

Adobe LiveCycle Designer – Making Accessible PDF Forms

About

Adobe® LiveCycle Designer software enables the creation of forms that combine high-fidelity presentation with XML data handling. The easy-to-use graphical interface enables users to quickly design forms, maintain form templates, define a form's business logic, make changes, and preview forms before they are deployed as Adobe PDF or HTML documents.

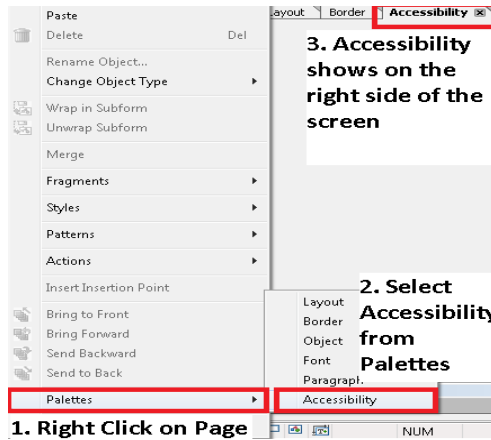
For example, this product enhances document security with secure template designs for digital signatures and enables compliance with government accessibility requirements for online forms.

Accessibility Features

- Easily configure form properties to generate accessibility information
- Create alternative text for images
- Easy addition of proper labels
- Ensures reading and tab order for logical and correct order
- Allows heading cells for tables

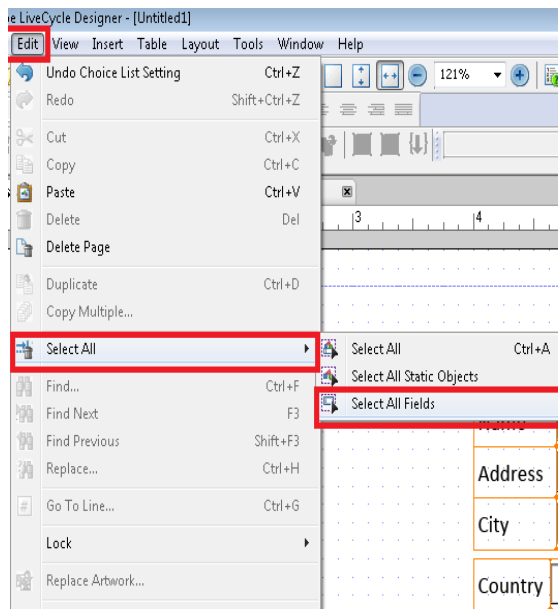
Adding Accessibility

Right click anywhere on a new document and select the Accessibility palette, which will be added on the right side of the page.

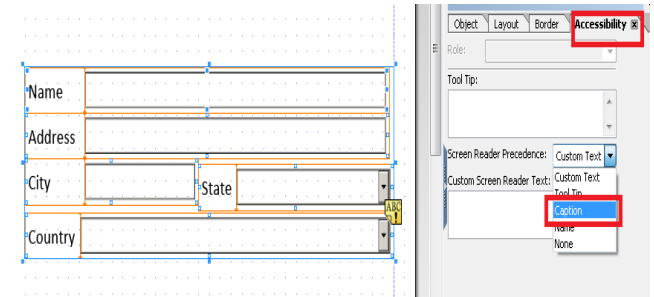


Add Proper Labels to Forms

After all form fields have been added: Go to *Edit > Select All > Select all Fields*

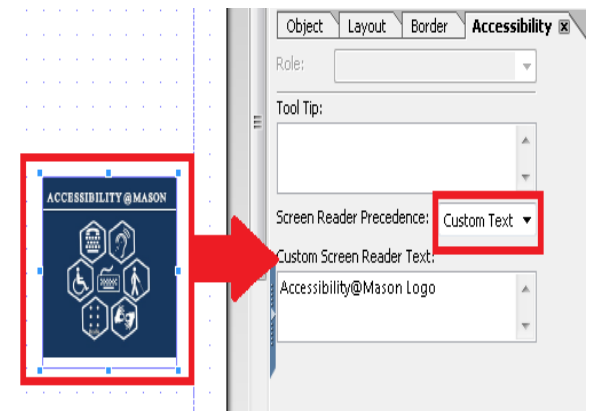


In the Accessibility Palette to the right select "Caption" – this automatically sets all form fields to the captioned name, which is to the left of the field.



Add Alternative Text for Images

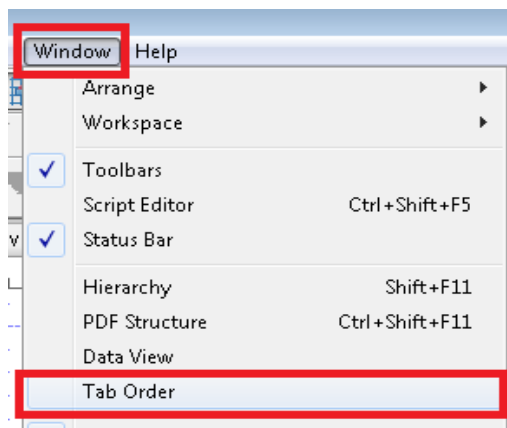
After adding an image, go to the Accessibility Palette. Using Custom Text as the Screen Reader Precedence, add alternative text for the image below in the Custom Screen Reader Text.



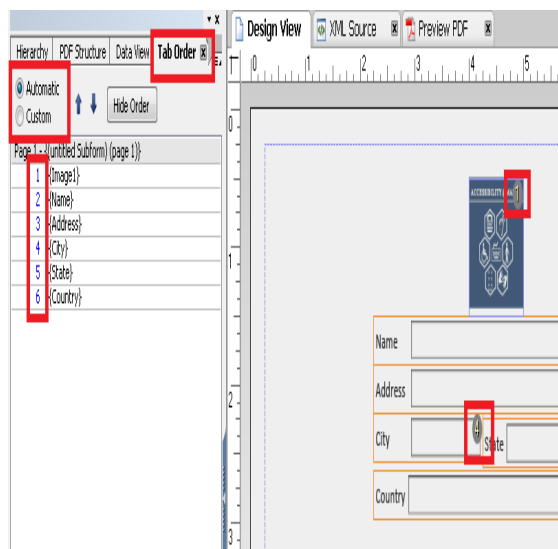
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Ensure Reading and Tab Order

Go to *Window > Tab Order*



The Tab Order window will open on the left side of the screen. Notice it sets to “Automatic” to guess the appropriate reading order. As a user, determine if this is correct. If not, select “Custom” and move the fields to the appropriate location using the up and down arrows on the Tab Order section.



Additional Resources

For more information on how to use LiveCycle Designer:

<http://www.images.adobe.com/www.adobe.com/content/dam/Adobe/en/accessibility/products/livecycle/pdfs/livecycle-designer-accessibility-guidelines.pdf>

Note: Adobe LiveCycle Designer is free if purchased or upgraded from Adobe Professional 8-X. LiveCycle Designer is available for purchase.