

# A Guide to **ACCESSIBLE ONLINE SPACE**

This guide was written by the Re•Storying Autism in Education Co-Researcher Collective. The Re•Storying project aims to improve inclusion in education with and for autistic and neurodivergent people. To learn more, please visit [www.restoryingautism.com/collective](http://www.restoryingautism.com/collective)

## Our Values:



We value **access** to online events for all



We value **flexibility**—different ways to participate in online events.



We value **relaxed ways to connect** with each other in online events.

## We aim to create an accessible and inclusive online space:



Asking you before events about access considerations



Offering help with technology such as Zoom



Providing information about events in advance (e.g., schedules, zoom links, pictures of facilitators, questions we plan to ask)



Paying for the cost of any software such as Canva used in our events



Offering call-in options by phone to our online events

A Guide to Accessible Online Space  
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Re-storying  
Autism



# ACCESSIBLE ONLINE SPACE



**Providing written follow-up to events and updates**



**Close captioning and recording talks when possible and with privacy options (e.g., turning your camera off and renaming yourself so you are not visible)**



**Posting video recordings of talks and workshops so you can review them as often as you like**



**Inviting participants to take part in relaxed ways. For example, you will have the choice of using a chosen name, turning your camera on or off during events and using the chat option on Zoom**



**Scheduling breaks for longer events**



**Providing trigger warnings for sensory or other possibly distressing content with options such as providing you a written or verbal description of the content, or opting out**



**Typing out questions for you**



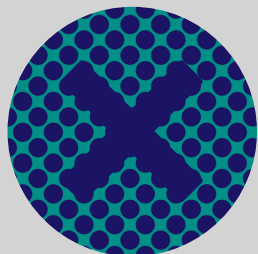
# CREATING ACCESSIBLE ZINES

As a (mostly) visual medium, zines can be inaccessible to visually-impaired people. We can maximize the accessibility of our art by following simple design principles and offering text-based alternatives.

## Accessible Design Principles

### 1. Add light-dark contrast.

Putting dark text and images over light backgrounds or vice versa helps colourblind people see your work.

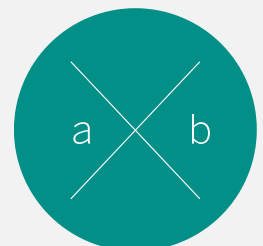
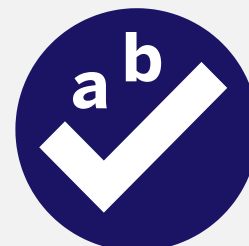


### 2. Reduce visual noise.

Images and text are easier to see over a background that's not too busy.

### 3. Try larger, thicker lines.

Bold lines and fonts that are at least 14pt reduce the need for squinting and zooming.



# CREATING ACCESSIBLE ZINES

## Text-Based Alternatives

### Provide a detailed description.

Sometimes, having low-visibility imagery is essential to the effect and meaning of your work. For example, you might write blurry words on purpose to illustrate the feeling of auditory processing struggles. In that case, it's okay to prioritize your message! A text-based alternative can still make your art more accessible.

We ask all participants to send us a detailed description of the content and meaning of your work so that we can put a text-based alternative to the zine on our website—and so that you can create a piece you love.



**ReStorying  
Autism**

### Example:

"My page is a bright illustration of a children's classroom. A teacher reads a book to four students. They're all listening and engaged, but with different body language: at the top left, a child waves her arms. At the top right, a child jumps and flaps his hands. At the bottom, one child crouches and another crawls. Below the image, comic-like text reads 'ReStorying Autism.'

This page illustrates a classroom that welcomes autistic stims."