

High-Level Accessibility Evaluation (WCAG 2.1)

Zotero

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Prepared for:

BTAA-Library Accessibility Alliance

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SUMMARY

This report reflects the findings of a high-level assessment of the Zotero Standalone for its conformance with the W3C Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.1 (WCAG 2.1).

The Zotero application has practically no issues with WCAG 2.1 compliance. The tool works very well, is accessible using keyboard navigation, and has excellent screen reader support. The processes we tested were easy to perform using standard patterns for accessible navigation with screen reader support.

The test cases for this evaluation also reviewed the Zotero Connector browser extension. We were able to test this across 3 different browsers in the allotted time for this evaluation: Firefox, Chrome, and Edge. The Chrome and Edge extensions had similar performance and pulled nearly identical information. Firefox on the other hand worked much better and was able to pull much more information from the provided article, including a PDF attachment, which neither the Chrome nor Edge versions were able to do.





ACCESSIBILITY FINDINGS

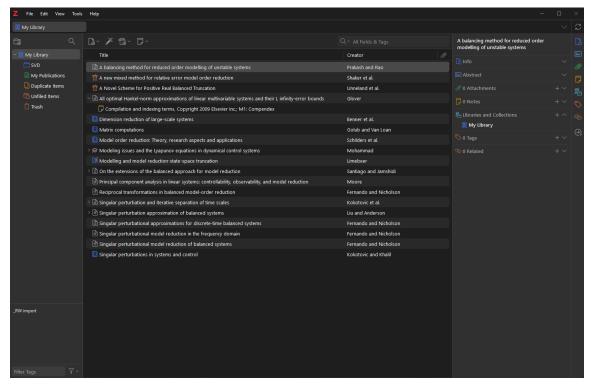
This report was conducted against Zotero Standalone and covers a selection of features and interfaces that were tested as a representative sample of the conformance of the tool to WCAG 2.1 AA standards. The resource was reviewed through manual analysis using the following tools:

- Colour Contrast Analyzer (CCA) v3.3.0
- NVDA v2025.1.2
- Firefox v144.0
- Chrome v141.0.7390.108
- Edge v141.0.3537.85

Below are the errors revealed during the accessibility evaluation of Zotero. Each result shows a summary of accessibility issues and the reason it was flagged. Screenshots are included.

1. Initial Interface

Test Case: With Zotero Standalone installed, test it to ensure menus, sub-menus, search box, images, icons, etc. are accessible.

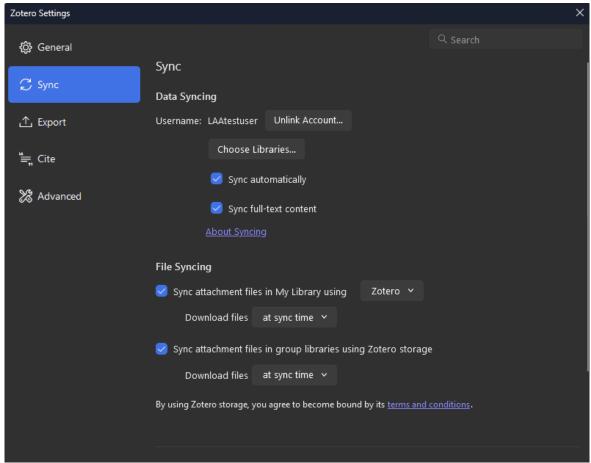






2. Syncing

Test Case: Select Edit from the menu, then Settings. Select Sync from the modal window nav. Test the process of setting up database syncing.



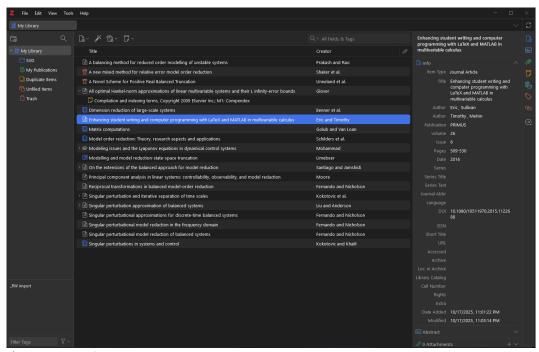




3. Adding and Editing References

Test Case:

- Add a journal article using the New item button. Leave the other fields empty.
 - o For authors, be sure to try the buttons: switch to single field, add, and delete.
 - Please attach a PDF to the record using the Info panel (where you have been entering the fields).
 I attached an unrelated PDF to attach for your convenience.
 - Add two tags using the Info panel: 1) accessibility and 2) testing.
- Install the browser connector. Test on multiple browsers if time; otherwise, use either Chrome or Firefox.
- Add a document using the browser connector. Select tools from the main menu, then Install browser connector.
 - It is ok if some information in the fields isn't quite right. Just test the process of getting it into the database
 - o Import the book chapter, Carbon Redux Chemistry: Deep Carbon Dioxide and Carbonates
 - Add a document by selecting the Add by Identifier button, then enter: 10.1016/0895-7177(90)90219-D into the text box.
- Add a Note to this entry by using the New note button above the list of references.



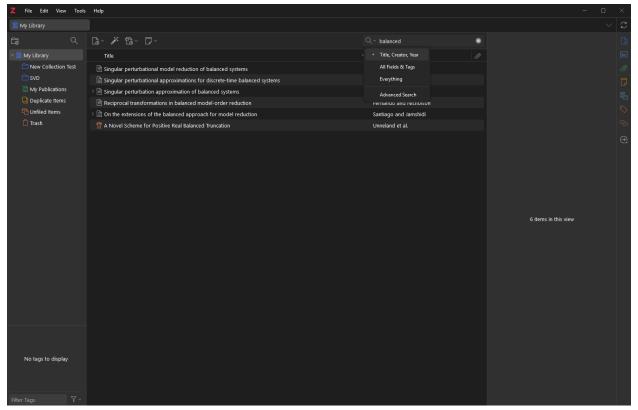




4. Finding References

Test Case:

- Using search from Zotero Standalone. Search everything for the term balanced. Try different sorting options (e.g., Title) of the search results.
- Add a collection (folder) by using the New Collection button.







5. Exporting a Bibliography

Test Case:

- Select multiple references from the list box. Next, select Edit from the main menu, then Copy Bibliography.
- Paste the clipboard into a word processing document, such as Microsoft Word.
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No issue found

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