

# VPAT™

## Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®

Version 1.3

The purpose of the **Voluntary Product Accessibility Template**, or **VPAT™**, is to assist Federal contracting officials and other buyers in making preliminary assessments regarding the availability of commercial “Electronic and Information Technology” products and services with features that support accessibility. It is assumed and recommended that offerers will provide additional contact information to facilitate more detailed inquiries.

The first table of the Template provides a summary view of the Section 508 Standards. The subsequent tables provide more detailed views of each subsection. There are three columns in each table. Column one of the Summary Table describes the subsections of subparts B and C of the Standards. The second column describes the supporting features of the product or refers you to the corresponding detailed table, e.g., “equivalent facilitation.” The third column contains any additional remarks and explanations regarding the product. In the subsequent tables, the first column contains the lettered paragraphs of the subsections. The second column describes the supporting features of the product with regard to that paragraph. The third column contains any additional remarks and explanations regarding the product.

---

**Date:** 2015-06-15

**Name of Product:** GNU Image Manipulation Program (GIMP)

**Contact for more Information (name/phone/email):** [gimp-developer-list@gnome.org](mailto:gimp-developer-list@gnome.org)

### *Summary Table*

## VPAT™

### Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®

<i>Criteria</i>	<i>Supporting Features</i>	<i>Remarks and explanations</i>
Section 1194.21 <a href="#">Software Applications and Operating Systems</a>	Screen readers and assistive technologies	GIMP uses the GNOME

	such as on-screen keyboards and alternate pointing devices are supported and configurable e.g. through the GNOME accessibility configuration.	Accessibility Toolkit API to provide access to screen readers and related assistive technologies.
Section 1194.22 <a href="#">Web-based Internet Information and Applications</a>	GIMP is not a Web-based application. It is a stand-alone desktop application. However, the documentation is available in HTML Web format.	
Section 1194.23 <a href="#">Telecommunications Products</a>	Not applicable.	
Section 1194.24 <a href="#">Video and Multi-media Products</a>	Although GIMP is an image editor and may be used as part of creation of multimedia assets, it does not make use of video multimedia.	
Section 1194.25 <a href="#">Self-Contained, Closed Products</a>	Not applicable.	
Section 1194.26 <a href="#">Desktop and Portable Computers</a>	Not applicable.	
Section 1194.31 <a href="#">Functional Performance Criteria</a>	GIMP conforms to all relevant aspects here. Note that because GIMP offers facilities for artistic creation of images using a paint-tool paradigm, users with impaired motion or coordination may find those aspects difficult. Similarly a blind user might or might not be able to complete a convincing drawing. Alternate mouse pointer controls can mitigate the difficulties to some extent, but painting and drawing seem to be	

	inherently visual activities requiring some hand-eye coordination.	
Section 1194.41 <a href="#">Information, Documentation and Support</a>	The GIMP project does not at the time of writing maintain further information relating to accessibility of the application, and although we would be very happy to do so, human resources are volunteers, not employees, and volunteers would therefore be needed.	

[Return to the top of the page.](#)

## ***Section 1194.21 Software Applications and Operating Systems – Detail***

### **VPAT™**

### **Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®**

<i>Criteria</i>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
(a) When software is designed to run on a system that has a keyboard, product functions shall be executable from a keyboard where the function itself or the result of performing a function can be discerned textually.	<p>Pass.</p> <p>Most GIMP functions can be accessed directly from the keyboard, including paint tools. Other functions can be accessed by standard gtk+ library keyboard navigation functions.</p> <p>Actual painting operations require a pointer; this could be a screen pointer operated</p>	

	by assistive technology or could be a regular mouse pointer operated from a keyboard using accessibility mode, for example in the GNOME 3 desktop.	
(b) Applications shall not disrupt or disable activated features of other products that are identified as accessibility features, where those features are developed and documented according to industry standards. Applications also shall not disrupt or disable activated features of any operating system that are identified as accessibility features where the application programming interface for those accessibility features has been documented by the manufacturer of the operating system and is available to the product developer.	Pass.  GIMP uses the GNOME Accessibility Toolkit.	
(c) A well-defined on-screen indication of the current focus shall be provided that moves among interactive interface elements as the input focus changes. The focus shall be programmatically exposed so that Assistive Technology can track focus and focus changes.	Pass. GIMP uses the GTK+ toolkit and the Accessibility Tool Kit.	Within the image window, the tab key hides/shows the toolbox by default, but this can be changed in Edit/Preferences.
(d) Sufficient information about a user interface element including the identity, operation and state of the element shall be available to Assistive Technology. When an image represents a program element, the information conveyed by the image must also be available in text.	Pass. GIMP uses the GTK+ toolkit and the Accessibility Tool Kit.	Because GIMP is a visual application it may be very difficult to learn for someone not sighted at all, but GIMP does work with the Orca screen reader to provide audible indication of

		state.
(e) When bitmap images are used to identify controls, status indicators, or other programmatic elements, the meaning assigned to those images shall be consistent throughout an application's performance.	Pass	
(f) Textual information shall be provided through operating system functions for displaying text. The minimum information that shall be made available is text content, text input caret location, and text attributes.	Pass.	Because GIMP is an image editor it is not uncommon for people to create and edit images that contain text rendered as images. However, images saved in GIMP's native format can contain text that is live and can be edited through standard assistive technology such as the Orca text reader.
(g) Applications shall not override user selected contrast and color selections and other individual display attributes.	Pass	GIMP allows user-selectable themes but defaults to the system colours and contrast.
(h) When animation is displayed, the information shall be displayable in at least one non-animated presentation mode at the option of the user.	Pass	GIMP uses a "marching ants" animation to show selections; the speed of the animation can be controlled and can be set to stationary.

(i) Color coding shall not be used as the only means of conveying information, indicating an action, prompting a response, or distinguishing a visual element.	Needs review	It's possible that colour is used e.g. in the Path Tool editor for editing paths; and elsewhere in the user interface
(j) When a product permits a user to adjust color and contrast settings, a variety of color selections capable of producing a range of contrast levels shall be provided.	Pass	
(k) Software shall not use flashing or blinking text, objects, or other elements having a flash or blink frequency greater than 2 Hz and lower than 55 Hz.	Pass when configured	The marching ants already mentioned, and also the blinking cursor in text fields, can be configured.
(l) When electronic forms are used, the form shall allow people using Assistive Technology to access the information, field elements, and functionality required for completion and submission of the form, including all directions and cues.	N/A	

[Return to the top of the page.](#)

***Section 1194.22 Web-based Internet information and applications – Detail***

**VPAT™**

**Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
(a) A text equivalent for every non-	Pass	Applies to the

text element shall be provided (e.g., via "alt", "longdesc", or in element content).		product documentation
(b) Equivalent alternatives for any multimedia presentation shall be synchronized with the presentation.	N/A	
(c) Web pages shall be designed so that all information conveyed with color is also available without color, for example from context or markup.	Unverified	
(d) Documents shall be organized so they are readable without requiring an associated style sheet.	Pass	
(e) Redundant text links shall be provided for each active region of a server-side image map.	N/A	None used
(f) Client-side image maps shall be provided instead of server-side image maps except where the regions cannot be defined with an available geometric shape.	N/A	None used
(g) Row and column headers shall be identified for data tables.	Unverified, documentation only	
(h) Markup shall be used to associate data cells and header cells for data tables that have two or more logical levels of row or column headers.	Unverified, documentation only	
(i) Frames shall be titled with text that facilitates frame identification and navigation	Unverified, documentation only	
(j) Pages shall be designed to avoid causing the screen to flicker with a frequency greater than 2 Hz and lower than 55 Hz.	Pass	
(k) A text-only page, with equivalent information or functionality, shall be provided to make a web site comply with the provisions of this part, when compliance cannot be accomplished in any other way. The content of the text-only page shall be updated whenever the primary page changes.	N/A	

(l) When pages utilize scripting languages to display content, or to create interface elements, the information provided by the script shall be identified with functional text that can be read by Assistive Technology.	N/A	
(m) When a web page requires that an applet, plug-in or other application be present on the client system to interpret page content, the page must provide a link to a plug-in or applet that complies with §1194.21(a) through (l).	N/A	
(n) When electronic forms are designed to be completed on-line, the form shall allow people using Assistive Technology to access the information, field elements, and functionality required for completion and submission of the form, including all directions and cues.	N/A	
(o) A method shall be provided that permits users to skip repetitive navigation links.	N/A	
(p) When a timed response is required, the user shall be alerted and given sufficient time to indicate more time is required.	N/A	

Note to 1194.22: The Board interprets paragraphs (a) through (k) of this section as consistent with the following priority 1 Checkpoints of the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 1.0 (WCAG 1.0) (May 5 1999) published by the Web Accessibility Initiative of the World Wide Web Consortium: Paragraph (a) - 1.1, (b) - 1.4, (c) - 2.1, (d) - 6.1, (e) - 1.2, (f) - 9.1, (g) - 5.1, (h) - 5.2, (i) - 12.1, (j) - 7.1, (k) - 11.4.

[Return to the top of the page.](#)

## **Section 1194.23 Telecommunications Products**

### **– Detail**

# VPAT™

## Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
(a) Telecommunications products or systems which provide a function allowing voice communication and which do not themselves provide a TTY functionality shall provide a standard non-acoustic connection point for TTYs. Microphones shall be capable of being turned on and off to allow the user to intermix speech with TTY use.	N/A	GIMP is not a telecommunications product and does not use or facilitate voice or other audio communication
(b) Telecommunications products which include voice communication functionality shall support all commonly used cross-manufacturer non-proprietary standard TTY signal protocols.	N/A	
(c) Voice mail, auto-attendant, and interactive voice response telecommunications systems shall be usable by TTY users with their TTYs.	N/A	
(d) Voice mail, messaging, auto-attendant, and interactive voice response telecommunications systems that require a response from a user within a time interval, shall give an alert when the time interval is about to run out, and shall provide sufficient time for the user to indicate more time is required.	N/A	
(e) Where provided, caller identification and similar telecommunications functions shall also be available for users of TTYs, and for users who cannot see displays.	N/A	

<p>(f) For transmitted voice signals, telecommunications products shall provide a gain adjustable up to a minimum of 20 dB. For incremental volume control, at least one intermediate step of 12 dB of gain shall be provided.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	
<p>(g) If the telecommunications product allows a user to adjust the receive volume, a function shall be provided to automatically reset the volume to the default level after every use.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	
<p>(h) Where a telecommunications product delivers output by an audio transducer which is normally held up to the ear, a means for effective magnetic wireless coupling to hearing technologies shall be provided.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	
<p>(i) Interference to hearing technologies (including hearing aids, cochlear implants, and assistive listening devices) shall be reduced to the lowest possible level that allows a user of hearing technologies to utilize the telecommunications product.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	
<p>(j) Products that transmit or conduct information or communication, shall pass through cross-manufacturer, non-proprietary, industry-standard codes, translation protocols, formats or other information necessary to provide the information or communication in a usable format. Technologies which use encoding, signal compression, format transformation, or similar techniques shall not remove information needed for access or shall restore it upon delivery.</p>	<p>Pass</p>	<p>GIMP can load and save images using HTTP, Webdav and other open protocols.</p>
<p>(k)(1) Products which have mechanically operated controls or keys shall comply with the following:</p>	<p>N/A</p>	

Controls and Keys shall be tactilely discernible without activating the controls or keys.		
(k)(2) Products which have mechanically operated controls or keys shall comply with the following: Controls and Keys shall be operable with one hand and shall not require tight grasping, pinching, twisting of the wrist. The force required to activate controls and keys shall be 5 lbs. (22.2N) maximum.	N/A	
(k)(3) Products which have mechanically operated controls or keys shall comply with the following: If key repeat is supported, the delay before repeat shall be adjustable to at least 2 seconds. Key repeat rate shall be adjustable to 2 seconds per character.	N/A	
(k)(4) Products which have mechanically operated controls or keys shall comply with the following: The status of all locking or toggle controls or keys shall be visually discernible, and discernible either through touch or sound.	N/A	

[Return to the top of the page.](#)

## ***Section 1194.24 Video and Multi-media***

### ***Products – Detail***

## **VPAT™**

### **Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®**

<b><i>Criteria</i></b>	<b><i>Supporting Features</i></b>	<b><i>Remarks and explanations</i></b>
a) All analog television displays 13 inches and	N/A	GIMP is software-only

<p>larger, and computer equipment that includes analog television receiver or display circuitry, shall be equipped with caption decoder circuitry which appropriately receives, decodes, and displays closed captions from broadcast, cable, videotape, and DVD signals. As soon as practicable, but not later than July 1, 2002, widescreen digital television (DTV) displays measuring at least 7.8 inches vertically, DTV sets with conventional displays measuring at least 13 inches vertically, and stand-alone DTV tuners, whether or not they are marketed with display screens, and computer equipment that includes DTV receiver or display circuitry, shall be equipped with caption decoder circuitry which appropriately receives, decodes, and displays closed captions from broadcast, cable, videotape, and DVD signals.</p>		
<p>(b) Television tuners, including tuner cards for use in computers, shall be equipped with secondary audio program playback circuitry.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	
<p>(c) All training and informational video and multimedia productions</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>GIMP itself does not include video or multimedia training.</p>

which support the agency's mission, regardless of format, that contain speech or other audio information necessary for the comprehension of the content, shall be open or closed captioned.		
(d) All training and informational video and multimedia productions which support the agency's mission, regardless of format, that contain visual information necessary for the comprehension of the content, shall be audio described.	N/A	
(e) Display or presentation of alternate text presentation or audio descriptions shall be user-selectable unless permanent.	N/A	

[Return to the top of the page.](#)

## ***Section 1194.25 Self-Contained, Closed Products – Detail***

### **VPAT™**

### **Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®**

<b><i>Criteria</i></b>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
(a) Self contained products shall be usable by people with disabilities without requiring an end-	Pass	GIMP is open, not closed, and is software-only; it uses the system-provided assistive technology

<p>user to attach Assistive Technology to the product. Personal headsets for private listening are not Assistive Technology.</p>		<p>service.</p>
<p>(b) When a timed response is required, the user shall be alerted and given sufficient time to indicate more time is required.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	
<p>(c) Where a product utilizes touchscreens or contact-sensitive controls, an input method shall be provided that complies with §1194.23 (k) (1) through (4).</p>	<p>N/A</p>	
<p>(d) When biometric forms of user identification or control are used, an alternative form of identification or activation, which does not require the user to possess particular biological characteristics, shall also be provided.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	
<p>(e) When products provide auditory output, the audio signal shall be provided at a standard signal level through an industry standard connector that will allow for private listening. The product must provide the ability to interrupt, pause, and restart the audio at anytime.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	
<p>(f) When products deliver voice output in a public area, incremental volume</p>	<p>N/A</p>	

<p>control shall be provided with output amplification up to a level of at least 65 dB. Where the ambient noise level of the environment is above 45 dB, a volume gain of at least 20 dB above the ambient level shall be user selectable. A function shall be provided to automatically reset the volume to the default level after every use.</p>		
<p>(g) Color coding shall not be used as the only means of conveying information, indicating an action, prompting a response, or distinguishing a visual element.</p>	<p>Not verified, but this entire section does not apply to GIMP.</p>	<p>Note, all colours and icons in GIMP can be changed. In extreme cases, because source code is included, the actual code can also be changed by an end user or departmental administrator.</p>
<p>(h) When a product permits a user to adjust color and contrast settings, a range of color selections capable of producing a variety of contrast levels shall be provided.</p>	<p>Pass</p>	
<p>(i) Products shall be designed to avoid causing the screen to flicker with a frequency greater than 2 Hz and lower than 55 Hz.</p>	<p>Configurable; See above</p>	
<p>(j) (1) Products which are freestanding, non-portable, and intended to be used in one location and which have operable controls shall comply with the following: The position of any operable control shall be determined with</p>	<p>N/A</p>	

<p>respect to a vertical plane, which is 48 inches in length, centered on the operable control, and at the maximum protrusion of the product within the 48 inch length on products which are freestanding, non-portable, and intended to be used in one location and which have operable controls.</p>		
<p>(j)(2) Products which are freestanding, non-portable, and intended to be used in one location and which have operable controls shall comply with the following: Where any operable control is 10 inches or less behind the reference plane, the height shall be 54 inches maximum and 15 inches minimum above the floor.</p>	N/A	
<p>(j)(3) Products which are freestanding, non-portable, and intended to be used in one location and which have operable controls shall comply with the following: Where any operable control is more than 10 inches and not more than 24 inches behind the reference plane, the height shall be 46 inches maximum and 15 inches minimum above the floor.</p>	N/A	
<p>(j)(4) Products which are freestanding, non-portable, and intended to be used in one location</p>	N/A	

and which have operable controls shall comply with the following: Operable controls shall not be more than 24 inches behind the reference plane.		
--	--	--

[Return to the top of the page.](#)

## **Section 1194.26 Desktop and Portable Computers – Detail**

### **VPAT™**

### **Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
(a) All mechanically operated controls and keys shall comply with §1194.23 (k) (1) through (4).	N/A	GIMP is software
(b) If a product utilizes touchscreens or touch-operated controls, an input method shall be provided that complies with §1194.23 (k) (1) through (4).	GIMP is capable of using a tablet interface but this is not required.	
(c) When biometric forms of user identification or control are used, an alternative form of identification or activation, which does not require the user to possess particular biological characteristics, shall also be provided.	N/A	
(d) Where provided, at	N/A	

least one of each type of expansion slots, ports and connectors shall comply with publicly available industry standards		
---	--	--

[Return to the top of the page.](#)

## **Section 1194.31 Functional Performance**

### **Criteria – Detail**

## **VPAT™**

### **Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
(a) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require user vision shall be provided, or support for Assistive Technology used by people who are blind or visually impaired shall be provided.	Pass	<p>GIMP can be used with a screen reader such as Orca.</p> <p>People who are blind may experience some difficulty in creating aesthetically pleasing images but they will easily be able to open an image, determining the size and format of the image, perform basic operations such as rotating the image, and save (or “export”) the image to a possibly different file format. Actual pixel-editing of bitmap images may also be possible.</p> <p>The image canvas can be zoomed and moved, and the size of text and icons in the interface can be</p>

		<p>configured, helping many visually impaired people.</p> <p>All colours used in the interface can be configured, some more easily than others.</p> <p>The GNOME desktop supports sticky keys and assistive technology such as forehead-based pointing devices for people who are mobility-impaired.</p> <p>There are no timeouts in any required GIMP operation. The drag and drop feature uses a system-configurable timeout, normally five minutes.</p> <p>The GIMP uses terminology appropriate for a professional image-editing application; cognitively impaired users may have some difficulty with this vocabulary, but all text strings in the application are localized, so that for example Basic English could be provided as an alternative. This is not included with the product, but could be provided by anyone due to the open nature of GIMP.</p>
<p>(b) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require visual acuity greater than 20/70 shall be provided in audio and</p>	<p>Pass</p>	

<p>enlarged print output working together or independently, or support for Assistive Technology used by people who are visually impaired shall be provided.</p>		
<p>(c) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require user hearing shall be provided, or support for Assistive Technology used by people who are deaf or hard of hearing shall be provided</p>	<p>Pass (no audio is required)</p>	
<p>(d) Where audio information is important for the use of a product, at least one mode of operation and information retrieval shall be provided in an enhanced auditory fashion, or support for assistive hearing devices shall be provided.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	
<p>(e) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require user speech shall be provided, or support for Assistive Technology used by people with disabilities shall be provided.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	
<p>(f) At least one mode of operation and information retrieval that does not require fine motor control or simultaneous actions and that is operable with limited reach and strength shall be provided.</p>	<p>Partial pass</p>	<p>Drawing, erasing, and other canvas-based operations with a pointer may be inherently difficult for people who do not have fine motor control. External assistive technology such as pointer controls may be used with GIMP</p>

		to mitigate any such difficulties.
--	--	------------------------------------

[Return to the top of the page.](#)

**Section 1194.41 Information, Documentation  
and Support – Detail**

**VPAT™**

**Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®**

<i>Criteria</i>	<b>Supporting Features</b>	<b>Remarks and explanations</b>
(a) Product support documentation provided to end-users shall be made available in alternate formats upon request, at no additional charge	Pass	The documentation is available in a help viewer and as Web pages.
(b) End-users shall have access to a description of the accessibility and compatibility features of products in alternate formats or alternate methods upon request, at no additional charge.	Partial pass	This document provides such information. At the time of writing the GIMP project does not have more complete documentation, but would welcome contributions in this area.
(c) Support services for products shall accommodate the communication needs of end-users with disabilities.	N/A	GIMP is primarily supported through Internet Relay Chat (IRC), through email, and through Web forums, all of which have accessible interfaces.

[Return to the top of the page.](#)