

Preferred and acceptable file formats

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The table below shows for each file type which file formats are preferred when it comes to sustainable accessibility and which file formats are acceptable. Acceptable means: there are better file formats, but this file format is not in danger of becoming obsolete and its readability can be guaranteed for the foreseeable future.

File formats		
Filetype	Preference	Acceptable
<i>Images (raster)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portable Network Graphics (.png) • Tagged Image File Format: Baseline TIFF (.tif/.tiff) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint Photographic Experts Group (.jpg/.jpeg) • JPEG 2000 (.jp2)
<i>Images (vector)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scalable Vector Graphics File (.svg) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adobe Illustrator (.ai) • Encapsulated PostScript File (.eps)
<i>Audio</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free Lossless Audio Codec File (.flac) • Waveform Audio File Format (.wav) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced Audio Coding (.aac/.m4a) • MPEG-1/MPEG-2 Audio Layer III (.mp3) • Windows Media Audio (.wma)
<i>Databases</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comma Separated Values (.csv) • Extensible Markup Language (.xml) • Open Document Database (.odb) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microsoft Access Database (.accdb/.mdb) • Software Independent Archiving of Relational Databases (.siard) • Structured Query Language (.sql)
<i>E-mail</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E-mail Message (.eml) • Extensible Markup Language (.xml) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outlook Mail Message (.msg) • PDF/A-1 of PDF/A-2 (.pdf)
<i>Presentation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Document Presentation (.odp) • PDF/A-1 of PDF/A-2 (.pdf) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microsoft Powerpoint (.ppt/.pptx)
<i>Spreadsheets</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comma Separated Values (.csv) • Open Document Spreadsheet (.ods) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microsoft Excel (.xls/.xlsx) • PDF/A-1 of PDF/A-2 (.pdf)
<i>Text</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PDF/A-1 of PDF/A-2 (.pdf) • Open Document Text (.odt) • Plain Text File (.txt) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microsoft Word (.doc/.docx) • Portable Document Format (.pdf) • Rich Text Format (.rtf)
<i>Video</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audio Video Interleave (.avi) • Matroska Video (.mkv) • Material Exchange Format (.mxf) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apple Quicktime Movie (.mov) • Moving Picture Experts Group (.mpeg/.mp4)
<i>Websites</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Web Archive (.warc) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archive (.arc) • Hypertext Markup Language (.html)