



City of
Westminster

WCC Design system

This is the documentation for the Westminster City Council design system. Here you will find our design guidelines, component documentation and resources on how to use the design system.

The goal is to create standards of design with tested, pre-built components, and to ensure a consistent user experience across all products by standardising design elements and behaviour patterns.

Colour

Here are listed all the colours used in the WCC Design System, their reference and contextualisation. You should always use the colours listed below.

Background



#F3F6FA

background-default

Page and site background



#FFFFFF

background-paper

Components background (Cards, CTATiles, Accordion, etc.)

Brand



#0B2265

brand-primary

Decorative colour on some elements



#0335FF

brand-secondary

Decorative colour on some elements

Accent



#FFD420

accent-highlight

Decorative colour on some elements



#DE3D5D

accent-cherry

Decorative colour on some elements



#000000

accent-black

Decorative colour on some elements



#E4EAF2

accent-grey

Background colour for Page headers

Text



#0B2265

text-heading

Primary headings on a page



#FFFFFF

text-heading-sm

Secondary and smaller headings on a page



#0B2265

text-body

Default text colour



#0B2265

text-body-dark

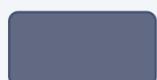
Text colour when not enough contrast with the background



#0B2265

text-contrast

Text on dark background



#0B2265

text-disabled

Disabled text (mainly for used on disabled form fields and buttons)

Hover and focus styles

This documentation describes the best practices for designing hover and focus styles for interactive elements. Every interactive element should have a focus style.

Hover styles are a change of appearance when mouse users hover an interactive element.

Focus styles are a change of appearance when an element receives focus, usually when selecting with the keyboard. The focus styles helps keyboard users identify which element is selected.

This includes and is not limited to: Link Button Text input Radio buttons CTATile.

Useful links

- [Understanding Success Criterion 2.4.13: Focus Appearance | WAI | W3C](#)
- [:focus - CSS: Cascading Style Sheets | MDN](#)

The hover style checklist

- There should always be a shape change in addition to any colour change. The only exception to this rule is buttons as it is widely identified as clickable and is a large enough element.

The focus style checklist

- Outline thickness should be at least 2px.
- Outline colour should pass contrast requirements.
- There should always be a shape change in addition to any colour change.

Usage

Text focusable elements with no background colour like links or clickable icons have a simple 2px outline around them.

[Default](#) [Hover](#) [Focus](#)

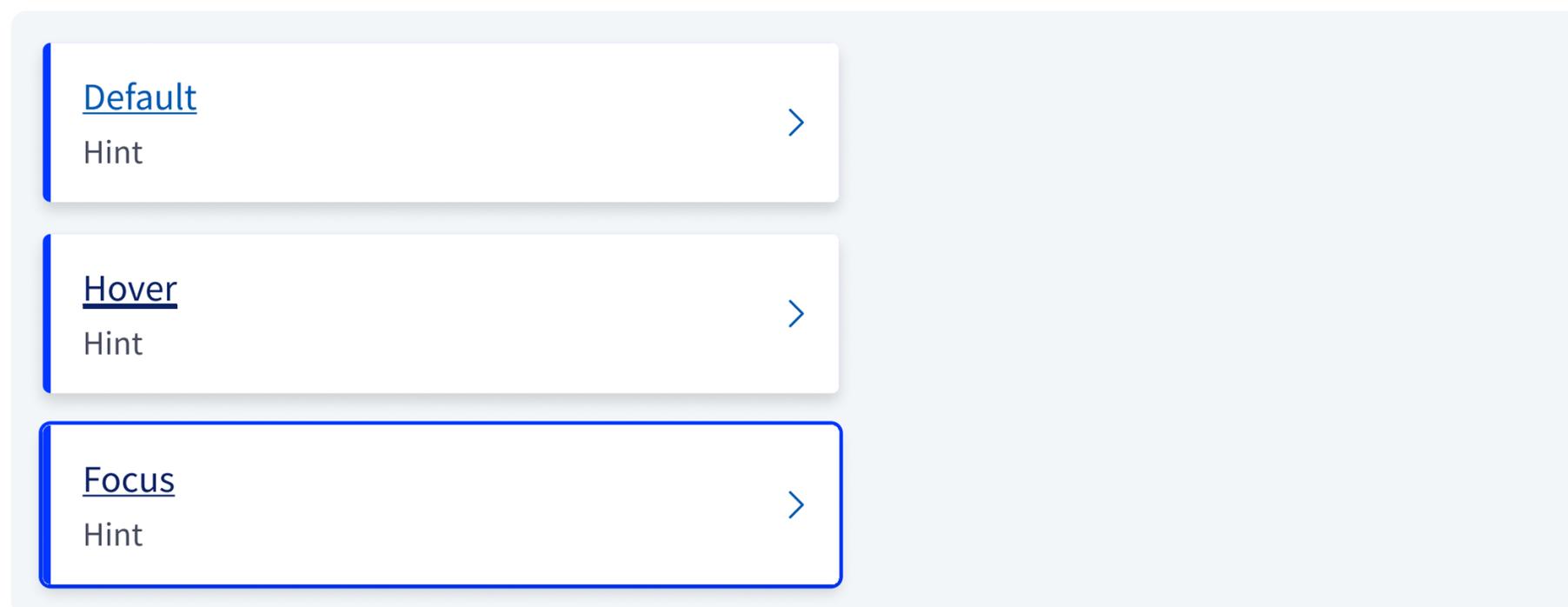
× × [×](#)

Usage

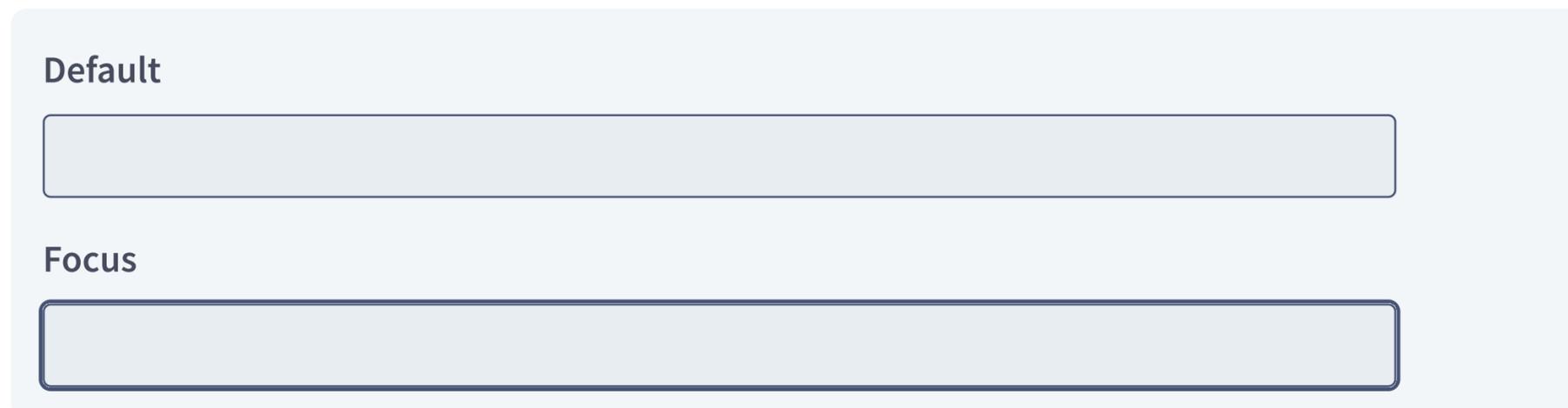
If the focus outline is the same colour as your component, add an offset of 2px.



Large clickable elements on a white background have a 2px --brand-primary outline.



Form fields only have a focus state in which we add an outline the colour of the border.



Typography

Typography is at the core of every design system. As text is the most present element on screen, having consistent and harmonious font styles is paramount.

Westminster City Council's typeface is Source Sans Pro.

The default font weight is 400 (regular). The default line-height is 150%.

[Download Source Sans Pro Font](#)

Font styles

 You should never use another font style than the ones presented below. The only components which have a different font style are the pre-built Stepper and Breadcrumbs components.

Style	Weight	Leading	Size (desktop)	Size (mobile)	Description
Heading 1	600	110%	52px 3.25rem	40px 2.5rem	Page titles
Heading 2	600	110%	44px 2.75rem	36px 2.25rem	Form and container titles
Heading 3	600	110%	32px 2rem	28px 1.75rem	Inline title for paragraph block
Heading 4	600	110%	24px 1.5rem		Small inline title for paragraph block
BodyXl	400	110%	21px 1.3125rem		Larger body text for page subtitle
BodyLg	400	110%	19px 1.1875rem		Large body text, used for instance on form labels
Body	400	110%	17px 1.0625rem		Default body size

Variables

Variables are reusable tokens that allows us to create a consistent look and feel for all the components used on the WCC Design System.

The most common ones are the Colour and Typography variables. The rest of the variables are mostly numbers variables that set consistent spacing, width, border, etc.

Border



0.25rem

border-width

Consistent border size for all components that have left or bottom border like CTA tile, accordion, error summary or the left border on the inline error messages.

Border radius



0.25rem

border-radius

Border radius for most components, like Button, text input or CTA tile.



0.5rem

border-radius-lg

Border radius for modules and containers (organism level components like cookie banners or search bars)

Max width



640px
40rem

max-w-form

Max-width for every form components. This includes but is not limited to: all types of form fields, error summaries or upload thumbnails.

Box shadow



0 2px 0.25rem 0
rgba(0, 0, 0, 0.15)

box-shadow

Elevation for small components like buttons.



0 2px 0.5rem 0
rgba(0, 0, 0, 0.15)

box-shadow-lg

Elevation for larger elements like CTA tiles or modules like newsletter banners.

Breadcrumbs

Navigation component to navigate up the page tree.

[Home](#) > [Link](#) > [Link](#) > [Link](#) > Page title

Anatomy

- A list of Link
- A text string at the end

Usage

✔ Use

- To help users identify where they are and navigate up the page tree.

✘ Don't use

- Anywhere else than on the Page header.
- To show progress through a form or service.

Best practices

✔ Dos

- The last element of a breadcrumb should be plain text and be the same content as the page title.
- Breadcrumb links should scrupulously match the actual navigation pattern.
- Always place at the top of the page

✘ Don'ts

- Have plain text in an item other than the last element.

Props

Color

Change the link and text colour when used on a dark background (i.e. when the Page header has the variant prop set to primary).

[Default](#) > [Link](#) > [Link](#) > [Link](#) > Page title

[Contrast](#) > [Link](#) > [Link](#) > [Link](#) > Page title

Props

Variant

When there are multiple buttons on a page or section of the page, the second button should have the secondary variant. This is to give user an indication of priority between the two elements.



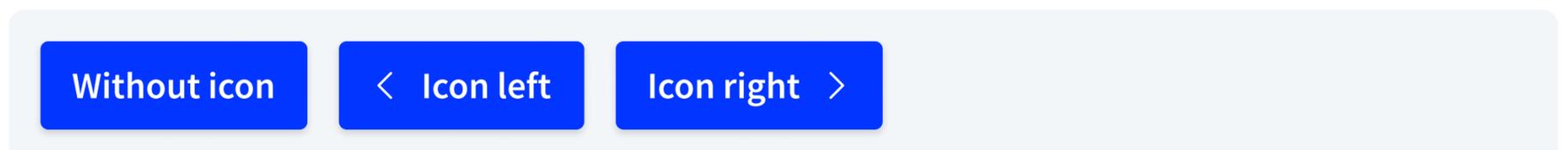
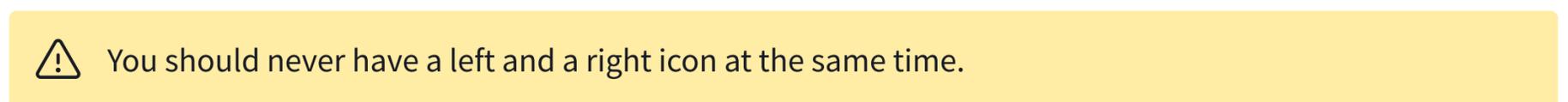
Color

When buttons are used on a dark background, use the contrast value of the color prop, so that the button background passes colour contrast accessibility tests.



Icon

You can sometimes use an icon for visual aesthetic. We use Phosphor Icons as icon library (see Icons for more information).



Hover

Style change when the button is hovered by a cursor.



Focus

Style change when users click or tap the button, or when it is focused by keyboard users.



Checkboxes

Form field to allow users to select multiple item.

Legend

 Label Label Label

Anatomy

- The legend, usually composed of a text, an optional hint and an error message if there is a validation error
- A list of Radio components.

Usage

✔ Use

- To allow users to select multiple options from a list.
- To toggle one option.

✘ Don't use

- When users can only select one option, use Radio buttons instead.
- If the list of options is longer than 7 items, use Select instead.

⚠ Like all form elements, checkboxes have a maximum width of 680px.

Best practices

✔ Dos

- Make sure that all checkboxes that go together are included in a fieldset container with a legend value.
- Each label elements should have a for property that has the same value as the id of the checkbox it's associated with.

✘ Don'ts

Props

Focus

Help users know that the field is focused (with mouse click or keyboard).

Hint

Day Month Year

Disabled

Use the disabled prop with caution. Disabled fields, like disabled buttons, are not great in terms of accessibility due to their low colour contrast and inconsistent screen reader behaviour.

When disabled, make sure it has the CSS property `cursor: not-allowed` on hover.

Disabled

Day Month Year

Alternate version

Alternatively, you can use a native date picker. This is only accepted when users need to look up a date without knowing the date beforehand (e.g. to make an appointment) or if it's useful for them to see the days of the week (e.g. to help them with the date of an issue they witnessed in the past).

 Always use the native version of a time picker, never a third party library.

Date picker

Props

Hover

Style change when the button is hovered by a cursor.

▶ [Hover](#)

Focus

Style change when users click or tap the button, or when it is focused by keyboard users.

▶ [Focus](#)

Expanded

Display the details content. That prop is triggered by the clicking on the details summary.

▼ [Expanded](#)

The answer or additional information to this question goes here.

Error summary

Summary of any errors users have made when validating a form.

There is a problem

[Error message](#)

[Error message](#)

[Error message](#)

Anatomy

- The title (that doesn't change)
- A list of error messages

Usage

✔ Use

- To give users a summary of errors on a page.

✘ Don't use

- To replace inline error messages.

Best practices

✔ Dos

- All error messages should be anchor links that scroll to the relevant fields.
- The content of each error on the Error summary component should match the content of error messages on each field.
- Error messages should be specific to the field name. For more information on errors content rules, see Error messages.

✘ Don'ts

- Error messages should not be generic like 'Please select an option' or 'please enter some text' (for more information on error messages content patterns, see Error message).

Props

Hover

Style change when the link is hovered.

[Hover](#)

Focus

Style change when users click or tap the button, or when it is focused by keyboard users.

[Focus](#)

Icon

Add an icon left of the link label. The icon should always be the same colour and taken from the Icons library (see Icons).

> [With icon](#)

Color

Override the default colour of the link so that it inherits the colour of the container. This is useful when links are used on dark background, or for the Error summary.

[Default](#) [Inherit](#) [Inherit](#)

Props

IsHeading

If you are using only one question on the page, the isHeading prop should be set to true. If you are asking multiple questions on the page, the component should be part of a Fieldset and the isHeading props set to false.

False **True**

Hint

Use hint text for help relevant to the majority of users. The text should only be relevant to the field itself, like examples of what to write or form validation hints. Any information regarding the form step, or why we are asking users for that information should be in a step Title screen.

Hint

This is an optional hint.

Error

When there is a validation error, we display an error message just above the field. The error should always be related to the field it is referencing.

Error

Error message

Tag

Small snippet used for status or tagging purposes.

Tag

Anatomy

A tag is composed of a string of text.

Usage

✔ Use

- To label, categorise, or organise items using keywords that describe them.
- To indicate the status or type of an item (e.g., "New", "Urgent").
- To highlight important attributes of an item.

✘ Don't use

- For lengthy descriptions or explanations.
- For critical actions that require user interaction.

Best practices

✔ Dos

- Use concise and clear language for tag labels.
- Keep tag labels short and meaningful (1-2 words).

✘ Don'ts

Props

Color

The colour theme for background and text.

Success

Info

Warning

Error

Grey

Text input

Basic form field.

Label

Anatomy

- The label, usually composed of a label, an optional hint and error message
- The field

 Like all form elements, text inputs have a maximum width of 680px.

Usage

Use

- When entering text that fits in a single line

Don't use

- When users need to enter a long text, use Textarea instead

Best practices

Dos

- Use disabled fields with caution, as they are not great in terms of accessibility due to their low colour contrast and inconsistent screen reader behaviour.

Don'ts

- Do not use placeholder text, as it disappears when users start typing. Any information related to the field should be in the label or the hint text.