

# Audit Report on Accessibility

## Joomla! ATAG Audit

|        |                     |
|--------|---------------------|
| Client | Open Source Matters |
|--------|---------------------|

|                   |                                                       |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Inspection Agency | Axess Lab<br>Vasagatan 28<br>111 20 Stockholm, Sweden |
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|-------------|-------------|
| Reviewed by | Eric Eggert |
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| Evaluation period | July/August 2026 |
|-------------------|------------------|

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| Release date | 16.08.2026 |
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## Change History

16.08.2026    Final Report

## Summary

This is the supplementary Authoring Tool Accessibility Guidelines (ATAG) report to the [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(WCAG\) report](#).

Like with the WCAG report, Axxess Lab used manual testing, tooling, and assistive technologies where possible to determine if the requirements of ATAG have been met.

In general, the ATAG requirements are met pretty well. The most issues come from inefficient keyboard usage and missing coherent documentation. Also, the front-end template does not support dark mode and editing content there does not give access to the accessibility checker.

## Audit Details

|              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| Project name | Joomla! ATAG Audit |
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|                    |          |
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| Conformance Target | ATAG 2.0 |
|--------------------|----------|

# Selected Samples

## 06 – Media Manager

[https://stf-ms1a.sandbox.joomla.org/blog/administrator/index.php?option=com\\_media](https://stf-ms1a.sandbox.joomla.org/blog/administrator/index.php?option=com_media)



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## 09 – Backend Edit Form Pattern

[https://stf-ms1a.sandbox.joomla.org/blog/administrator/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&layout=edit&id=11](https://stf-ms1a.sandbox.joomla.org/blog/administrator/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&layout=edit&id=11)



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## 10 – Frontend User Forms

# Audit Results

## Checkpoints



## Details on the results

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Found Issues    | 5 |
| Issue: critical | 1 |
| Issue: serious  | 2 |
| Issue: moderate | 1 |
| Issue: minor    | 1 |
| Best Practices  | 0 |
| Issues by Tag   |   |
| Development     | 5 |
| Editorial       | 1 |
| Design          | 3 |

## 06 – Media Manager



6 Failed 21 Passed 25 Not applicable 11 Not tested

### Issues found for this sample

- ✗ No apparent auto save feature #2
- ✗ No coherent accessibility documentation #4

## 09 – Backend Edit Form Pattern



7 Failed 34 Passed 11 Not applicable 11 Not tested

### Issues found for this sample

- ✗ Keyboard Access not efficient #1
- ✗ No apparent auto save feature #2
- ✗ No coherent accessibility documentation #4

## 10 – Frontend User Forms



**12** Failed   **28** Passed   **12** Not applicable   **11** Not tested

### Issues found for this sample

- ✗ No apparent auto save feature #2
- ✗ Front-End editing form does not respect dark mode #3
- ✗ No coherent accessibility documentation #4
- ✗ Frontend has no accessibility check #5

## Issues by severity

### Critical

- ✗ No coherent accessibility documentation #4

### Serious

- ✗ Keyboard Access not efficient #1
- ✗ Frontend has no accessibility check #5

### Moderate

- ✗ No apparent auto save feature #2

### Minor

- ✗ Front-End editing form does not respect dark mode #3

## Issues by tags

### Development

- ✗ Keyboard Access not efficient #1
- ✗ No apparent auto save feature #2
- ✗ Front-End editing form does not respect dark mode #3
- ✗ No coherent accessibility documentation #4
- ✗ Frontend has no accessibility check #5

### Editorial

- ✗ No coherent accessibility documentation #4

### Design

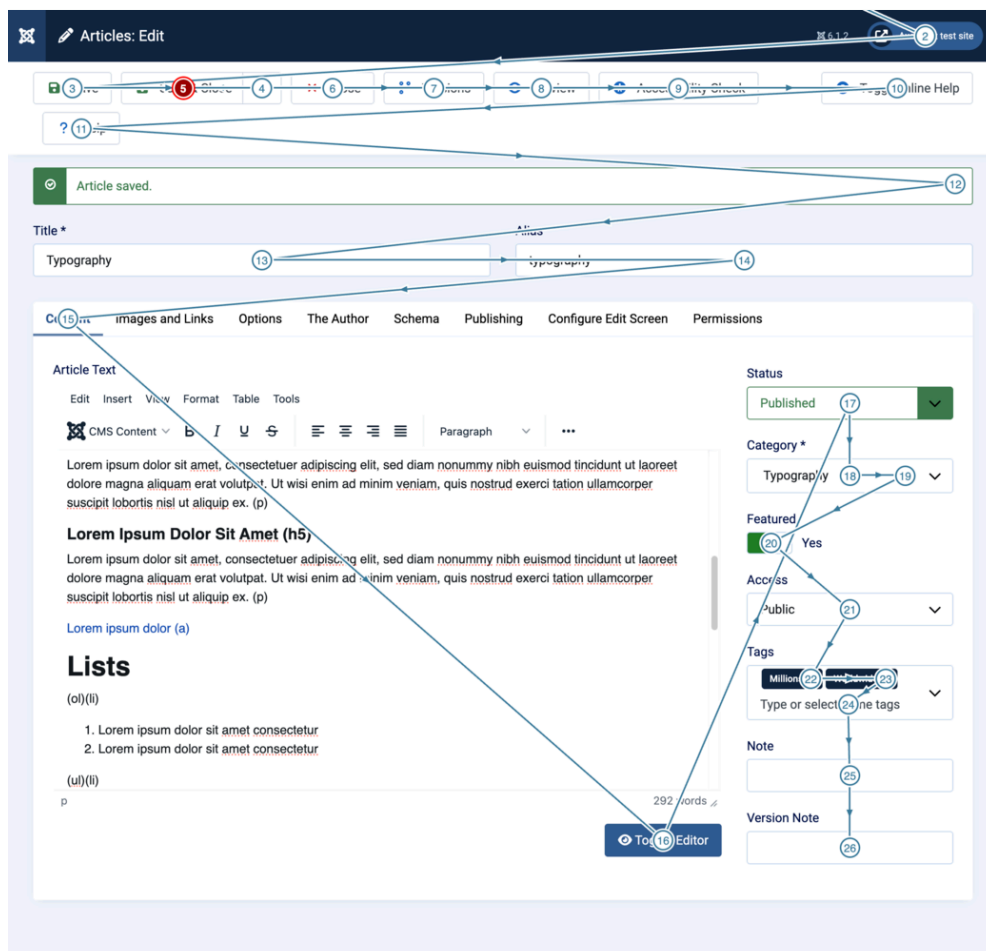
- ✗ Keyboard Access not efficient #1
- ✗ Front-End editing form does not respect dark mode #3
- ✗ No coherent accessibility documentation #4

# Discovered Issues

## Keyboard Access not efficient #1

|                  |                                   |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Affected Samples | 09 – Backend Edit Form Pattern    |
| Checkpoint       | A.3.1.3 Efficient Keyboard Access |
| Type of issue    | Violation                         |
| Severity         | Serious                           |
| Tags             | Development, Design               |

When editing an article, the toolbar is at the top of the view. Using keyboard-only navigation, users have no efficient way to navigate to the toolbar to save or cancel the edit.



From the editing view (which is not shown as interactive in the graphic) at tab stop 16, getting back to the save button at tab stop 3 will take thirteen shift+tab interactions, from the last form field (Version Note) at 27, it will be 24 interactions.

While there are additional keyboard shortcuts (such as J then S to “Save and Close”), they are not obvious from the editing screen and also do not include all functionality of the toolbar.

**Suggestion:** Use skip links to give users easy ways back to the toolbar after the edit field and the sidebar.

**Note:** While Implementing ATAG suggests that landmarks might be used for this, keyboard navigation does usually not include landmarks by default, so it is not seen as accessibility supported.

## No apparent auto save feature #2

|                  |                                                  |
|------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Affected Samples | 🚩 <a href="#">06 – Media Manager</a>             |
|                  | 🚩 <a href="#">09 – Backend Edit Form Pattern</a> |
|                  | 🚩 10 – Frontend User Forms                       |
| Checkpoint       | A.3.2.1 Auto-Save (Minimum)                      |
| Type of issue    | Violation                                        |
| Severity         | Moderate                                         |
| Tags             | Development                                      |

When editing content, the session time can run out and lead to unsaved changes. Ensure that changes are automatically saved so that a user can pick up the work from where they left off.

### Front-End editing form does not respect dark mode #3

|                  |                                 |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| Affected Samples | 🚩 10 – Frontend User Forms      |
| Checkpoint       | A.3.6.3 Apply Platform Settings |
| Type of issue    | Violation                       |
| Severity         | Minor                           |
| Tags             | Development, Design             |

In the Cassiopeia Theme, the editing view does follow the theme which is light mode only. There is no way to follow the dark mode of the system as a dark mode does not exist.

The ATAG standard has no exception for themes that do not have dark mode available, so the theme naturally fails this success criteria. As users can often chose their own theme or use the backend to edit, this failure was marked as Minor.

## No coherent accessibility documentation #4

|                  |                                                                                                                                  |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Affected Samples | <a href="#">06 – Media Manager</a><br><a href="#">09 – Backend Edit Form Pattern</a><br><a href="#">10 – Frontend User Forms</a> |
| Checkpoint       | A.4.2.1 Describe Accessibility Features, A.4.2.2 Document All Features                                                           |
| Type of issue    | Violation                                                                                                                        |
| Severity         | Critical                                                                                                                         |
| Tags             | Editorial, Design, Development                                                                                                   |

While the interfaces have some additional accessibility functionality, like the user settings for the backend theme or the additional keyboard shortcuts, these features are not centrally documented and also difficult to find. Some features, like the shortcuts are not documented where they would be useful (on the Dashboard despite applying to editing views).

Ensure that there is a consistent way to find accessibility feature documentation.

## Frontend has no accessibility check #5

|                  |                                                                                                                                                                  |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Affected Samples | 🚩 10 – Frontend User Forms                                                                                                                                       |
| Checkpoint       | B.3.1.1 Checking Assistance (WCAG), B.3.1.2 Help Authors Decide, B.3.1.3 Help Authors Locate, B.3.1.4 Status Report, B.3.1.5 Programmatic Association of Results |
| Type of issue    | Violation                                                                                                                                                        |
| Severity         | Serious                                                                                                                                                          |
| Tags             | Development                                                                                                                                                      |

While the backend editing flow can show a preview of the generated content with an accessibility checker embedded, the frontend editing does not allow to check accessibility in the same way.

# Overall Evaluation

## Evaluation by Checkpoints

Legend:

 Failed  Passed  Not applicable  Not tested

| Checkpoint                                                                            | Result                                                                              | Issues                                                    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>A.1: Authoring tool user interfaces follow applicable accessibility guidelines</b> |                                                                                     |                                                           |
| A.1.1.1: Web-Based Accessible (WCAG)                                                  |    | For the WCAG failures, reference the separate WCAG audit. |
| A.1.2.1: Accessibility Guidelines                                                     |    | –                                                         |
| A.1.2.2: Platform Accessibility Services                                              |    | –                                                         |
| <b>A.2: Editing-views are perceivable</b>                                             |                                                                                     |                                                           |
| A.2.1.1 Text Alternatives for Rendered Non-Text Content                               |  | –                                                         |
| A.2.1.2 Alternatives for Rendered Time-Based Media                                    |  | –                                                         |
| A.2.2.1 Editing-View Status Indicators                                                |  | –                                                         |
| A.2.2.2 Access to Rendered Text Properties                                            |  | –                                                         |
| <b>A.3: Editing-views are operable</b>                                                |                                                                                     |                                                           |
| A.3.1.1 Keyboard Access (Minimum)                                                     |  | –                                                         |
| A.3.1.2 No Keyboard Traps                                                             |  | –                                                         |
| A.3.1.3 Efficient Keyboard Access                                                     |  | ✗ <u>Keyboard Access not efficient</u> #1                 |
| A.3.1.4 Keyboard Access (Enhanced)                                                    |  | –                                                         |

| Checkpoint                                     | Result                                                                              | Issues                                                                               |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| A.3.1.5 Customize Keyboard Access              |    | –                                                                                    |
| A.3.1.6 Present Keyboard Commands              |    | –                                                                                    |
| A.3.2.1 Auto-Save (Minimum)                    |    | ✗ <u>No apparent auto save feature</u> #2                                            |
| A.3.2.2 Timing Adjustable                      |    | This is failed for session time limits and keyboard control timing. See WCAG Review. |
| A.3.2.3 Static Input Components                |    | –                                                                                    |
| A.3.2.4 Content Edits Saved (Extended)         |    | –                                                                                    |
| A.3.3.1 Static View Option                     |    | –                                                                                    |
| A.3.4.1 Navigate By Structure                  |  | –                                                                                    |
| A.3.4.2 Navigate by Programmatic Relationships |  | –                                                                                    |
| A.3.5.1 Text Search                            |  | –                                                                                    |
| A.3.6.1 Independence of Display                |  | –                                                                                    |
| A.3.6.2 Save Settings                          |  | –                                                                                    |
| A.3.6.3 Apply Platform Settings                |  | ✗ <u>Front-End editing form does not respect dark mode</u> #3                        |
| A.3.7.1 Preview (Minimum)                      |  | –                                                                                    |
| A.3.7.2 Preview (Enhanced)                     |  | –                                                                                    |
| <b>A.4: Editing-views are understandable</b>   |                                                                                     |                                                                                      |
| A.4.1.1 Content Changes Reversible (Minimum)   |  | –                                                                                    |

| Checkpoint                                                        | Result                                                                              | Issues                                              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| A.4.1.2 Settings Change Confirmation                              |    | –                                                   |
| A.4.1.3 Content Changes Reversible (Enhanced)                     |    | –                                                   |
| A.4.2.1 Describe Accessibility Features                           |    | ✗ <u>No coherent accessibility documentation</u> #4 |
| A.4.2.2 Document All Features                                     |    | ✗ <u>No coherent accessibility documentation</u> #4 |
| <b>B.1: Fully automatic processes produce accessible content</b>  |                                                                                     |                                                     |
| B.1.1.1 Content Auto-Generation After Authoring Sessions (WCAG)   |    | –                                                   |
| B.1.1.2 Content Auto-Generation During Authoring Sessions (WCAG)  |    | –                                                   |
| B.1.2.1 Restructuring and Recoding Transformations (WCAG)         |  | –                                                   |
| B.1.2.2 Copy-Paste Inside Authoring Tool (WCAG)                   |  | –                                                   |
| B.1.2.3 Optimizations Preserve Accessibility                      |  | –                                                   |
| B.1.2.4 Text Alternatives for Non-Text Content are Preserved      |  | –                                                   |
| <b>B.2: Authors are supported in producing accessible content</b> |                                                                                     |                                                     |
| B.2.1.1 Accessible Content Possible (WCAG)                        |  | –                                                   |
| B.2.2.1 Accessible Option Prominence (WCAG)                       |  | –                                                   |
| B.2.2.2 Setting Accessibility Properties (WCAG)                   |  | –                                                   |

| Checkpoint                                                                           | Result                                                                              | Issues                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| B.2.3.1 Alternative Content is Editable (WCAG)                                       |    | –                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| B.2.3.2 Automating Repair of Text Alternatives                                       |    | –                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| B.2.3.3 Save for Reuse                                                               |    | –                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| B.2.4.1 Accessible Template Options (WCAG)                                           |    | This is based on the Cassiopeia theme not meeting WCAG 2.2. While it is clearly possible to provide a conformant WCAG 2.2 theme, this audit did not investigate how broadly applicable and conformant the theme landscape is. |
| B.2.4.2 Identify Template Accessibility                                              |    | –                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| B.2.4.3 Author-Created Templates                                                     |   | –                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| B.2.4.4 Accessible Template Options (Enhanced)                                       |  | –                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| B.2.5.1 Accessible Pre-Authored Content Options                                      |  | –                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| B.2.5.2 Identify Pre-Authored Content Accessibility                                  |  | –                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>B.3: Authors are supported in improving the accessibility of existing content</b> |                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| B.3.1.1 Checking Assistance (WCAG)                                                   |  | ✗ <u>Frontend has no accessibility check</u> #5                                                                                                                                                                               |
| B.3.1.2 Help Authors Decide                                                          |  | ✗ <u>Frontend has no accessibility check</u> #5                                                                                                                                                                               |
| B.3.1.3 Help Authors Locate                                                          |  | ✗ <u>Frontend has no accessibility check</u> #5                                                                                                                                                                               |
| B.3.1.4 Status Report                                                                |  | ✗ <u>Frontend has no accessibility check</u> #5                                                                                                                                                                               |
| B.3.1.5 Programmatic Association of Results                                          |  | ✗ <u>Frontend has no accessibility check</u> #5                                                                                                                                                                               |

| Checkpoint                                                                     | Result                                                                              | Issues |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| B.3.2.1 Repair Assistance (WCAG)                                               |    | –      |
| <b>B.4: Authoring tools promote and integrate their accessibility features</b> |                                                                                     |        |
| B.4.1.1 Features Active by Default                                             |    | –      |
| B.4.1.2 Option to Reactivate Features                                          |    | –      |
| B.4.1.3 Feature Deactivation Warning                                           |    | –      |
| B.4.1.4 Feature Prominence                                                     |    | –      |
| B.4.2.1 Model Practice (WCAG)                                                  |    | –      |
| B.4.2.2 Feature Instructions                                                   |    | –      |
| B.4.2.3 Tutorial                                                               |  | –      |
| B.4.2.4 Instruction Index                                                      |  | –      |