

# Community Meeting (May 16, 2018): Firefox accessibility Inspector

## Description

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[Introducing the Accessibility Inspector](#)

[Accessibility Object Model Explainer](#)

[Video Recording](#)

## Notes

- Accessibility Inspector
  - due out in FF 61 ( should be mid July 2018)
    - use from the Dev Tools, but it will be disabled by default
  - intended for those who already know about a11y, not meant to educate about a11y
  - it will display the a11y tree
    - the a11y tree is how a browser represents accessible information
    - it corresponds to the level or aria support by Firefox
    - similar to DOM tree
  - it will help you to determine if things that you have presented to the user matches the semantic structure of the document
    - e.g. is the visual presentation inline with what will be presented to a screen reader
  - Future plans
    - potentially provide educational information, for example tooltip to describe the role of an item
      - links to MDN
    - show how the name of the element was determined, similar to how CSS shows how rules are overridden
    - will improve highlighting of elements in the DOM to include info such as role and name, and other things to hep with diagnostics of a11y issues.
    - add more properties for relations between accessible objects
- AOM
  - <https://github.com/WICG/aom/blob/gh-pages/explainer.md>
    - still in development
  - one of the primary reasons is for canvas accessibility.
    - will allow developers to build virtual accessibility trees.
  - another reason is to help with relations that need an id reference
    - for example aria-describedby, so that you don't need to actually provide an id to link them.
  - save from modifying the DOM to make changes to the a11y tree
  - also provides better accessibility for web components because the browser will be able to emit a11y events.