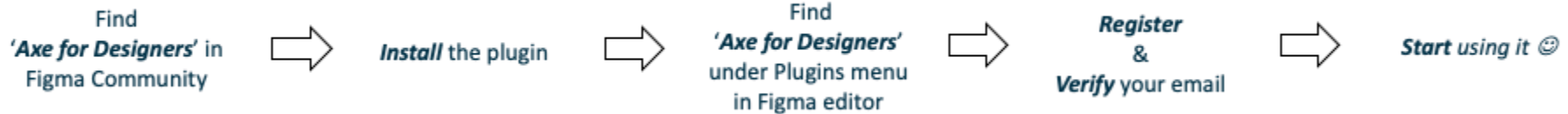
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Our in-progress experiment : Axe for Designers

A free Figma Plugin

Try using it and let us know your feedback

Feedback channels:

1. Log issue in the product itself
2. Figma community
3. mailto axed@deque.com

Find **'Axe for Designers'** in Figma Community ⟹ **Install** the plugin ⟹ Find **'Axe for Designers'** under Plugins menu in Figma editor ⟹ **Register** & **Verify** your email ⟹ **Start** using it ☺

NOTE: We will publish this plugin on Figma community by this axe-con talk time.
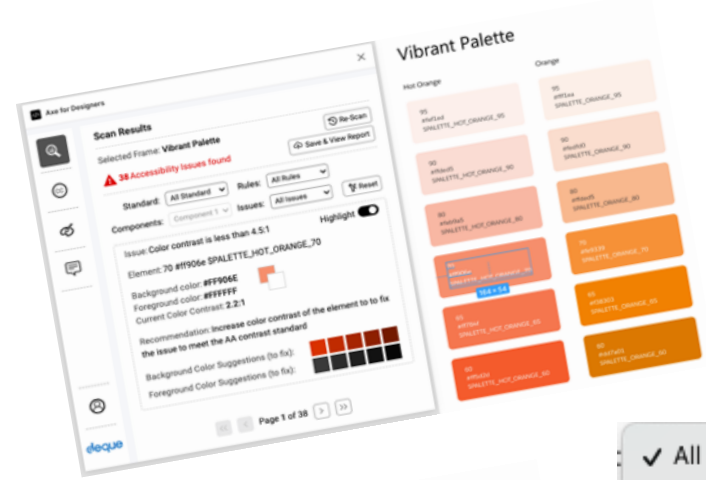
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Our in-progress experiment : Axe for Designers

DEMO

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Our in-progress experiment : Axe for Designers
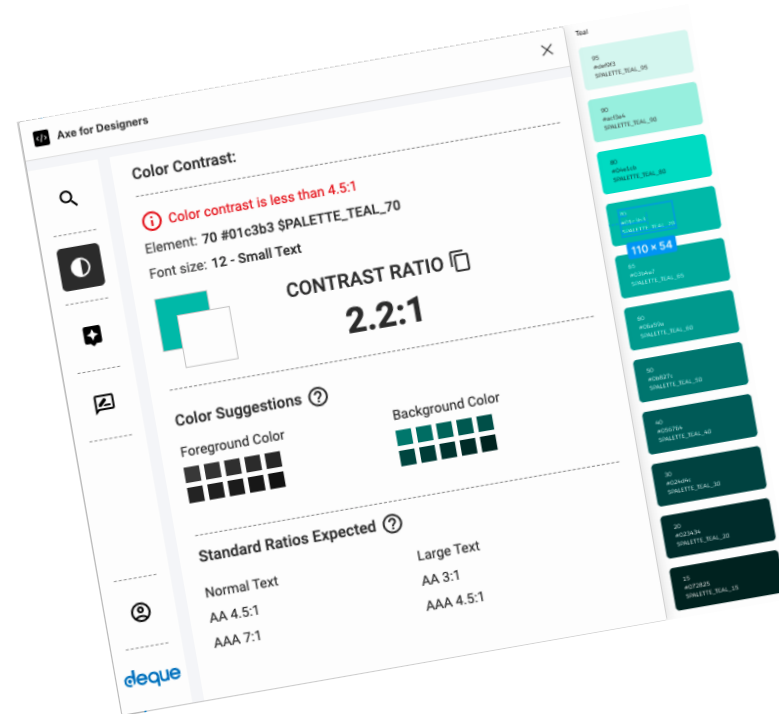
Key Features:

- Auto Scan
  - Color contrast
  - Text Spacing
  - Touch Target
  - Headings
- Manual Color Contrast checker
- Dashboard view with insights

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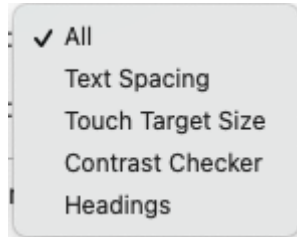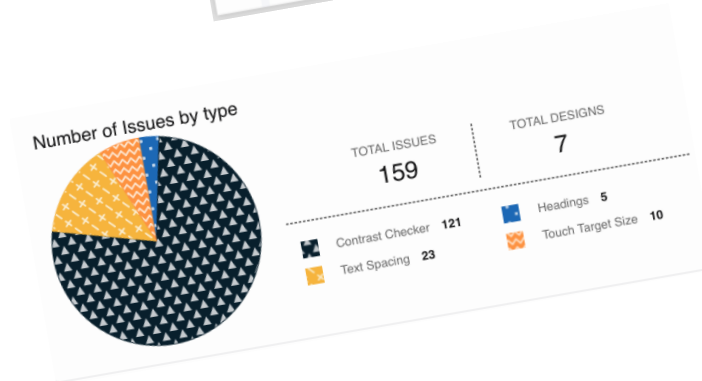
Our in-progress experiment : Axe for Designers

Key Differentiators:

- Color Suggestions
- Auto scan at Page / Component level
- Auto scan at Frame / Group / AutoLayout nodes level
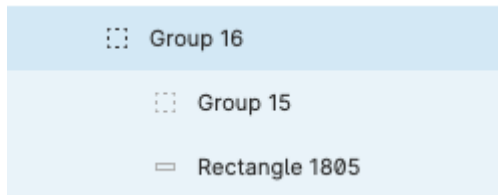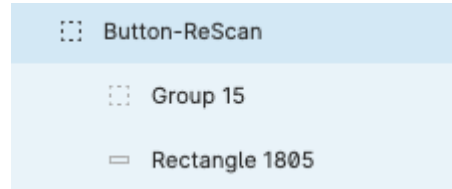- Availability of full detailed report

What if…

What if you follow proper naming conventions...

We can automate more a11y rules 🙂

Observed state

Desired state

Poll # 3
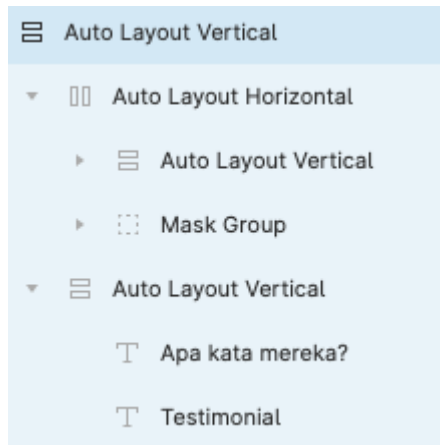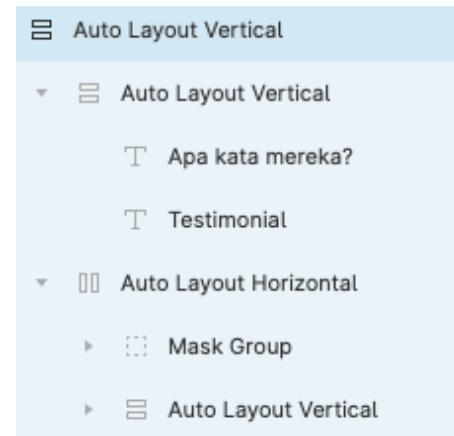
Do you name your components of design system properly ?

What if you maintain proper structure …

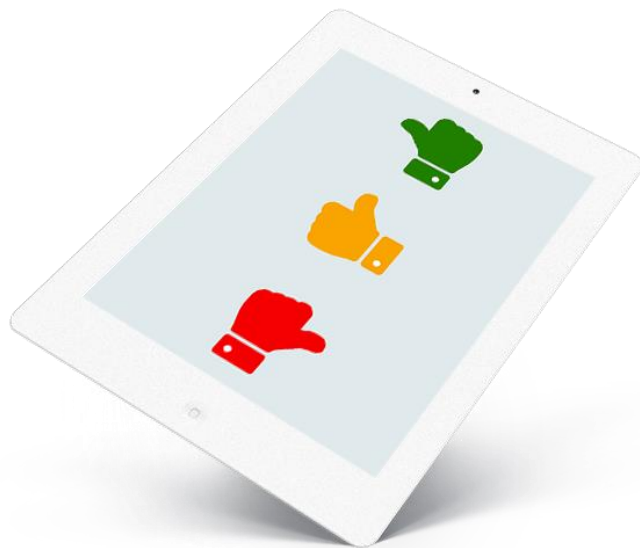We can automate more a11y rules 😃

Observed state

Desired state

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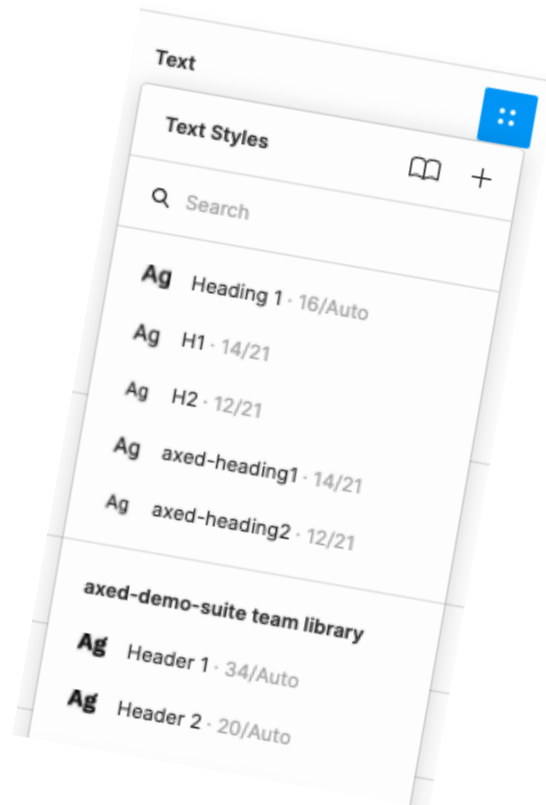# Poll # 4

Do you maintain proper structure (order & parent-child relationships) in your components of design system properly ?

<interactive poll link>

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What if you name text styles for headings properly …

We can identify skip level
& other heading issues

Poll # 5

Do you name heading text styles properly ?

<interactive poll link>

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Poll # 6 , one last question though :)

As part of product roadmap, we are thinking to prioritize building annotations. Are we on the right priority ?

<interactive poll link>

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Final thoughts…

Continuous Discovery …

Can we have a conversation if you are willing to

- Be part of our continuous discovery
- Use non-figma design editor and want to have compatible version of our plugin

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- [Bryn Anderson](), Senior Accessibility Specialist, Sainsbury's Digital
- [Miranda Capra](), Director of Inclusive Design, Truist
- [Anne-Sophie](), Designer UX/UI, Freelancer
- My wonderful team & colleagues

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Resources

- [Cauldron](), Deque's Free Accessible Design System
- Deque's Heuristics checklist
  - will provide link for this by this talk time
- [Empathy awareness lab program]()
- On Design-Dev collaboration, watch
  - [Panel Discussion: Bridge the Design-Development Divide]()
  - [When UX and Dev Collab, how it works at Deque]()

THANK YOU