



Open and accessible!

Hi, I am Chris.



**Today I want to talk to you
about my idea of
accessibility.**

**I've been dealing with
accessibility ever since I
started web development.**

**And I am very much amazed
about how many wrong ideas
about accessibility are
floating around.**



Accessibility is not about complying with a law not to be sued.

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Accessibility is also not about making sure you follow a standard and tick all the boxes.

Accessibility is about allowing access.



Accessibility is about not confusing people.

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Large Blue Pencil

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See a problem with an external website offer? [Let us kn](#)

Accessibility is about warning people of dangers.



Accessibility is about seeing disabilities or technical constraint as an opportunity to enhance experiences for everybody.

When I talk to developers and designers about accessibility I hear one sentence a lot.

“Why should we do something for people with disabilities, how many users are we going to have that are blind anyways?”

One of my answers is:

“Every day of your life you are using a product that was built for a disabled person and it makes your life much easier.”

Can you guess what that is?



Loudspeakers!

**There are many more
examples.**

OCR scanning

OCR Sample

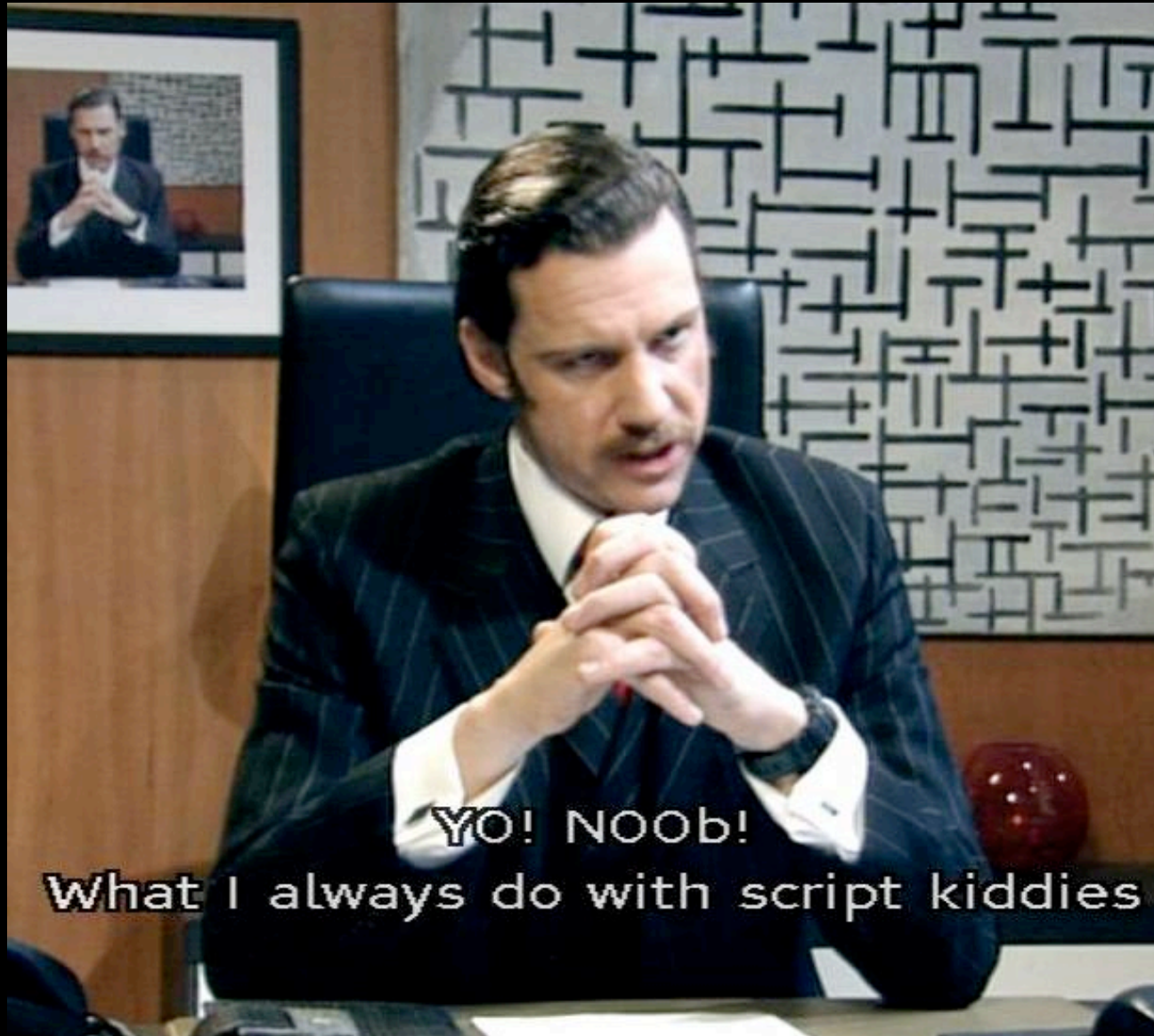
drag and drop Image Here



小田急電鉄 121262500046103A01002
Ltd. Express Ticket
特別急行券
Shinjuku Machida
新宿 町 田
Date 08. 12. 12 Dep 23:53 発 (Arr. 0:22 着)
ホームウェイ25号 (LSE) 1 Car 3A Seat
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別急行券 Mach 主互 a 町トお Sh 西 n 云 uku 新宿 r。。。 08. 12.
12。。。ホームウェイ 25 号 (LSE) 発車時刻後の変更・払戻はできません
: 53 発。A・r| 敏田 D: 22 着) 3A Seat 番 0 前展望-9 特急剣 f
400 円 2008・12・12 2 陶新宿西上 15

Subtitles/Captions



Wheelchair ramps for luggage transport.



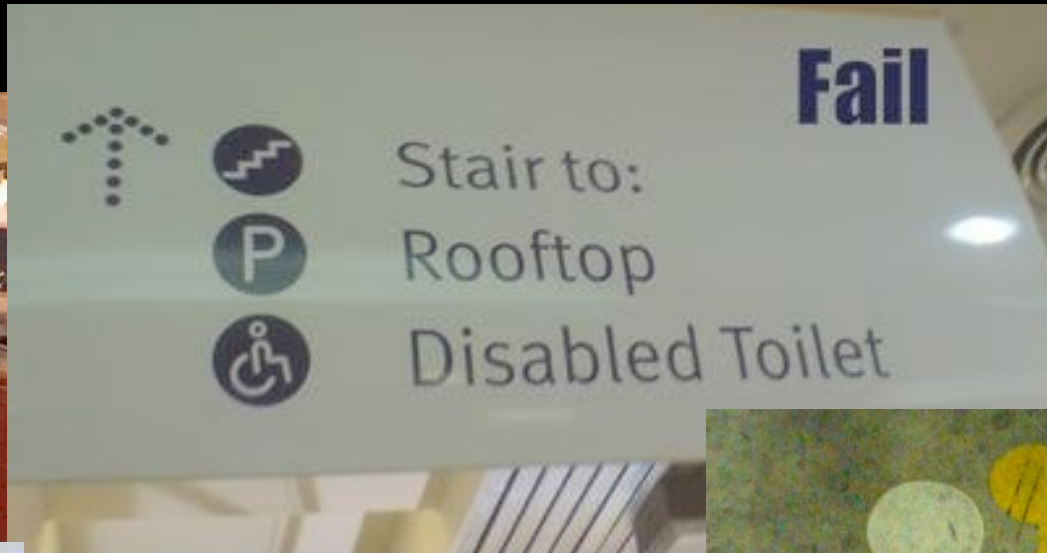
**Would your life not be much
harder without these?**

**Instead of seeing accessibility as
this chance to build something
great for everybody...**

**We normally tend to see it as
an extra effort...**

**...something that needs to be
done rather than something
we want to do.**

Which leads to results of a different kind.



**We all are here to celebrate
the idea of open software and
practices.**



**Yet not many of us use our
skills to **really** open the
web to all.**

**When it comes to
accessibility, we get confused
and misguided.**



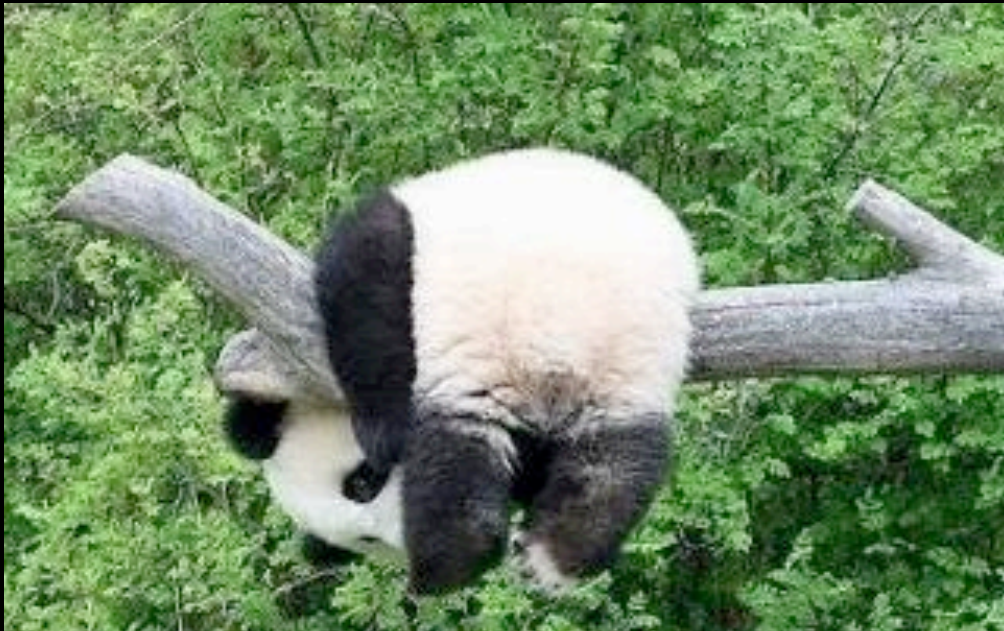
**So I am here today
to tell you to first
and foremost to not
forget to have fun
making things
accessible.**



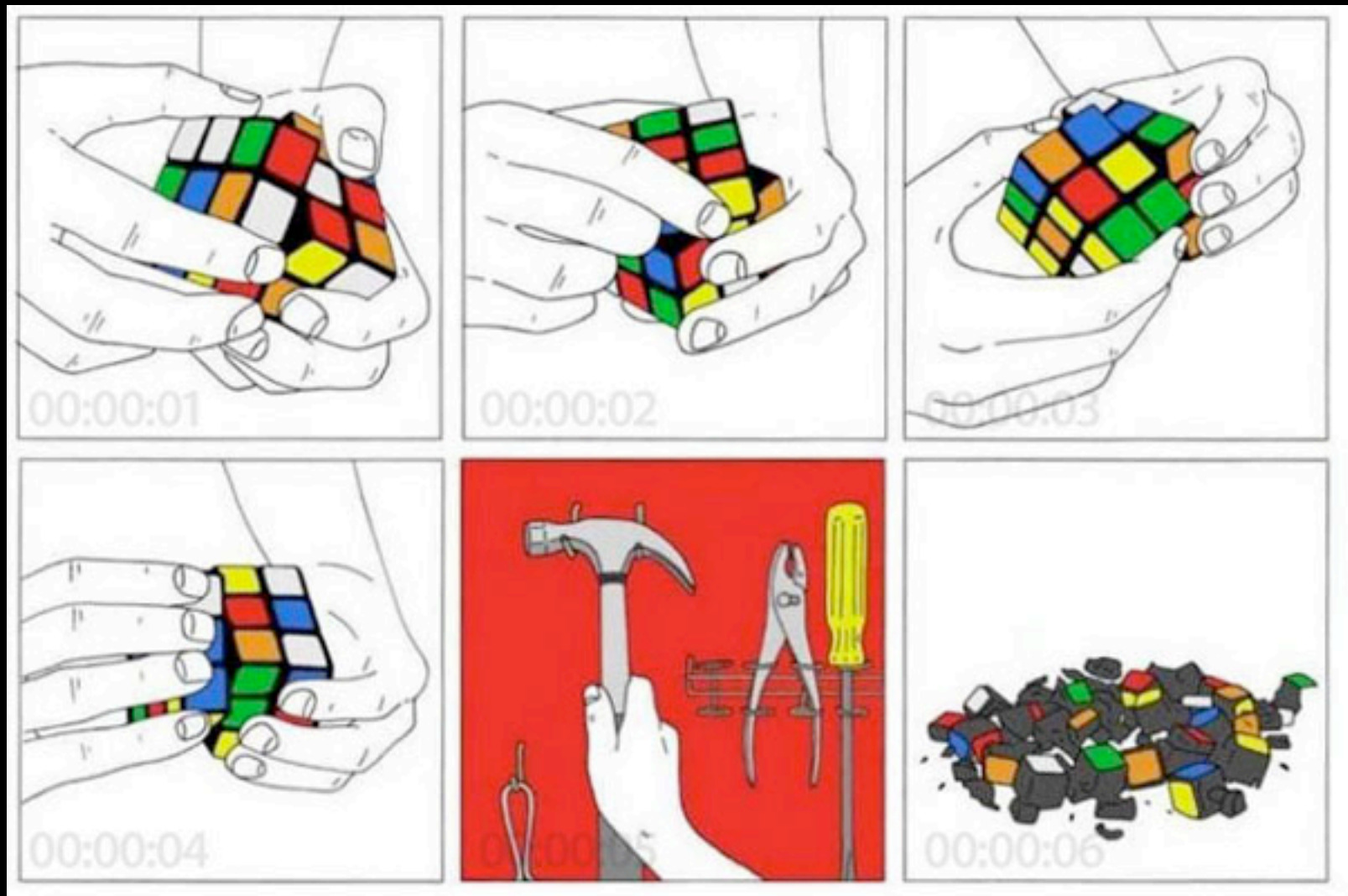
**Open source means
collaborating and constantly
improving.**

**Something that is pretty alien
to the accessibility world and
guidelines right now.**

A lot of guidelines and even laws get stuck talking about technical problems.



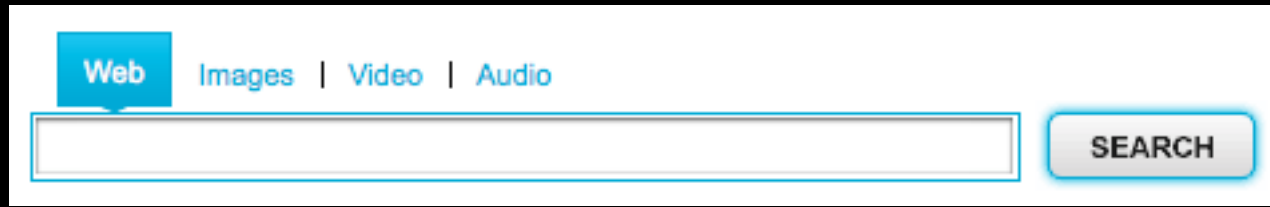
And fixing technical problems is what we do.



**Let me show you some
examples of making things
more accessible.**

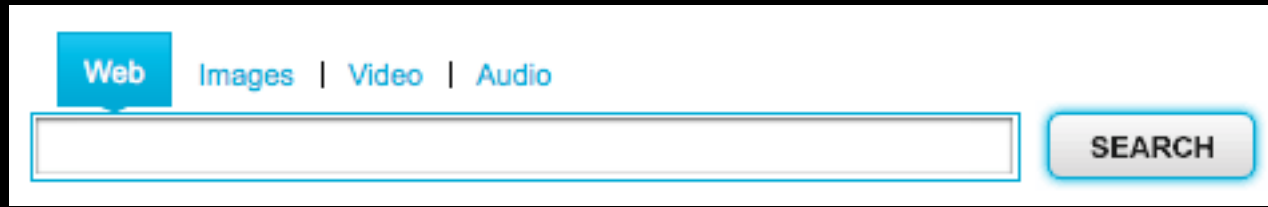
One way:

Keeping things simple



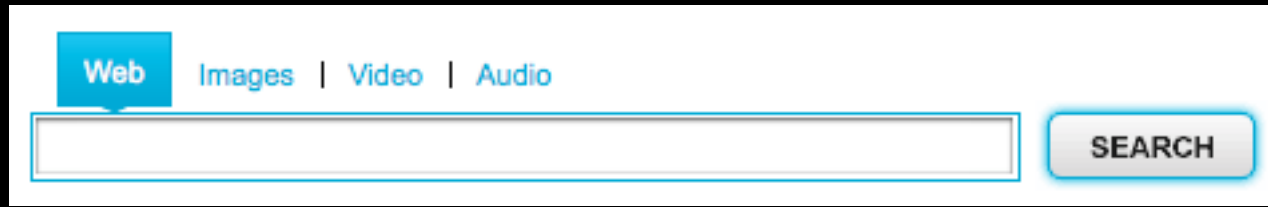
A screenshot of a search bar from a Yahoo website. The bar is white with a blue border. At the top left, there are four tabs: 'Web' (highlighted in blue), 'Images', 'Video', and 'Audio'. Below these tabs is a large, empty search input field. To the right of the input field is a blue button with the word 'SEARCH' in white capital letters.

Search box on a Yahoo site.

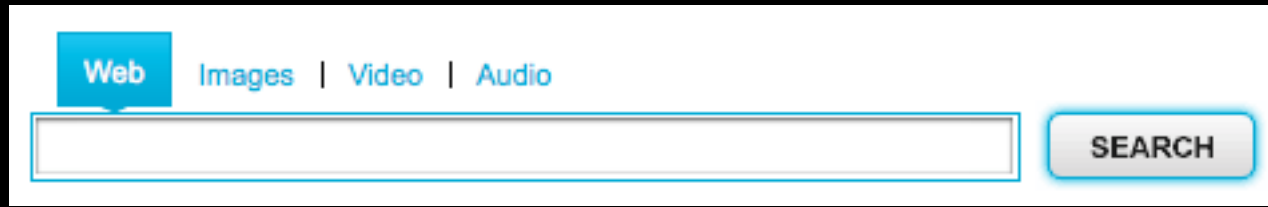


A search interface with four tabs: 'Web' (highlighted in blue), 'Images', 'Video', and 'Audio'. Below the tabs is a long, empty search input field. To the right of the input field is a button labeled 'SEARCH'.

**JavaScript dependent links
changing the action of the
form.**



**How did we change this to
work without JavaScript?**



The image shows a search interface with a white background. At the top, there are four tabs: 'Web' (highlighted in blue), 'Images', 'Video', and 'Audio'. Below the tabs is a long, empty search input field with a blue border. To the right of the input field is a blue button with the word 'SEARCH' in white capital letters.

We analysed what users want to do here:

**Define type of search,
enter search term,
submit form.**

Search

- ☒ The web
- ☐ For images
- ☐ For video
- ☐ For audio

**And used what allows them
to do exactly that (and CSS to
make it pretty)**

TV Tonight

What's on Now

« earlier	20:00	21:00	22:00	later »
-----------	-------	-------	-------	---------

Find a channel

Grid

Hourly table

BBC 1	Rogue Traders	Traffic Cops	The Hottest Place on Earth	BBC News at Ten	...	Question Time
BBC 2	Natural World	...	Oil Spill - The Exxon Valdez Disaster	The Graham Norton Show	Newsnight	
ITV1	The Bill		The Truth about Super Skinny Pregnancies	News at Ten and Weather		Dexter
Channel 4	10 Years Younger		Cutting Edge	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA		
Five	I Own Britain's Best Home 2009		The Mentalist	Law & Order: Criminal Intent		
Sky Movies Premier	Semi-pro			I Am Legend		

How about this one?

Analyse what data
you display, and find
the easiest way to
show it.

Then make it look the
way you want it to.

TV Tonight

[What's on Now](#)

[Find a channel](#)

Switch display mode

- [Grid](#)
- [Hourly table](#)

Times shown here:

1. [20:00 3 hours earlier](#)
2. [21:00](#)
3. [22:00 3 hours later](#)

[BBC 1](#)

1. [20:00-20:30 Rogue Traders](#)
2. [20:30-21:00 Traffic Cops](#)
3. [21:00-22:00 The Hottest Place on Earth](#)
4. [22:00-22:25 BBC News at Ten](#)
5. [22:25-22:35 Regional News and Weather](#)
6. [22:35-23:35 Question Time](#)

[BBC 2](#)

1. [20:00-20:50 Natural World](#)
2. [20:50-21:00 The Rabbits of Skomer](#)
3. [21:00-22:00 Oil Spill - The Exxon Valdez Disaster](#)
4. [22:00-22:30 The Graham Norton Show](#)
5. [22:30-23:20 Newsnight](#)

[ITV1](#)

1. [20:00-21:00 The Bill](#)
2. [21:00-22:00 The Truth about Super Skinny Pregnancies](#)
3. [22:00-22:35 News at Ten and Weather](#)
4. [22:35-23:40 Dexter](#)

[Channel 4](#)

1. [20:00-21:00 10 Years Younger](#)
2. [21:00-22:00 Cutting Edge](#)
3. [22:00-23:05 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA](#)

[Five](#)

1. [20:00-21:00 I Own Britain's Best Home 2009](#)
2. [21:00-22:00 The Mentalist](#)
3. [22:00-23:00 Law & Order: Criminal Intent](#)

[Sky Movies Premiere](#)

1. [20:00-21:45 Semi-pro](#)
2. [21:45-23:30 I Am Legend](#)

Another way:

**Showing dedication to build
an excellent accessible
solution.**

Currencies Investing **NEW!**

Currency Converter

[Show Help using this Converter](#)

Type a country or currency

United States dollar (USD) ▼

Please enter an amount

\$

1

=


Type a country or currency

Euro (EUR) ▼

Please enter an amount

€

0.7961

Using an exchange rate of 1 USD = 0.7961 EUR for 5 March 2009 

 [View 5 Day Trend](#)

Please note: The exchange rates given are 'bank rates', high street rates may be subject to commission

Pocket Guide for 5 March 2009

United States dollar (USD)

\$ 5	\$ 10	\$ 50	\$ 100	\$ 250	\$ 500	\$ 1000
€ 3.98	€ 7.96	€ 39.81	€ 79.61	€ 199.03	€ 398.05	€ 796.1

[http://finance.yahoo.com/currency-converter?](http://finance.yahoo.com/currency-converter?u#from=USD;to=EUR;amt=1)
[u#from=USD;to=EUR;amt=1](http://finance.yahoo.com/currency-converter?u#from=USD;to=EUR;amt=1)

JANUARY 21, 2009

Making the new Yahoo! Currency Converter accessible

When my fellow coworker, the user experience designer **Graham Beale**, and I started thinking about the new **Yahoo! Currency Converter** we had a few clear objectives:

- make it as easy as possible to use
- make it work without page reloads
- make it fast
- make it accessible to everyone

For the last, but not at all least, point we were lucky and very happy to have **Artur Ortega** on our team. Artur is not only a brilliant backend engineer but also a screenreader user himself. Without his endless testing and suggesting workarounds, this application would not have been possible.

To arrive at the application you can use today, we went through an intense prototyping and user testing phase with many different iterations. Some of those iterations are still in the converter as parts of our progressive enhancement concept and all of them are based

Currencies Center

Currencies Investing **new!**

Currency Converter

Javascript
off

Type a country or currency

US Dollar (USD)
British Pound (GBP)
Euro (EUR)
US Dollar (USD)
Japanese Yen (JPY)
Chinese Yuan (CNY)
Australian Dollar (AUD)
Swiss Franc (CHF)
Canadian Dollar (CAD)
Thai Baht (THB)
Indian Rupee (INR)
Indonesian Rupiah (IDR)
Hong Kong Dollar (HKD)

Type a country or currency

Euro (EUR)

convert

http://developer.yahoo.net/blog/archives/2009/01/accessible_converter.html

Another way:

**Build with things that have
accessibility features.**

**Web applications can be built
using existing lego bricks of
controls.**

**We've already created all of
these bricks in libraries: Dojo,
YUI, jQuery...**



And now more and more of those get ARIA support for accessibility.

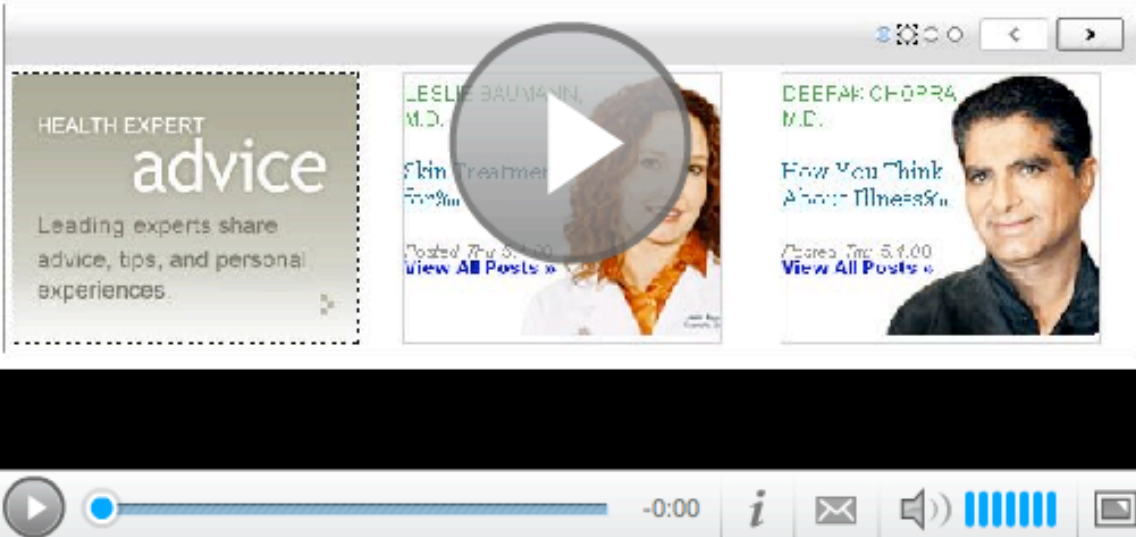
ARIA Plugins for YUI Widgets

October 2, 2008 at 8:12 am by Todd Kloots | In [Accessibility](#), [Development](#) | [3 Comments](#)

For YUI 2.6, a handful of widgets have examples illustrating how to use new YUI ARIA plugins. These plugins make it easy to use the [WAI-ARIA Roles and States](#) to make each widget more interoperable with assistive technologies (AT), such as screen readers, and in turn, more accessible to users with disabilities. For example, the following video illustrates how the YUI ARIA Plugin for Carousel improves the user experience of the new Carousel widget for users of screen readers:

Block

Expert Health Advice



Using the Carousel ARIA Plugin @ Yahoo! Video

<http://yuiblog.com/blog/category/accessibility/>

Another way:

Re-think your idea of the web.

Users see the web as an interface.

設為首頁 創業當老闆抗失業 <Direct>24小時帳戶管理 4月18日星期六 台北 1

YAHOO! 奇摩 網頁 知識+ 圖片 影片 部落格 商家 字典 商品 綜合

網路搜尋

熱門：小遊戲 痞子英雄 桐花祭 星座 釣蝦 楓之谷 監獄兔 夜店 航海王 便宜買到飾品 搜尋榜

服務列表	My»
資訊	消費
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生活+HOT	部落格
汽車	家族
工作	交友
房地產	信箱 2.0
無名影音	即時通訊
字典	無名小站
時尚	娛樂

焦點新聞 運動 娛樂 國際 新奇

洪一中、陳金鋒 遭驅逐出場
因好球帶問題與主審起爭執，熊隊總...

調查：大學生上網1天5小時
其中男大學生愛玩通訊交友、女大學...

快訊 學會網拍一週就月入十萬

熱門 不可不知多領3600的偷吃步

YAHOO! 網路ATM 立即進行線上轉帳 好康通通不用錢 GO

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FAR EAST TONE

Yahoo! 奇摩知識+ 手機版

Yahoo! 奇摩知識+ 手機版

Developers have x-ray vision and see code

```
<label for="p"><input class="plong inputtext" type="text" id="p" name="p" accesskey="s"></label>
<cite></cite>
<div id="ySrchResult"></div>
<input type="hidden" name="fr" id="fr" value="yfp">
<input type="hidden" id="ySrchEi" name="ei" value="utf-8">
<input type="hidden" id="ySrchV" name="v" value="0">
<span class="srchwrap"><input type="submit" id="searchsubmit" class="srchbtn" value="網頁搜尋"></span>
</fieldset></form>
<div class="sboxbtm">
<div id="srchkw"><ul class="hotsrch"><li><h3>熱門: </h3><a href="srchkw/1/01/*http://tw.search.yahoo.com/sear
<span class="srchpromo"><span class="kp">
<a href="srchkw/kp/01/*http://tw.lifestyle.yahoo.com/search/srp_combo.html?p=%E9%A3%BE%E5%93%81&addr=%E5%8F%
</span>|<a href="srchkw/buzz/*http://tw.buzz.yahoo.com/">搜尋榜</a></span>
</div><div id="yoptions"><div class="panel off">
  <span class="trigger">頁面選擇</span>
  <div class="panelin">
    <span class="shadow1"><span class="shadow2">
      <div class="bd">
        <h3>顏色</h3>
        <ul>
          <li class="def"><a href="#">藍色系</a></li>
          <li class="tasteful"><a href="#">紫色系</a></li>
          <li class="sweet"><a href="#">粉紅系</a></li>
          <li class="fresh"><a href="#">綠色系</a></li>
          <li class="sunny"><a href="#">黃色系</a></li>
          <li class="cool"><a href="#">灰色系</a></li>
        </ul>
        <a class="pgswitch" href="page/w/*http://tw.yahoo.com/goto.php?i=ss&t=1555455391">寬窄頁面切換</a>
      </div>
    </span></span>
  </div>
</div>
```

**I moved even further and
found my own idea of the
web.**



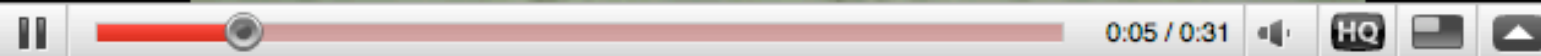
Sweet data to pick and mix.

Companies provide us with APIs and web services to get to the data behind the interface.

**We can use these to build
accessible interfaces to these
systems.**

Really cute mummy duck with nine ducklings !

[Block](#)



★★★★★ 171 ratings

53,124 views

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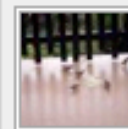
[MySpace](#)

[\(more share options\)](#)

► [Statistics & Data](#)

► [Video Responses](#) (0)

[Post a Video Response](#)



speedypete07

12 December 2006

[\(more info\)](#)

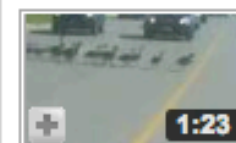
This is so cute and funny, just watch the nine ducklings following their mum from the water, crossing the road and then back to the other side !

URL <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...>

Embed `<object width="425" height="344">`

► **More From: speedypete07**

▼ **Related Videos**



Ducks Crossing

6,937 views

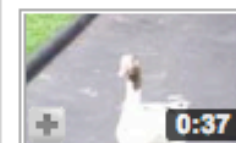
[Camillasmommy](#)



Molly and kittens

11,962 views

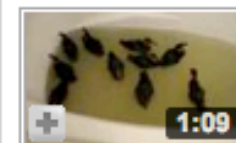
[Madglitters](#)



Funny Duck

65,024 views

[loyrodas](#)



Bathtub

81,003 views

[camomanbg](#)



Snoring Duck

YouTube Address:

Load

You can go to the YouTube video you want to watch and copy and paste the address at the top into this box.

Video Size

Small

Medium

Large



Volume



Use this box to search for videos on YouTube you are interested in, or choose a video from your playlist.

Search

Go

Search Results / Your Playlist

Officer Stops Rush Hour Traffic for Ducks Crossing

Duck and 9 ducklings

It had to be done, and I am sorry

Panda Cubs On A Slide

A deaf choir singing a song in sign language

© 2008 by Chris Heilmann, [documentation and help is here.](#)

<http://icant.co.uk/easy-youtube/?http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vkdZmi85gxxk>

**What we learn there we can
feed back to other people
who have similar interfaces...**



The Soloist - exclusive trailer

from Yahoo! UK Movies
28 views

Watch the trailer for Jamie Foxx and Robert Downey Jr.'s new film

[Go to video page](#)



Cutting Edge - 9/11 Faker

from Yahoo! UK TV
97 views

Watch Cutting Edge, tonight at 9pm on Channel 4

[Go to video page](#)

<http://uk.video.yahoo.com/>

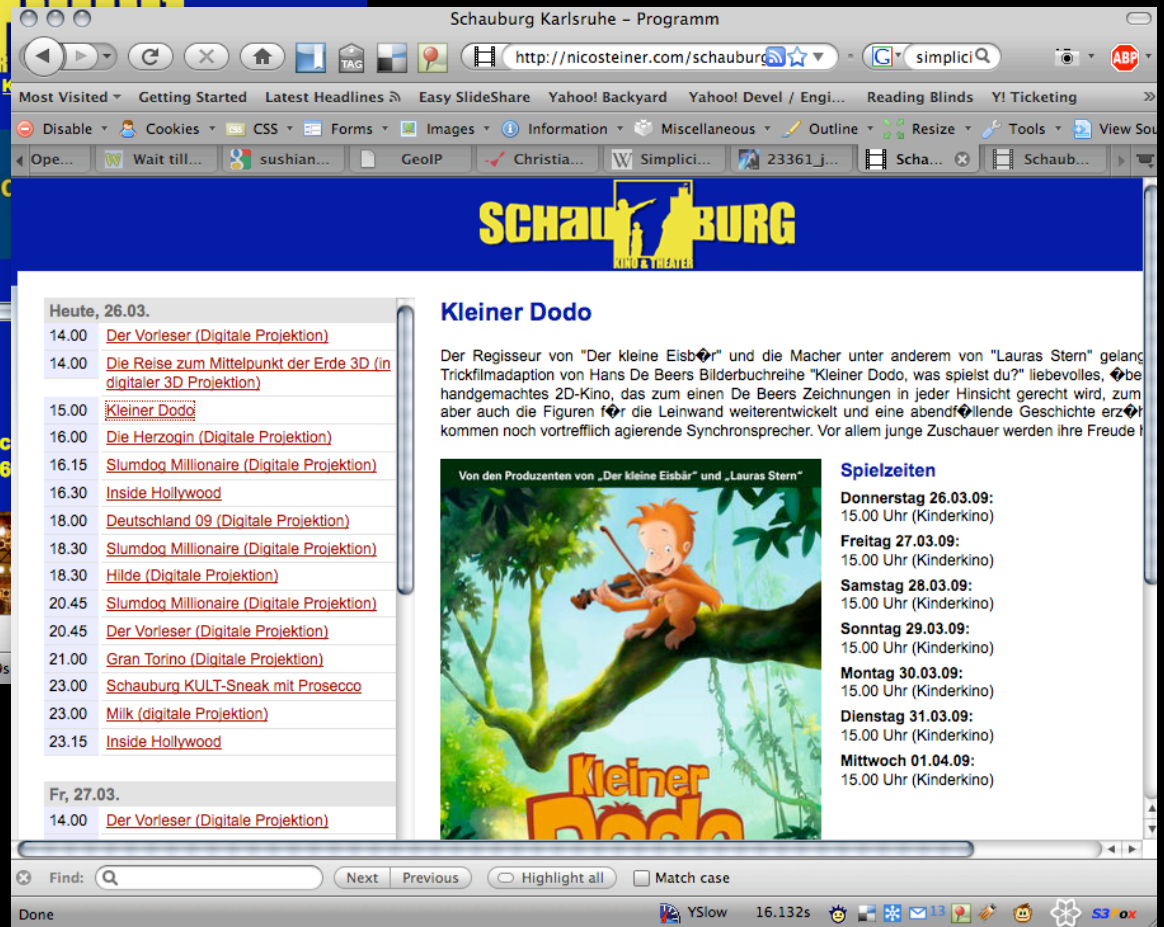
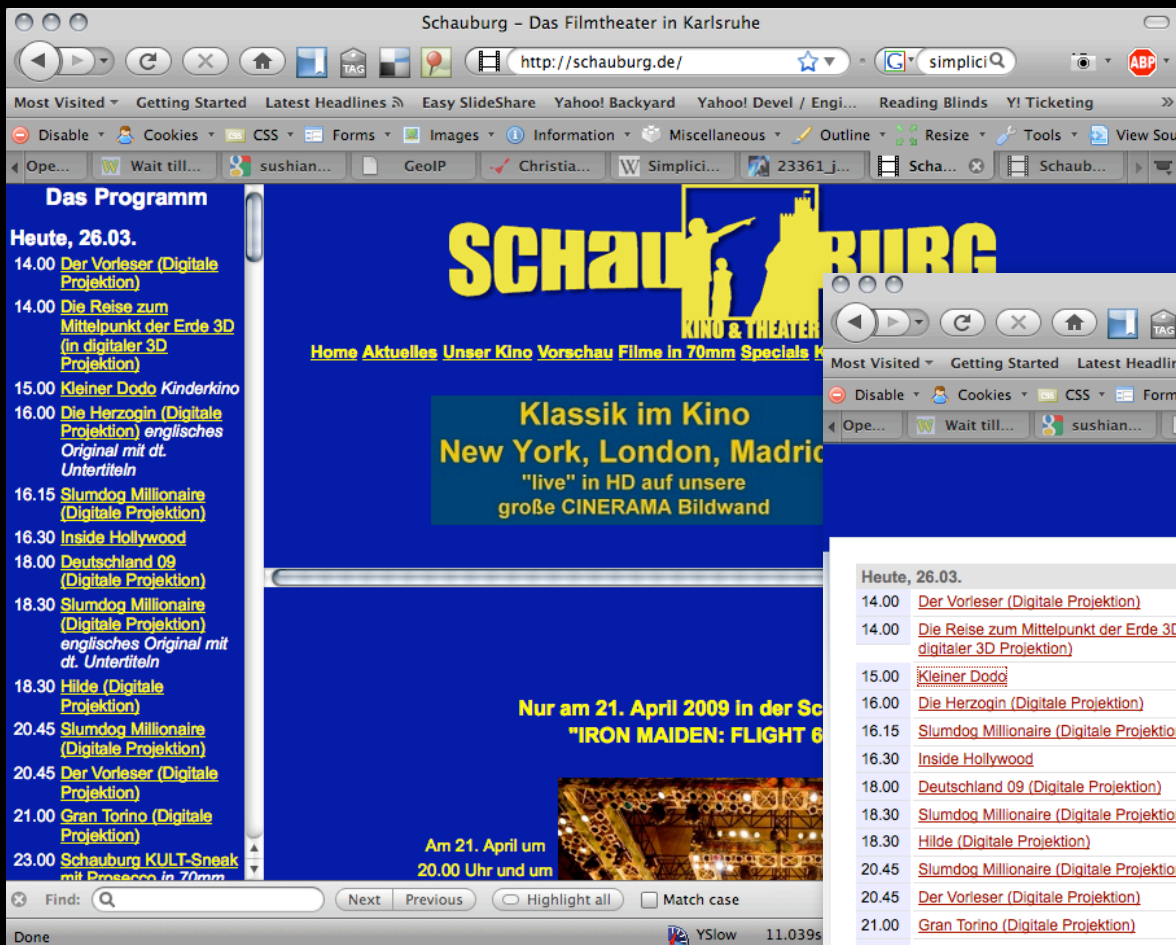
**...which results in much more
accessible new versions.**



Player Controls

- Play/Pause Video
- Seek Reverse
- Seek Forward
- Replay Video
- Volume Down
- Volume Up

**This can be done even with
sites that do not have APIs.**



<http://www.nicosteiner.de/archives/118-YQL,-YUI-und-Yahoo!-Pipes.html>

YAHOO! DEVELOPER NETWORK | [icantdom](#) | [Sign Out](#) | [HOME](#) | [MY PROJECTS](#)

[YDN](#) / [Yahoo! Query Language](#) / [Console](#)

Your YQL Statement

select * from html where url="http://msn.com" and xpath="//h2"

☒ XML ☐ JSON

[Permalink](#)

The REST query

http://query.yahooapis.com/v1/public/yql?q=select%20*%20from%20html%20wh%3D%22http%3A%2F%2Fmsn.com%22%20and%20xpath%3D%22%2F%2Fh2%22&format=xml

[How do I use this?](#)

Recent Queries

▼ **Example Queries**

- [get my profile data](#)
- [get my friends](#)
- [get all my friends profiles](#)
- [get my friends nicknames](#)
- [get my last added friend](#)

▼ **Available Data Tables**

▼ **social**

- [social.connections](#)
- [social.contacts](#)
- [social.presence](#)
- [social.profile](#)
- [social.updates](#)

► flickr

► geo

► gnip

► local

► mybloglog

FORMATTED VIEW **TREE VIEW**

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<query xmlns:yahoo="http://www.yahooapis.com/v1/base.rng" yahoo:count="18" yahoo:created="2009-03-26T11:11:47Z" yahoo:lang="en-US" yahoo:updated="2009-03-26T11:11:47Z">
  <diagnostics>
    <publiclyCallable>true</publiclyCallable>
    <url execution-time="667">http://msn.com/robots.txt</url>
    <url execution-time="26">http://msn.com</url>
    <user-time>697</user-time>
    <service-time>693</service-time>
    <build-version>911</build-version>
  </diagnostics>
  <results>
    <h2>Customize your Page</h2>
    <h2>
      <a href="http://www.hotmail.com">Hotmail</a>
    </h2>
    <h2>
      <a href="http://video.msn.com/?from=MSNHP">Video Highlights</a>
    </h2>
    <h2>Custom MSN Content</h2>
    <h2>

```

Version 1.0 | Copyright © 2008 Yahoo! Inc. All rights reserved. [Copyright](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Forum](#)

<http://developer.yahoo.com/yql/console/>

**What we need is real
information about what
barriers people face when
going online.**

And I have started collecting this information...

<http://scriptingenabled.org/presentations/>

Antonia Hyde on learning disabilities

Antonia Hyde explained to the audience the impact of web design on people with learning disabilities. There is not enough data out there on user testing covering learning disabilities – this was a very welcome exception. Antonia also pointed out the necessity of collaboration as the first and foremost mean of building systems that work, going into detail about our collaboration on building [easy youtube](#).

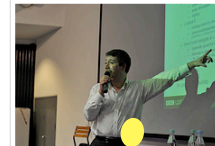


Online Content for People with Learning Disabilities: Opening Doors

Read "Online Content for People with Learning Disabilities: Opening Doors" with Easy SlideShare

Watch "Online Content for People with Learning Disabilities: Opening Doors" right here, right now

Jonathan Hassell on Dyslexia



Jonathan Hassell of the BBC did a joint presentation with Phil Teare on the impacts and symptoms of dyslexia on web design and usability. Jonathan goes through the results of a BBC research and gives some tips on how to not block out dyslexic users completely.



Scripting Enabled - Jonathan Hassell on Dyslexia

Jonathan Hassell, head of the BBC accessibility on Dyslexia, its numbers and the effects on web design.

Read "Scripting Enabled - Jonathan Hassell on Dyslexia" with Easy SlideShare

Kath Moonan - Why I hate the interweb



Kath Moonan of Abilitynet showed in her presentation user research with users with disabilities and how frustrated people can get by barriers that just are not necessary. There is a lot of good content in this one, make sure to go through all of it.



Why I Hate The Interweb - Kath Moonan at Scripting Enabled

Kath Moonan's presentation at Scripting Enabled in London, September 2008. She covers the outcome of research done by Abilitynet with people with visual impairments and web sites.

Read "Why I Hate The Interweb - Kath Moonan at Scripting Enabled" with Easy SlideShare

Denise Stephens at Scripting Enabled



Denise Stephens did a wonderful presentation on how the world is in her eyes and senses and what problems she encounters online suffering from MS. There are some good tips there but in general we got a great insight into good interfaces being about adaptability more than anything else.

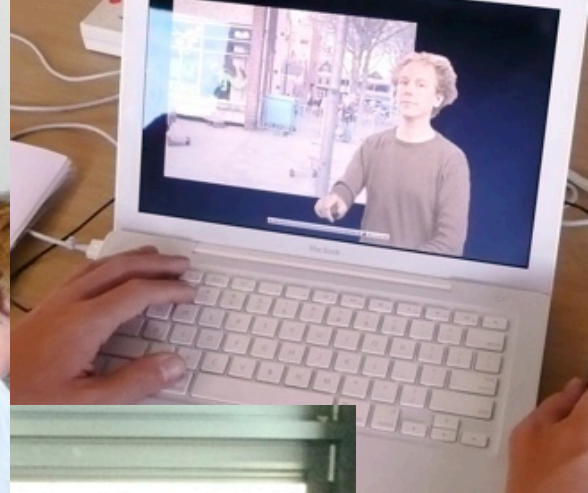


Enabled by Design meets Scripting Enabled

Denise Stephen's presentation at <http://scriptingenabled.org> covering the symptoms of MS and how inclusive web design can help make it easier to surf the web.

Read "Enabled by Design meets Scripting Enabled" with Easy SlideShare

**...and invited friends to use it
to build more examples of
alternative, accessible
interfaces.**



Scripting Enabled

Hacking the web to be more accessible

**The conference itself is an
open idea, you can do one
here if you want:**

<http://scriptingenabled.org/host-your-own-scripting-enabled/>

**Things that need much more
fixing is rich content: music
and videos.**

**Especially video needs more
solutions for captioning.**

**What we need are simple
interfaces that make sense
and are fun to use.**



**You have the tools available
for you.**



SoundManager 2

Javascript Sound for the Web



version 2.77a.20080901

Audio for Javascript

Plain English

Web 2.0-speak

ZOMG WEB 3.0

SoundManager 2 is an attempt at providing the sound API which Javascript has been missing. It's a Javascript library which wraps and extends Flash's sound capabilities, bringing cross-platform audio functionality to Javascript.

Discussion / Support

buffering timeout	5 days
SoundManager2 and beforeunload	2 days
How do I preload a song?	29 days
Implement a download link/button	~ 1 month
Sound for Bookflip	8 days

Get Satisfaction support network

Demos

Less Talk, More Show.

Some examples of Javascript-driven sound, and applications implementing SoundManager 2:

"Page as a playlist" Playlist w/debug output

Muxtape.com-style UI example, list of playable links with loading/progress/timing display and controls

"Make MP3 links playable in-place"

A simple way to play MP3 links "in-place" on a page, easily skinned with CSS.

jsAMP MP3 Player Alpha jsAMP w/debug output

Experimental MP3 player demo app / API test suite.

Shortcuts

- Demos
- Getting Started
- Basic Use
- Download
- Requirements
- Limitations
- Debug Output
- Revision History
- About

<http://www.schillmania.com/projects/soundmanager2/>

**People played already with
this – pointing to a possible
great solution.**

0:19.596 - 0:22.400

Ano toki wa

mienakatta

Ima dakara

mieru mono

Tsukameba

kiete shimau

Fukasugite

susumenai mama

**For video, there's the JW FLV
Media Player.**



JW FLV MEDIA PLAYER 4.1

BOOKMARK

last update: 21.08.2008 | [print this page](#)

Download Now

Your email address ([No spam](#)):

☐ I agree to the [noncommercial license](#).

Download JW FLV Media Player

A word to RTMP users:

The 4.1 player introduces a new [streamer](#) flashvar, which must be set to your RTMP application. The *file* flashvar should be set to only your FLV/MP4/MP3 path (including the extension). [Here's an example](#).

For [HTTP streaming](#), the *streamer* flashvar replaces *streamscript*. No functional changes.

Search this Site

Go

.. or [check the sitemap](#)

Monetize your video

longtail VIDEO beta Want to earn money with your video? I co-founded [LongTail Video](#) a company that has a great, hands-on ad solution. [Here's the demo](#) and [here you can signup](#).

http://www.jeroenwijering.com/?item=JW_FLV_Player

Using this, you can embed FLV videos easily into web sites and have an API to control them.

**Using the right meta data,
you can also add audio
descriptions and captions.**

Accessibility example

So a properly accessible video should contain captions and an audio description. Let's see how this works in a real-life example. The video below shows an excerpt from ITV's *Coronation Street*, as shown on the [RNIB website](#):



http://www.jeroenwijering.com/?item=JW_FLV_Player

So here we are.

You can build accessible web applications.

**You need the right
communication.**



**Creativity
and
patience.**



**Dedication to get down to
the source of things.**



**And other eager people to
work with.**



Thanks.

Any questions?

Christian Heilmann

<http://icant.co.uk>

<http://wait-till-i.com>

<http://scriptingenabled.org>

<http://twitter.com/codepo8>

