



## Accessibility resources for libraries



Accessibility covers every aspect of your library from the physical space to the computers to the signs and leaflets for your users. We've picked some resources to help you and give you more information.

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### Legislation

- **Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC):**  
<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com>

This website also has archive of **Disability Rights Commission** website:  
<http://83.137.212.42/sitearchive/DRC/index.html>

- **Disability Discrimination Act 2005**  
[http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/DisabledPeople/RightsAndObligations/DisabilityRights/DG\\_4001068](http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/DisabledPeople/RightsAndObligations/DisabilityRights/DG_4001068)
  - **Disability Equality Duty** <http://www.dotheduty.org/>
  - **Copyright (Visually Impaired Persons) Act 2002**  
[http://www.rnib.org.uk/xpedio/groups/public/documents/PublicWebsite/public\\_CVIPsAct2002.hcsp](http://www.rnib.org.uk/xpedio/groups/public/documents/PublicWebsite/public_CVIPsAct2002.hcsp)
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### Libraries

- **Supporting library users with disabilities: A guide for front-line staff** 2nd ed. 2004 Revised by Sandra Charles University of Dundee ISBN 0953314030  
<http://scuri.ac.uk/WG/SNG/documents/DisabilityBooklet1.5version2no%20pics.doc>
- **Access for library users with disabilities** by Linda Robertson for the SCONUL Access Steering Group, 2007, 101pp.  
[www.sconul.ac.uk/publications/pubs/access\\_disabilities.pdf](http://www.sconul.ac.uk/publications/pubs/access_disabilities.pdf)
- **MLA (Museums, Libraries and Archives Council)**
  - **The Disability Portfolio**  
[http://www.mla.gov.uk/policy/Diversity/Disability\\_Portfolio](http://www.mla.gov.uk/policy/Diversity/Disability_Portfolio)  
A collection of 12 guides on how to best to meet the needs of disabled people, which includes guidance on meeting disabled people, the DDA, training, audits and ICT. You can download these in PDF or Word.  
[http://www.mla.gov.uk/website/policy/Diversity/People\\_With\\_Disabilities](http://www.mla.gov.uk/website/policy/Diversity/People_With_Disabilities)

– **Delivering Library Services for Disabled People**

[http://www.mla.gov.uk/webdav/harmonise?Page/@id=73&Document/@id=20449&Section\[@stateId\\_eq\\_left\\_hand\\_root\]/@id=4332](http://www.mla.gov.uk/webdav/harmonise?Page/@id=73&Document/@id=20449&Section[@stateId_eq_left_hand_root]/@id=4332)

– **Access for All toolkit** Enabling inclusion for museums, libraries and archives 2004  
[http://www.mla.gov.uk/policy/Inclusion/MLA\\_Activity\\_on\\_Social\\_Inclusion](http://www.mla.gov.uk/policy/Inclusion/MLA_Activity_on_Social_Inclusion)

- **Disability issues and libraries: A Scottish perspective** Library Review March 2005 Special edition edited by Nicholas Joint
- **Libraries, digitisation and disability.** Nicholas Joint Library Review, 55 (3) 2006 pp. 168-172. ISSN 0024-2535
- **Various articles on accessibility** CILIP Library + Information Gazette 25 August – 7 September 2006

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## Accessible Information

- **Plain English campaign.** This gives guidelines on making documents easier to read. <http://www.plainenglish.co.uk/>
- **Royal National Institute for the Blind (RNIB): Good design.** This website has links to web accessibility, publications, accessible information.  
[http://www.rnib.org/xpedio/groups/public/documents/code/public\\_rnib003460.hcsp](http://www.rnib.org/xpedio/groups/public/documents/code/public_rnib003460.hcsp)
- **Pictures.** Both of these organisations have CD ROMs with pictures that you can use to make your information easy read.
  - **Change Picture Bank** <http://www.changepeople.co.uk/>
  - **Photosymbols** <http://www.photosymbols.com/>

**Seeing for ourselves: producing accessible information for people learning difficulties and visual impairments.** G. Levy, British Journal of Learning Disabilities 33, 2005, pp.77-82.

**Information Alternatives: A guide to providing accessible information**  
Paul Ralph ISBN 1847282318 £38.58  
<http://www.informationalternatives.co.uk>

## Websites

- **Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI)**. Strategies, guidelines, resources to make the Web accessible to people with disabilities  
<http://www.w3.org/WAI/>
- **Web accessibility: practical advice for the library and information professional** Jenny Craven, editor March 2008, 176pp 978-1-85604-625-1, Facet Publishing

[Making your website accessible Juliet Owen](#) CILIP Update January 2003

- **Making e-communication accessible: A supplement to the SAIF Standards for Disability Information and Advice Provision in Scotland** by J. Byrne and E. Bolander 2006 Scottish Accessible Information Forum, Glasgow.  
<http://www.saifscotland.org.uk/publications/makeEcommAccess/00front.htm>
- **Accessibility of web-based information resources for people with disabilities** Parts 1 and 2 A. Schmetzke. 2002 Library Hi Tech, 20 (2), pp.135-136.; Library Hi Tech, 20 (4), pp. 397-398.

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## Assistive technology

- **Ability Net** is a national charity helping disabled adults and children use computers and the internet by adapting and adjusting their technology. <http://www.abilitynet.org.uk/>

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Links correct as of 11 June 2008