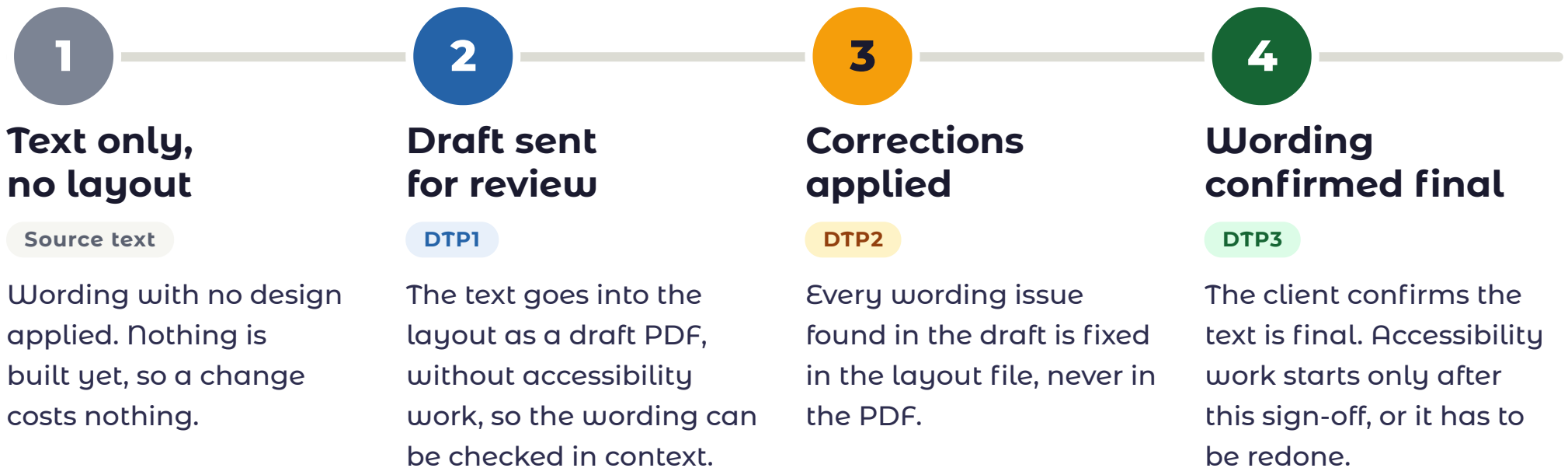


Why can't you just edit an accessible PDF?

An accessible PDF carries a hidden structure built on top of the final text. Here is each production stage, and what a correction goes through once that structure exists.



Part 1: Building and confirming the content



Change words here.

Stages 2 and 3 are the cheapest moment for any correction: only the layout file changes, and nothing has to be rebuilt.

5 Accessibility structure built

Remediation

Tags, headings, reading order, alt text, tables, language and bookmarks are added, then checked against PDF/UA and WCAG, so assistive technology can use the file.

6 Editing the PDF breaks it

Warning

A text change in the finished PDF breaks the link between words and tags. Screen readers can read old or jumbled text, and the file can no longer be trusted to pass a check.

7 Back to the layout file

The fix

The correction goes into the layout file. Every step from the draft onwards is repeated for that language and checked again:

DTP1 draft

DTP2 corrections

DTP3 sign-off

Remediation

Checked again

In short

A text correction after remediation is not a quick edit. Even a single word goes back through the full production and accessibility steps for that language.

- 1 Approve the wording on the draft PDF, before remediation.
- 2 Collect all corrections for a language into one round.
- 3 Send corrections as tracked changes, not PDF comments.

Planning an accessible PDF project in several languages?

Send the files for a free assessment. Layout, remediation and the correction rounds are planned together from the start.

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