

## Do's and Don'ts of ADA Compliant Hyperlinks

An adaptive screen reader will inform a user when it lands on a hyperlink or a graphic link. The link will be announced by the device as "link".

Listed below are ways to properly format the link for a screen reader

### Link Text

Do:

- Make the hyperlink name clear and concise enough to convey the purpose of the link
- Add relevant information in parenthesis after the hyperlink title
- Only add URL links that are very short and clear. Example [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

Don't:

- Include the word "link" in the hyperlink title. Redundant
- Name hyperlinks "click here" or "read more" or "link to". Too ambiguous when a user is tabbing from link to link
- Link entire sentences. Overkill
- Use incredibly short links (like an alphabet). Some users with physical difficulties might find clicking a hyperlink so small a challenge
- Use a long URL as a hyperlink. Oftentimes they are an unreadable mixture of letters, numbers, characters and can be terribly long

### Graphic Link

Do:

- Add clear and concise alt text
- Size them large enough so they won't be difficult to click on

Don't:

- Add very small (10px) images

### Link Format

Do:

- Underline hyperlinks in body text
- Make hyperlinks to non-html items clear. If you are linking to a Word document or a PDF, add that in parenthesis at the end of the link title. Example: [Class Rules \(PDF\)](#)
- Same with links opening in New Windows. This information can be placed in parenthesis at the end