Basics of Music Accessibility Conformance Report

Based on VPAT® Version 2.5Rev, WCAG edition
Report date: November 12, 2026

Product information

Product and report details

Name of product	Basics of Music (basicsofmusic.app)
Version	Web application as deployed November 2026 (continuously deployed)
Report date	November 12, 2026
Product description	Interactive music theory, ear training and guitar lessons and exercises, with music notation, audio playback, and a piano and guitar fretboard. Used on the web and inside Canvas LMS via LTI 1.1 and 1.3.
Contact	admin@basicsofmusic.app
Platforms	Current Chrome, Safari, Firefox and Edge on desktop; Safari and Chrome on iOS and Android

Evaluation methods used:

- Automated testing with axe-core 4.10 (WCAG 2.0 and 2.1 Level A and AA rules) on 46 public pages, in WebKit at 1280 px and at 320 px for reflow.
- Source-code review of every React component for text alternatives, form labels and keyboard handling, including instructor and administrator forms.
- Manual keyboard testing of the interactive tools, lessons and exercises: piano, guitar fretboard, Circle of Fifths, notes that play when clicked, and drag-and-drop exercises.
- Measurements at 200% zoom and with the WCAG text-spacing overrides, and contrast measurements of form-control boundaries.
- Keyboard-only testing of a lesson, an exercise and a quiz, from start through results and review, in current Chrome, Safari and Firefox on macOS.
- Screen reader testing with VoiceOver on macOS, in Safari and Chrome, through a lesson, an exercise and a quiz.
- Accessibility-tree transcripts of the same lesson, exercise and two quizzes, recording what a screen reader is given on each screen, where focus moves after each action, and the tab order; and a check of the first thing read on one exercise of every type.

Notes: Some exercises test visual or listening skills: reading notation, naming notes on a staff, and identifying intervals and chords by ear. WCAG exempts these from text alternatives that would give away the answer (1.1.1, tests and sensory content). Instructors can offer an alternative assignment where a student can't take part in the sensory task.

Applicable standards

Standards and guidelines covered by this report

Standard	Included in report
WCAG 2.0	Level A: yes; Level AA: yes; Level AAA: no
WCAG 2.1	Level A: yes; Level AA: yes; Level AAA: no
WCAG 2.2	Not evaluated

WCAG 2.1 Level AA is the technical standard in the U.S. Department of Justice's ADA Title II rule for state and local governments, which includes public colleges and universities.

Terms

- **Supports:** the functionality meets the criterion without known defects, or meets it with equivalent facilitation.
- **Partially Supports:** some functionality does not meet the criterion.
- **Does Not Support:** most functionality does not meet the criterion.
- **Not Applicable:** the criterion is not relevant to the product.

Table 1: Success Criteria, Level A

WCAG 2.0 and 2.1 Level A success criteria

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.1.1 Non-text Content	Supports	Every lesson score describes what it shows, generated from its notes for rhythm and melody examples. Composing and rhythm-building screens describe the student's own work as it changes. Exercises that test reading notation give a descriptive label without the answer, as WCAG allows for tests.
1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded)	Supports	Audio examples play notation shown on the page, which has its own text description. Ear-training audio is the content being tested.
1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded)	Supports	Lesson videos (YouTube) read the lesson aloud and have captions edited by Basics of Music, not auto-generated. Videos are being added to the remaining lessons.
1.2.3 Audio Description or Media Alternative (Prerecorded)	Supports	The videos read the lesson text aloud, so the lesson page is a full text alternative to each video.
1.3.1 Info and Relationships	Supports	Lessons use headings, landmarks and lists. Every form field, including instructor and administrator forms, has a programmatic label.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence	Supports	Reading order follows the visual order.
1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics	Supports	Where lesson text points to a color or position, it also names the notes or the note is labeled ("F and G (in blue)", "the bass note is shown in blue and labeled").
1.4.1 Use of Color	Supports	Correct and incorrect feedback pairs blue and red with a check or X and text. Links in body text are underlined. The Circle of Fifths marks a key's accidentals with an underline as well as color.
1.4.2 Audio Control	Supports	No audio plays automatically. Every player has stop and volume controls.
2.1.1 Keyboard	Supports	The piano, guitar fretboard, Circle of Fifths, drag-and-drop exercises, and lesson and guide pages all work by keyboard. Notes that play when clicked in lessons can also be reached with Tab and played with Enter or Space.
2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap	Supports	No keyboard traps found.
2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts	Supports	Exercises accept single-letter keys (for example A–G for note names). A "Single-key shortcuts" switch on every exercise and quiz Info screen, and on the Accessibility page, turns them off; every action still has an on-screen control.
2.2.1 Timing Adjustable	Supports	No time limits. Tap-rhythm exercises time the student's taps against the beat, which is essential to the skill.
2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide	Supports	Moving content (metronome, playback highlighting) starts only when the user presses play and stops on demand.
2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold	Supports	Beat indicators pulse in size, not in large flashes.
2.4.1 Bypass Blocks	Supports	Pages use main, navigation and complementary landmarks, including the exercise and quiz screens. A quiz's question buttons form a named navigation that can be skipped.
2.4.2 Page Titled	Supports	Each page has a descriptive title.
2.4.3 Focus Order	Supports	Focus follows the visual order; no positive tabindex values. When the content changes, focus moves to it: choosing a lesson section focuses its heading; starting an exercise, answering, and moving between quiz questions focus the question's prompt; wrong-answer feedback receives focus; closing the quiz's submit dialog returns focus to Submit.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context)	Supports	Link text or its sentence names the destination.
2.5.1 Pointer Gestures	Supports	Every drag action has a click or keyboard alternative.
2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation	Supports	Piano and guitar notes sound on press, like the real instrument (essential). Other actions complete on click.
2.5.3 Label in Name	Supports	Visible labels match accessible names.
2.5.4 Motion Actuation	Not Applicable	No device-motion input.
3.1.1 Language of Page	Supports	Pages declare their language (English).
3.2.1 On Focus	Supports	Focus doesn't trigger a change of context.
3.2.2 On Input	Supports	Changing a setting doesn't move the user to another page.
3.3.1 Error Identification	Supports	Field errors are shown in text next to the field, marked invalid, and announced. Form-level errors (for example a failed sign-in) are announced as alerts.
3.3.2 Labels or Instructions	Supports	Every field has a visible label or instructions, connected to it programmatically. Every exercise question has a written prompt.
4.1.1 Parsing	Supports	Per the WCAG 2.0 and 2.1 errata, this criterion is always met for HTML.
4.1.2 Name, Role, Value	Supports	Sliders, dropdowns, toggle buttons, the Circle of Fifths and clickable notes expose their names, roles and states.

Table 2: Success Criteria, Level AA

WCAG 2.0 and 2.1 Level AA success criteria

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.2.4 Captions (Live)	Not Applicable	No live audio or video.
1.2.5 Audio Description (Prerecorded)	Supports	Lesson videos read the lesson text aloud and are labeled as such on the page, so they are a media alternative for text and need no audio description. The guitar technique clips explain what they show in their narration.
1.3.4 Orientation	Supports	Pages work in portrait and landscape.
1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose	Supports	Name, email, password and organization fields carry autocomplete values.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum)	Supports	Text meets 4.5:1 on all 46 scanned pages. Instructor and administrator pages weren't scanned automatically.
1.4.4 Resize Text	Supports	Tested at 200% zoom: no text is cut off and no page scrolls sideways. Long titles wrap instead of truncating.
1.4.5 Images of Text	Supports	Text, including music symbols, is rendered as text or vector notation, not images.
1.4.10 Reflow	Supports	Scanned pages fit 320 px without sideways scrolling. Wide content, such as a lesson's section tabs, scrolls within its own strip.
1.4.11 Non-text Contrast	Supports	Input, select and checkbox borders, switch tracks and slider tracks measure at least 3.3:1 against their backgrounds; feedback colors follow the same 3:1 rule.
1.4.12 Text Spacing	Supports	Tested with the WCAG spacing overrides (line height 1.5, letter spacing 0.12em, word spacing 0.16em, paragraph spacing 2em): no text is cut off.
1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus	Supports	The only hover content is tooltips that can be hovered, stay until dismissed, and close with Escape.
2.4.5 Multiple Ways	Supports	Course outlines, lesson and exercise lists with search, and previous/next navigation.
2.4.6 Headings and Labels	Supports	Headings and labels describe their content.
2.4.7 Focus Visible	Supports	Controls show a focus ring. The harmonic-analysis inputs and instructor fields replace the browser outline with their own ring or border color.
3.1.2 Language of Parts	Supports	Spanish flamenco terms (compás, falseta, golpe) are technical vocabulary, which WCAG exempts.
3.2.3 Consistent Navigation	Supports	The app bar and lesson navigation are the same on every page.
3.2.4 Consistent Identification	Supports	Shared components keep labels and icons consistent.
3.3.3 Error Suggestion	Supports	Error messages say what to fix (for example "At least 8 characters", "Enter your code").
3.3.4 Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data)	Supports	Quizzes can be reviewed freely and ask for confirmation before submitting. Exercises can be retaken any number of times, and only the best score is sent to the LMS. Payments are handled by the checkout provider.

Criteria	Conformance Level	Remarks and Explanations
4.1.3 Status Messages	Supports	A correct answer is announced through a polite live region; wrong-answer feedback receives focus and is read with its Next button. Note selections, the current quiz question and focused positions are announced through polite live regions. During a quiz, only answered or unanswered is announced until the quiz is submitted.

Table 3: Success Criteria, Level AAA

Not evaluated.

Legal disclaimer

This report describes the accessibility of Basics of Music as of its report date, based on the evaluation methods listed above. It is provided for information and is not a warranty. Basics of Music, LLC updates it as the product changes.

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