

Understand the Digital World From a Blind Person's Perspective

Adi Latif



@access_adi

Super at Everything!



Screenreaders to the Rescue!

As the world became digital, and the screenreader was created to allow a blind person to interact with the digital world, anything was possible!



Models of Disability

Model	Definition	Pros	Cons
Medical	Defines disability in terms of biological impairments.	Helps medical professionals diagnose and treat disabilities.	Overlooks our social environment and creates stigmas.
Social	Society creates disabling environments.	Empowers society, inspires innovation and removes stigmas.	Can de-emphasize medical impairments.

Adi Snowboards!



You Have Been Disabled!

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR healthcare
below**

[illegible][illegible]

XAFI =CC =PII YAF=EI M== =PII= IAFM MZ =PII =A
 M =ADDFE= AE= =PII M=PII AMPIIM MZ =CC =E M=PII Y
 CAE==YAM PI ACC =EPI =PII M PI= MZ =C=EIIE=
 AE= PIPIAM=IE A= ACC=PI AE= EIM PI=EI= PEPPI=
 EIM =E M= YPII = PPIEM =PII= A PI MPA= =PII
 O M=PII =C=EIIE CAEIAAIP MPII=IE=

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \gamma = \gamma_{\mu} I &= & \mu' &= & e &= & \angle(e) I \gamma_e \\ \gamma_{\mu} \mu &= & e \mu' &= & e I \angle &= & \end{array}$$

How Blind People See



What is Digital Accessibility?

- Making a digital product or service more usable for everybody by creating it free of digital barriers.
- An opportunity to learn from the lived experience of people who are disabled by working in partnership to improve your product.
- An opportunity to directly contribute towards the quality of life for someone who is disabled.

What are Digital Barriers?

- Digital barriers are problems in the design and development of your website or apps which are causing friction for people using them.
- Over 98% of websites have digital barriers for people with disabilities according to a study done by WebAim.

Common Examples of Digital Barriers

Society for innovation, technology and modernisation found that 4 in 10 local council homepages failed basic tests for accessibility.

Common problems include:

- Websites that are not easy to use on a mobile.
- Websites that cannot be navigated using a keyboard.
- inaccessible PDF forms that cannot be read out on screen readers.
- Poor colour contrast that makes text difficult to read - especially for visually impaired people.



Demonstrating Digital Barriers



Prescription for a more Inclusive Future

- All appointments/ reminders via text message
- All hospital letters/ test results through NHS app in an accessible format
- Virtual health care specialist for remote assistance (identifying the colour of a bruise etc)
- Accessible corona virus tests (tactile or auditory feedback)
- Navilens or QR codes on medicine packaging
- Indoor navigation systems in hospitals

Summary

- People who are blind can access information if it is given to them in the correct format.
- The current system is not catering for it's blind patients.
- Let's create a healthcare system that doesn't disable but enables people.