

Adobe Photoshop Accessibility Evaluation

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May 2026

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Introduction

The following is a summary of accessibility testing for Adobe Photoshop, accessed through Adobe creative cloud on desktop.

This a software for image editing, graphic design, and digital art. It allows users to create, retouch, and manipulate pixel-based images (raster graphics), as well as design vector graphics and multi-layered compositions.

The application was tested on a PC, using desktop version of the software. Because of this, the application could not be tested with automated testing software.

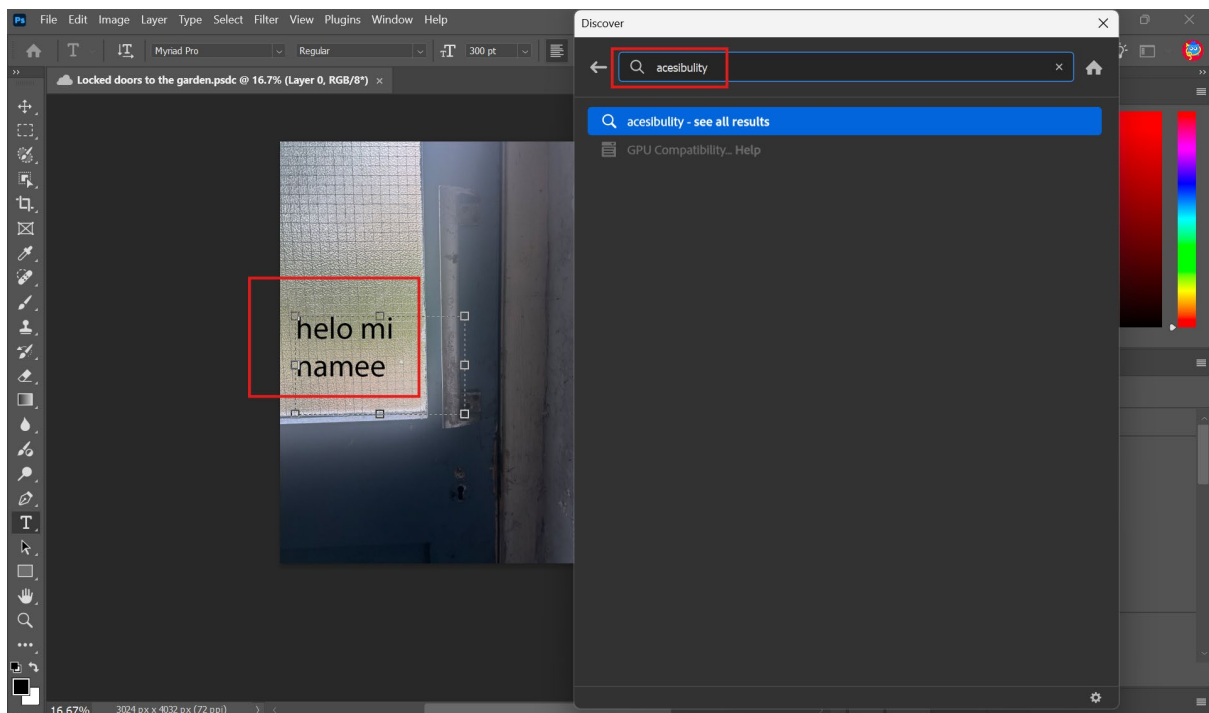
Manual Testing Accessibility Findings

The application was tested against the following criteria, with the results recorded below.

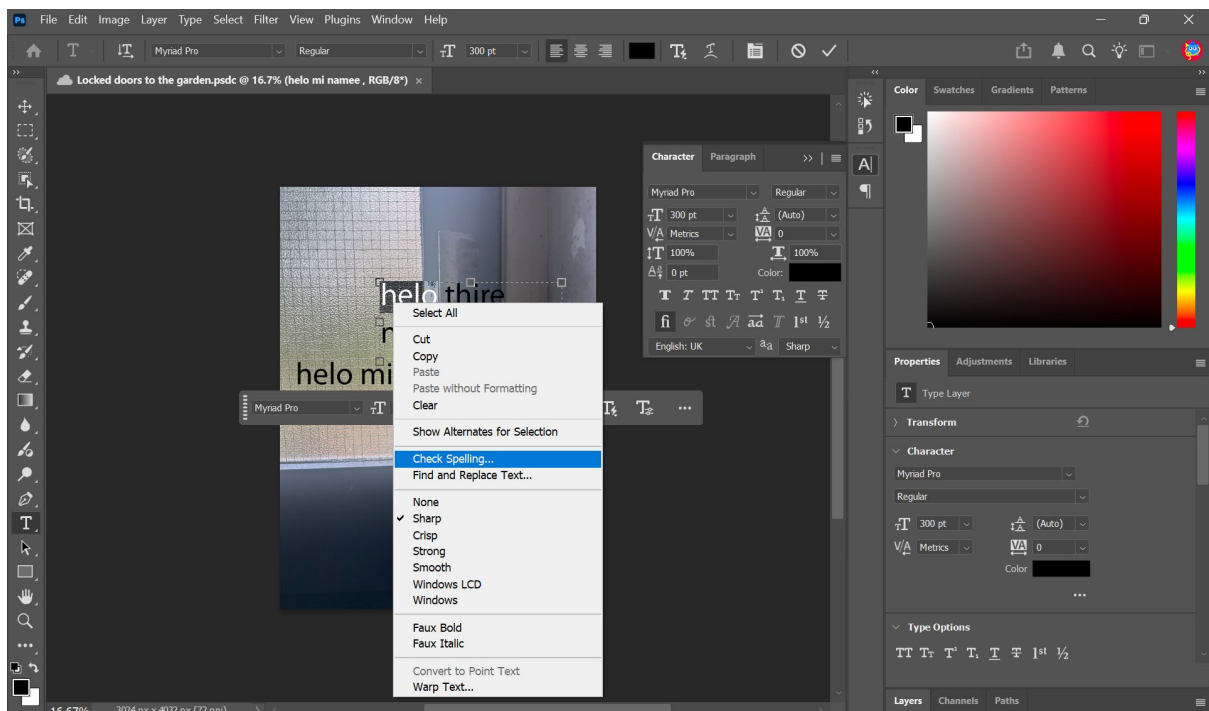
1. Is browser spellcheck functionality compatible with the system?

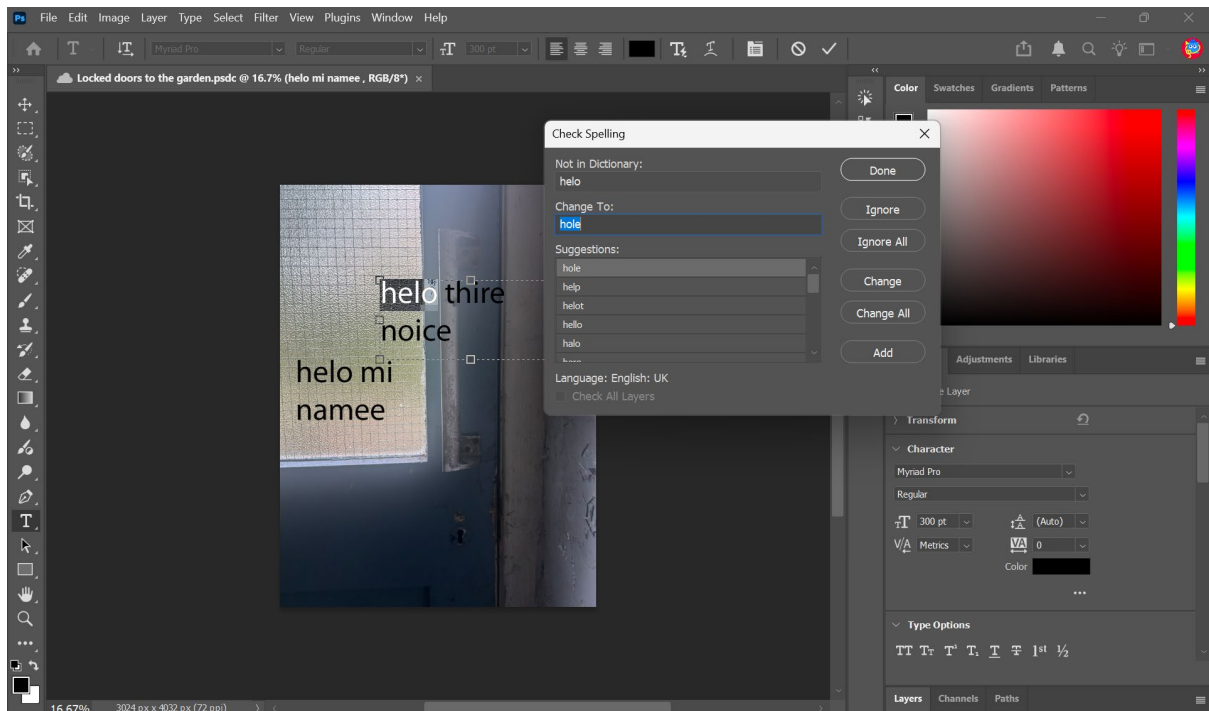
A spellcheck function is helpful for using the search facility, or typing in a free text box on a website, and is particularly useful for users with specific learning differences, for example, dyslexia. Spellcheck functionality highlights potential errors, specifically in the way a word or term is spelt, and, in some cases, suggests alternatives.

Users can add text on their images and it does not have spellcheck functionality automatically enabled, which may be suitable for a software like this where users create art. There is also a search field that does not have spellcheck enabled either:



However, for text boxes, if user right-clicks a pop-up menu appears and user can select spellcheck feature too:

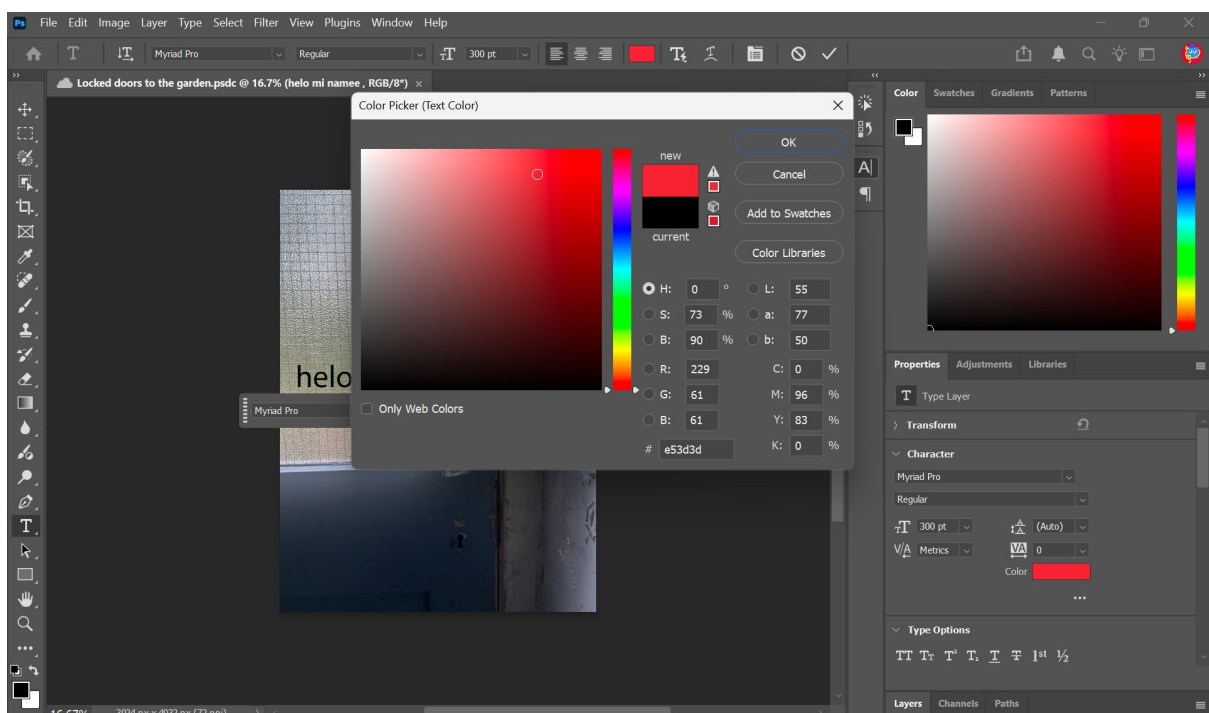




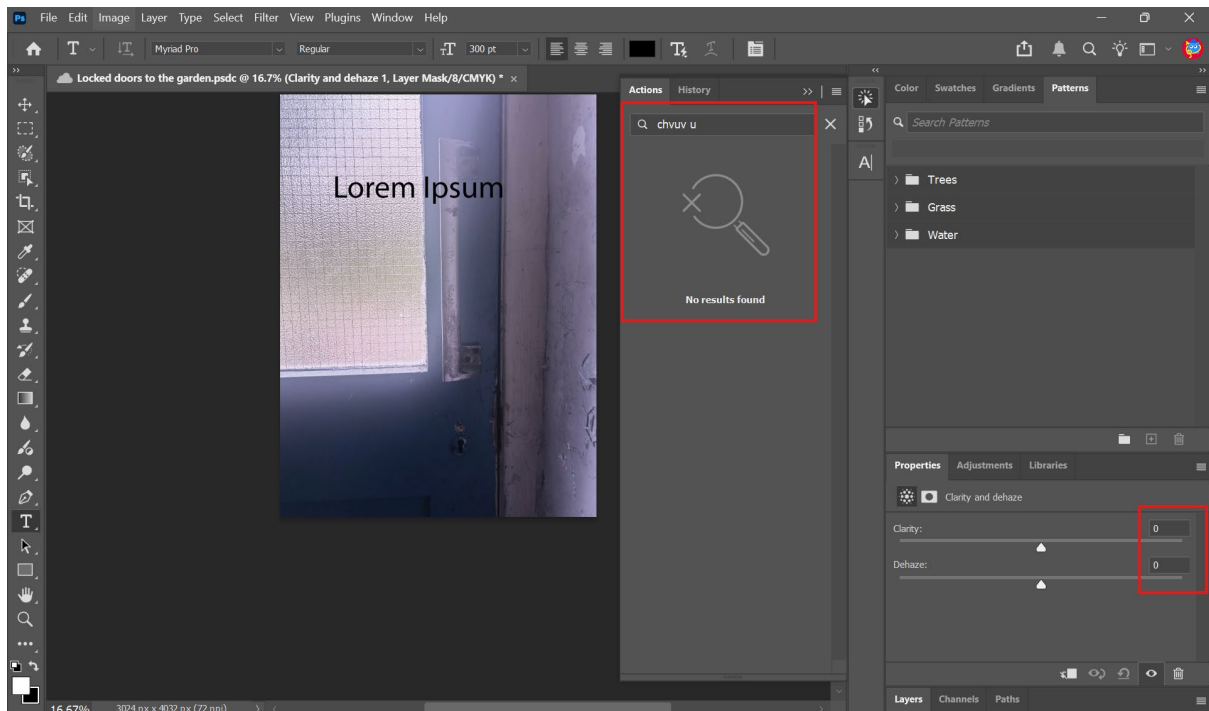
2. Describe any data validation that is automatically run by the system to ensure that users enter data in the correct formats. How does the system inform the user of errors?

If a user closes the application without saving, the system saves the process automatically.

If a user edits the picture, pop-up menus may appear, they do not close until the user presses 'OK', 'Cancel' or close button:

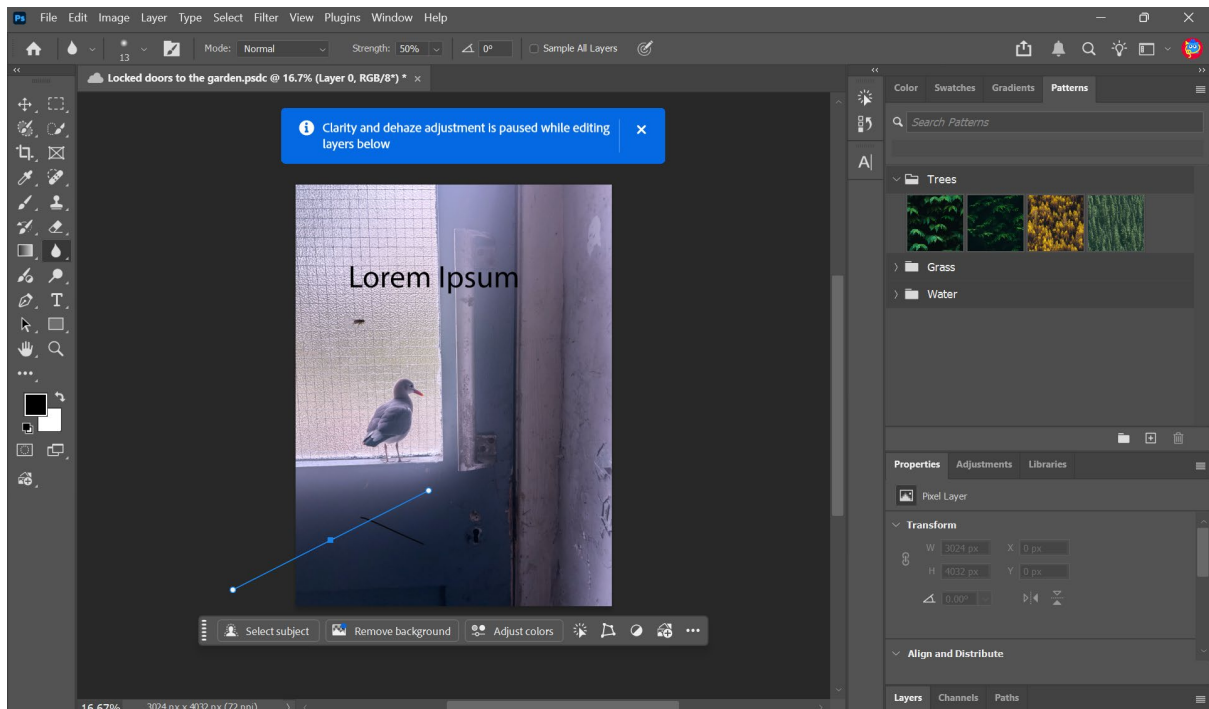


If a user tries to enter too many letters/numbers into a colour code or letters into a field that only accepts numbers, then they are not accepted and the field does not change:

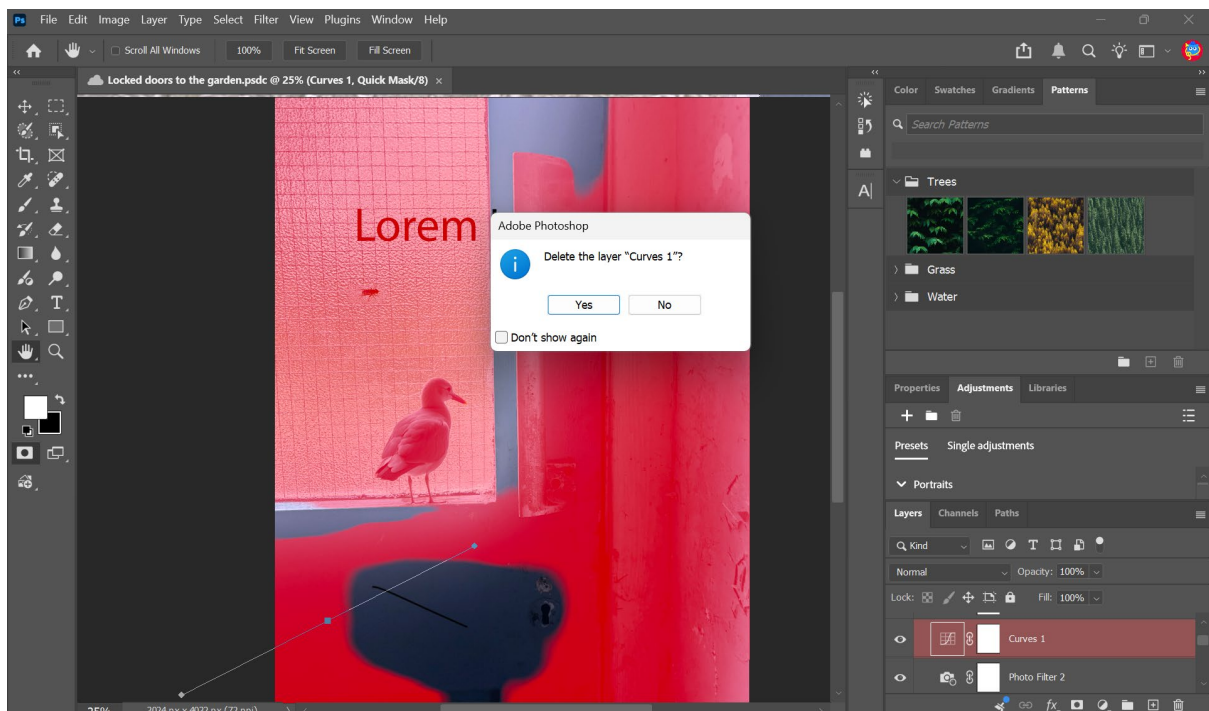


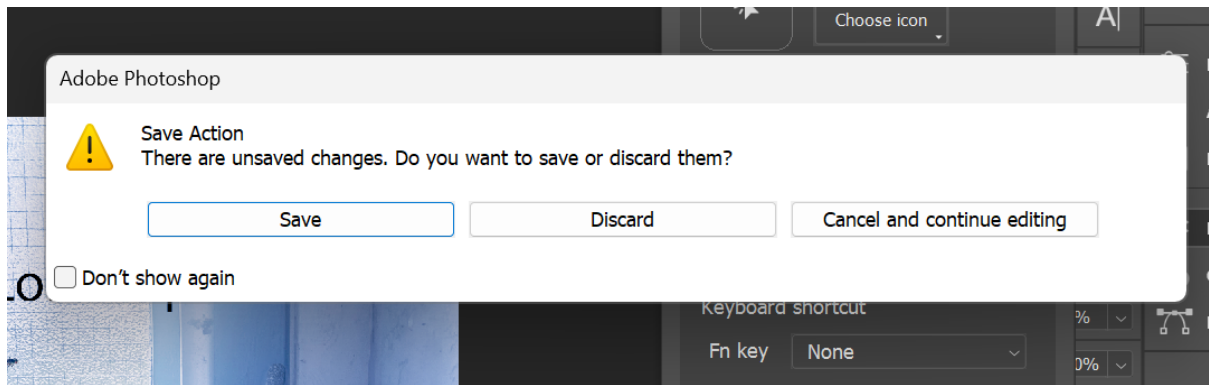
There are also search fields, they present a 'No results found' error message, where relevant (as shown above).

There were also some blue status/information messages that would appear when certain functionalities were selected (they automatically disappeared after a few seconds):



Sometimes there are pop-up windows that double-check if the user wants to proceed with deletion:





3. If a form requires the user to repeat information, for example, their address multiple times, is there an option for the system to automatically fill in this information if it has been provided previously?

There were no areas that would require a redundant entry.

4. Is a cognitive function test required to access this site? E.g., do you need to remember a password? (This is negated if there is a forgotten password link or an object recognition option that allows you access.)

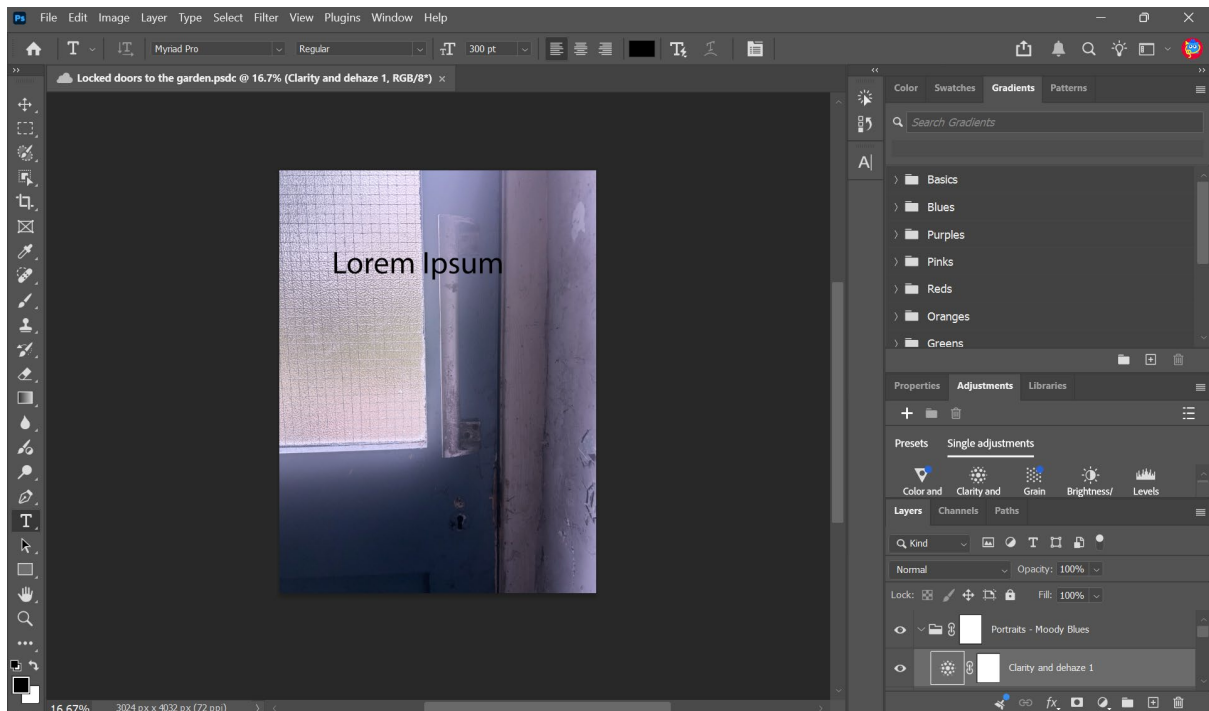
Users can install Adobe Creative Cloud through software centre. Then, they can log-in using their Microsoft account to log in. There is a help link with information on forgotten passwords.

5. Is the system compatible with browser functionality to allow the user to customise their views (i.e., font size, colours, and contrast ratios).

Customisation

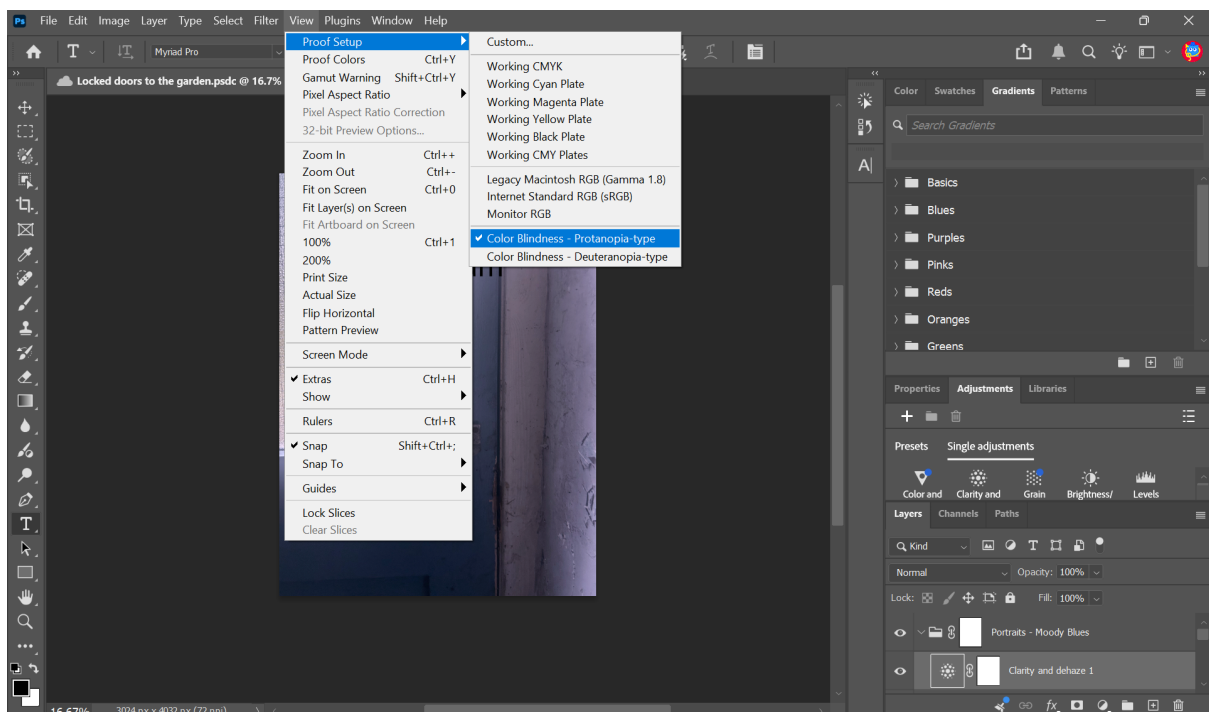
The customisation is limited.

Original:



Selecting a different colour theme or larger font size (through computer settings) did not have an effect.

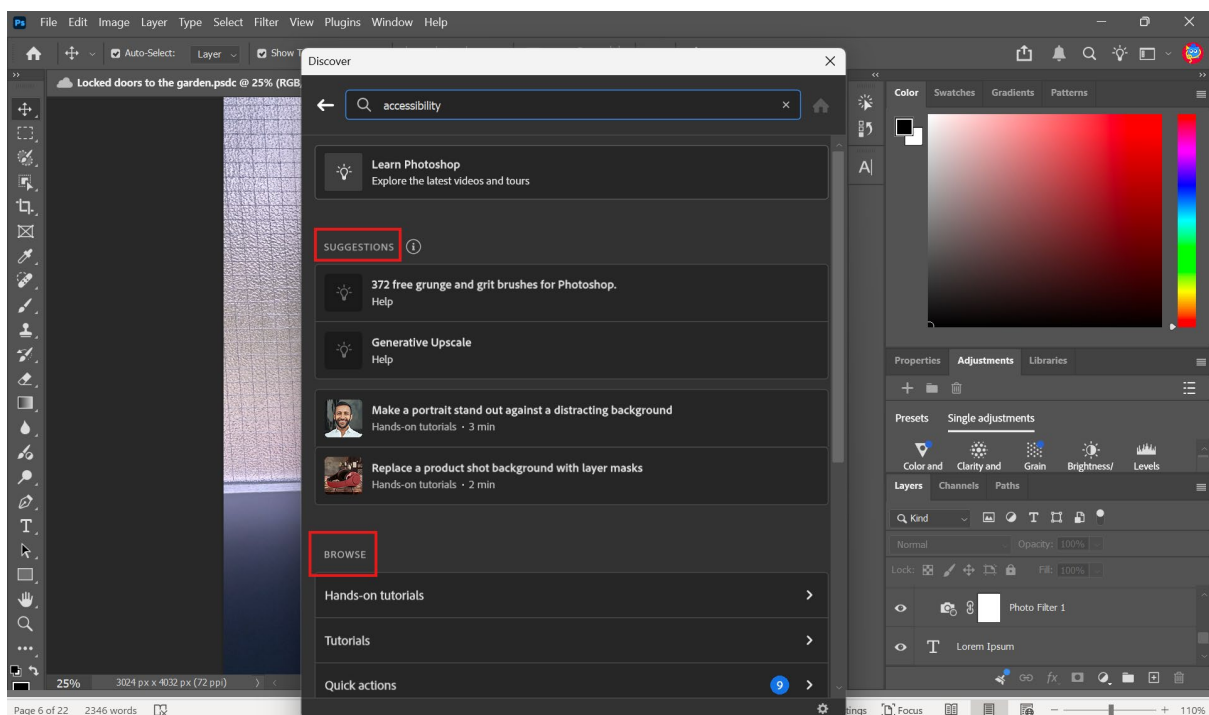
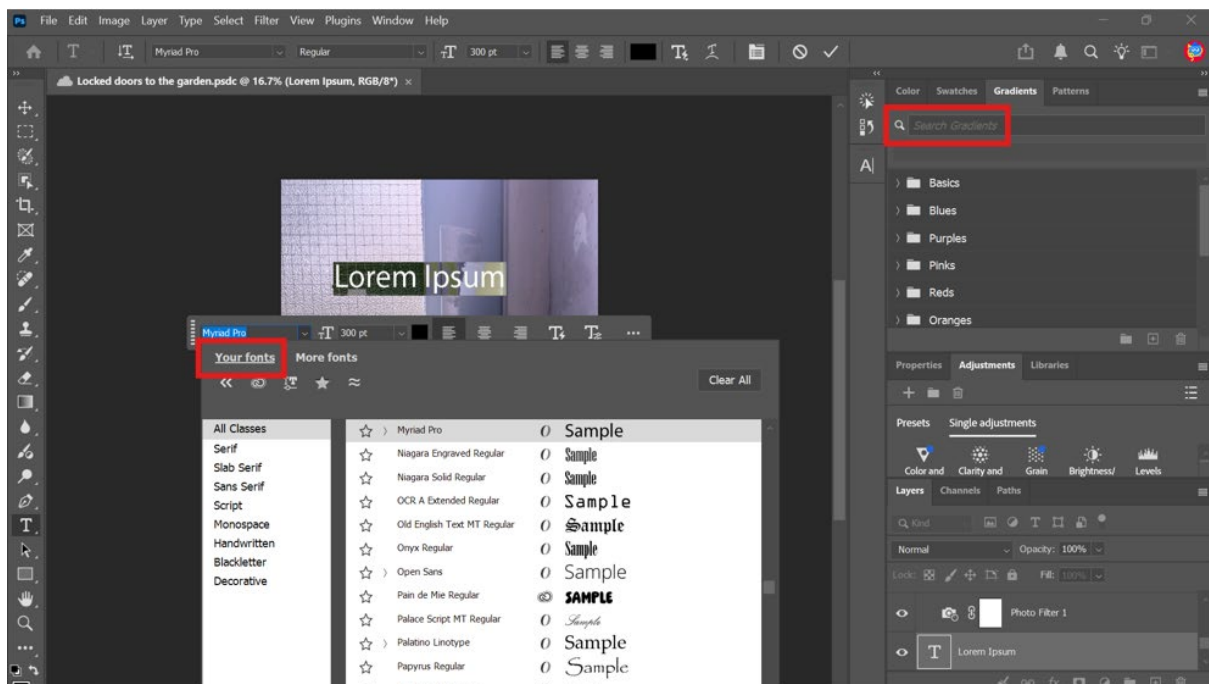
There are some customisation settings within the software, for example, colour blindness modes, but they are limited too:



Fonts

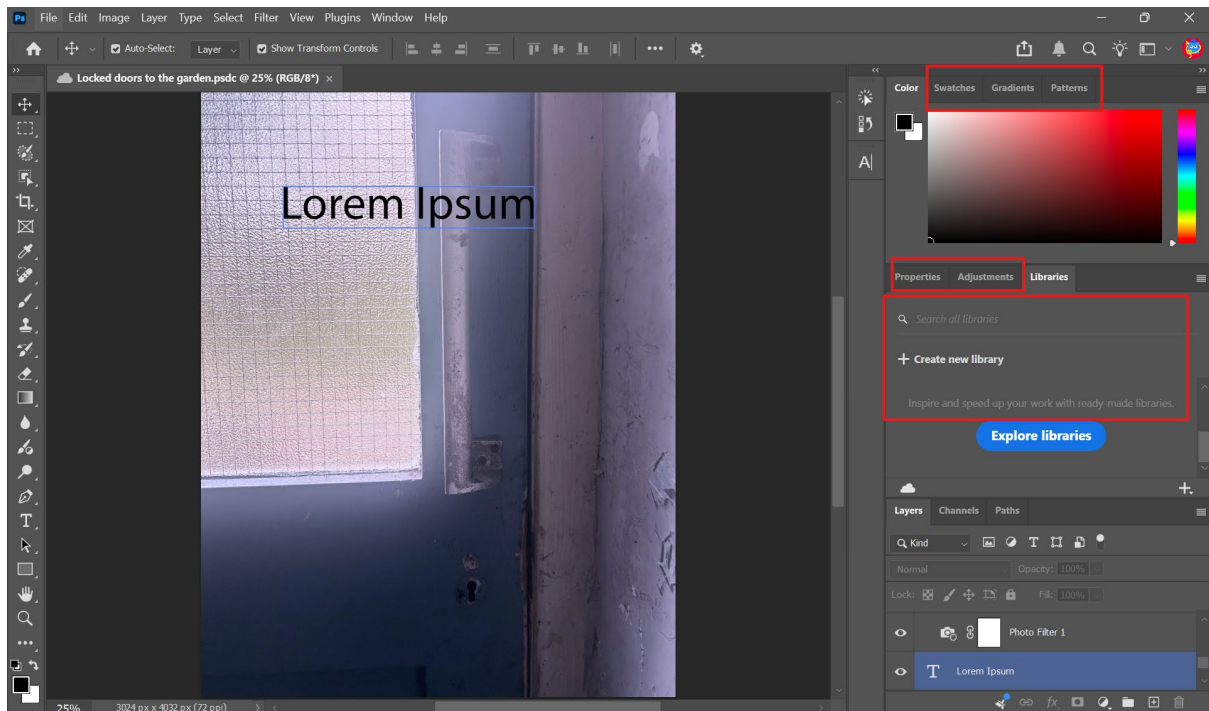
The default fonts used were sans serif. However, when adding text, users can select any fonts that they want.

Users can choose to use underlining, italics, and continuous capitals, but they were used within the application too:

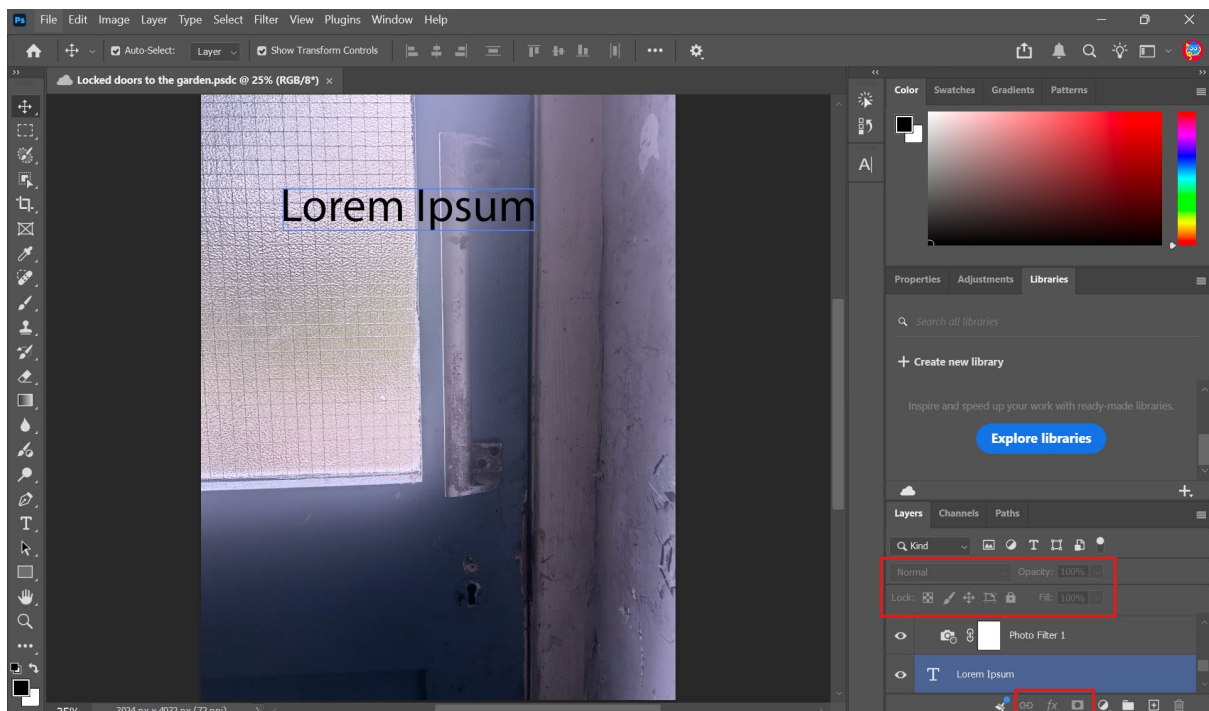


Contrasts

A lot of text elements on the system had small fonts and very low colour contrasts, for example:



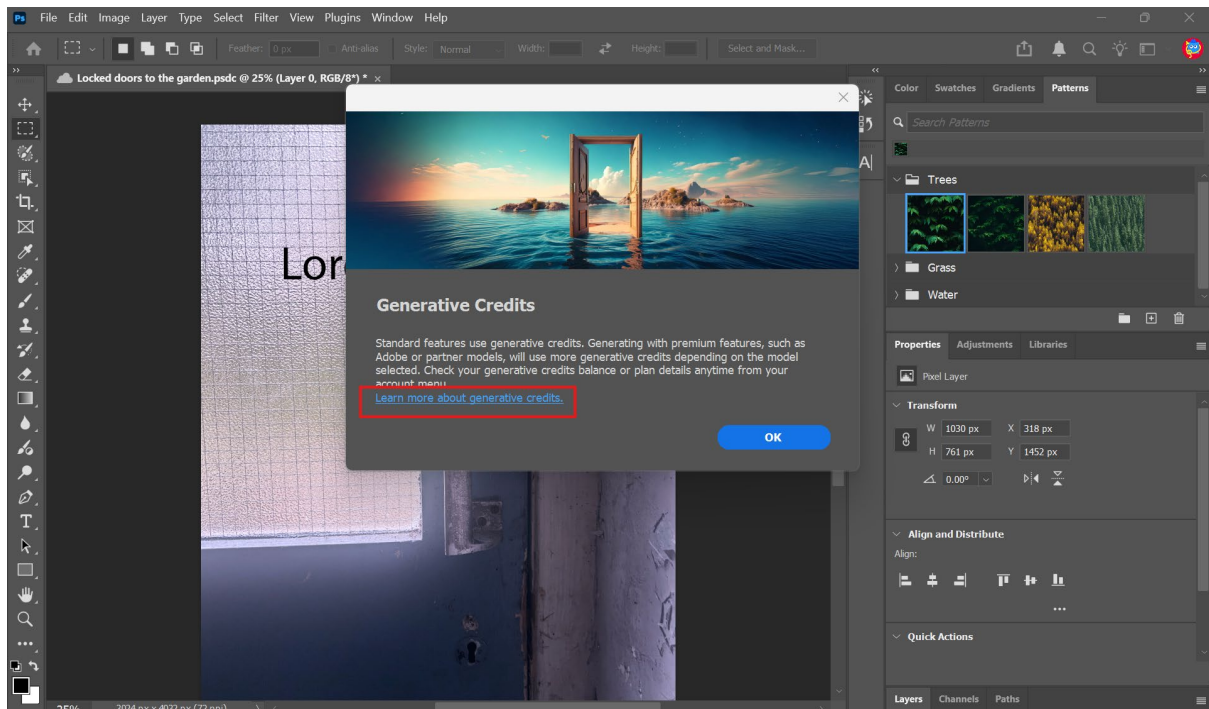
There were also some disabled buttons (that become active if the right functionalities are used), for example:



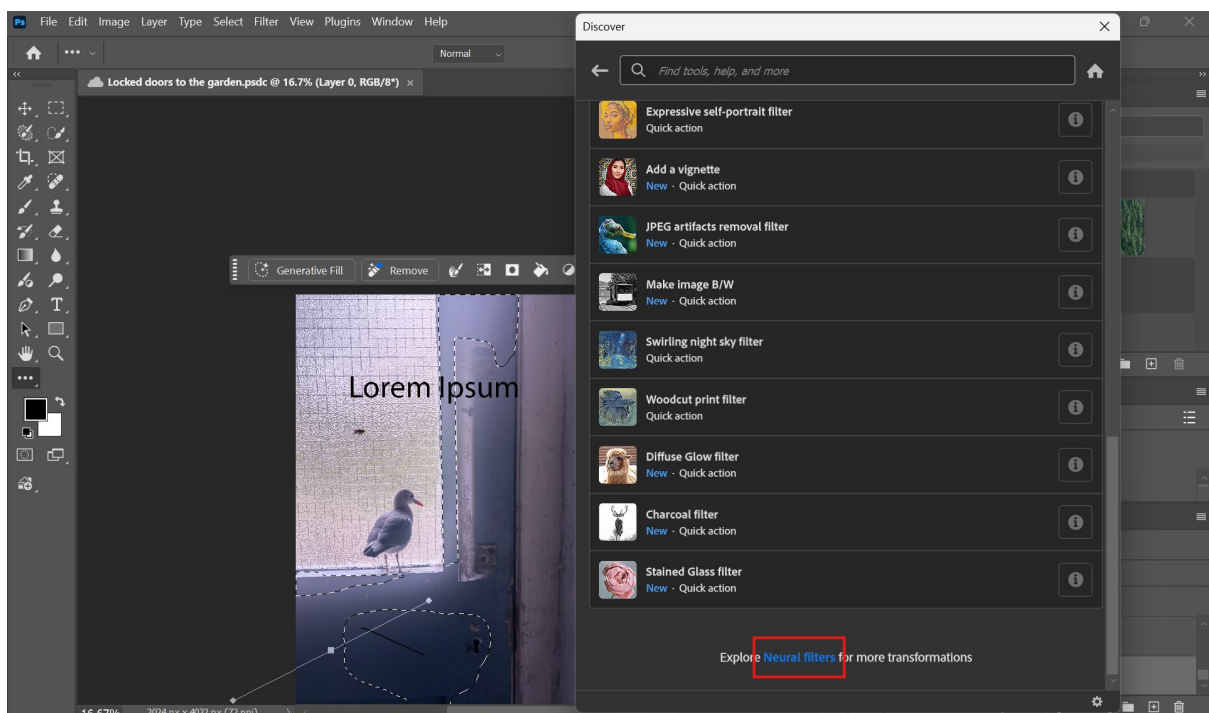
Links

There were no naked URLs.

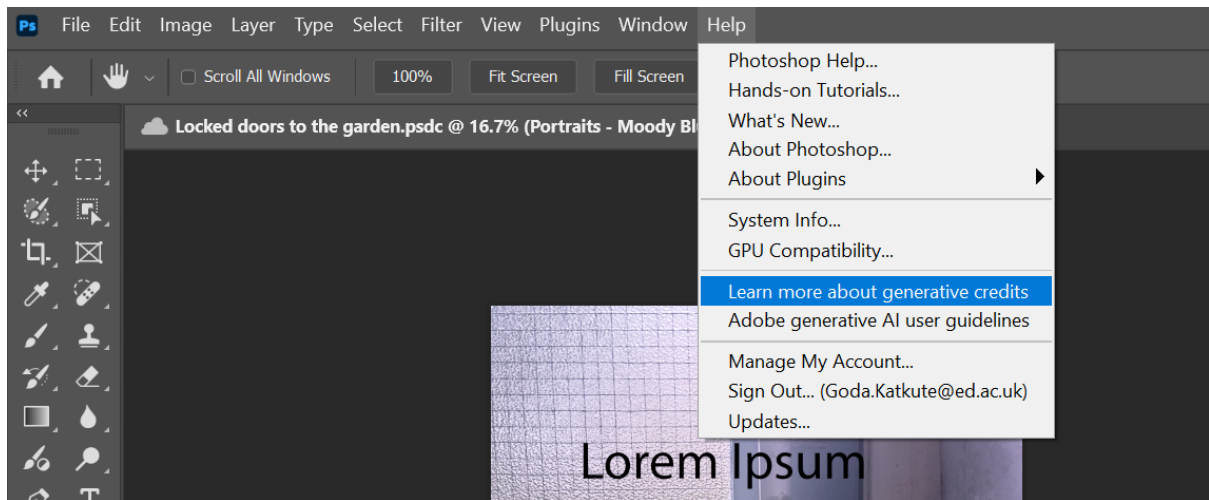
Some links were blue and were underlined:



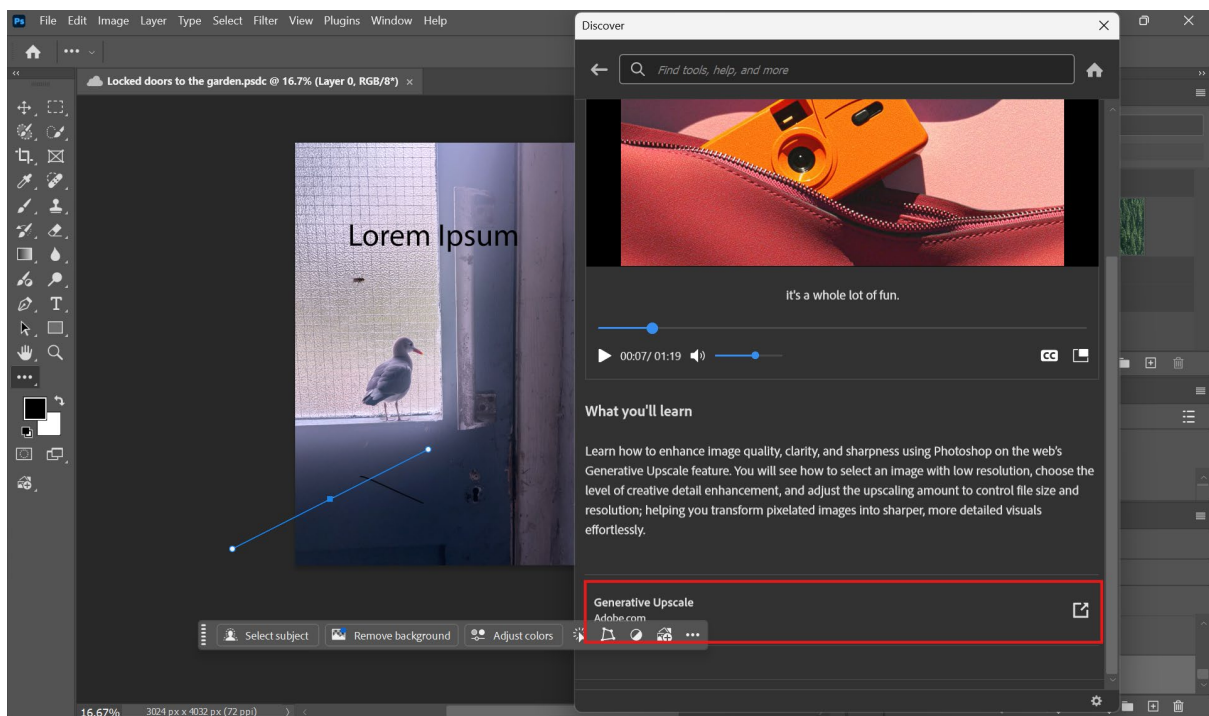
Other links were blue but not underlined:



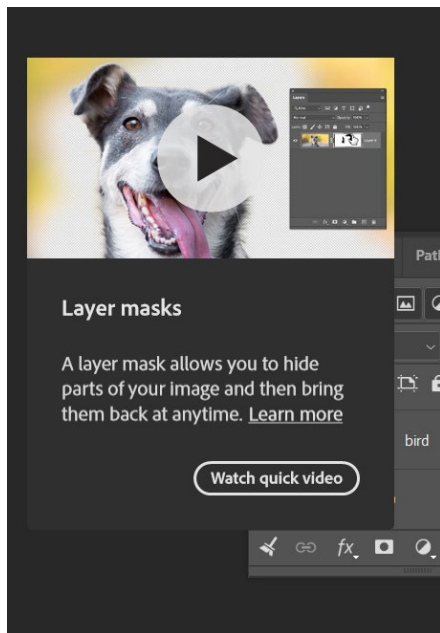
Other links were not underlined and looked like plain text as well as opened new window without warning:



Other links had an icon next to links that warned users about opening a new window, but it was not read by JAWS (as the content is inaccessible):



A lot of links seemed to have mostly good hypertext, but there were some white underlined Learn More links that could have a more informative hypertext:



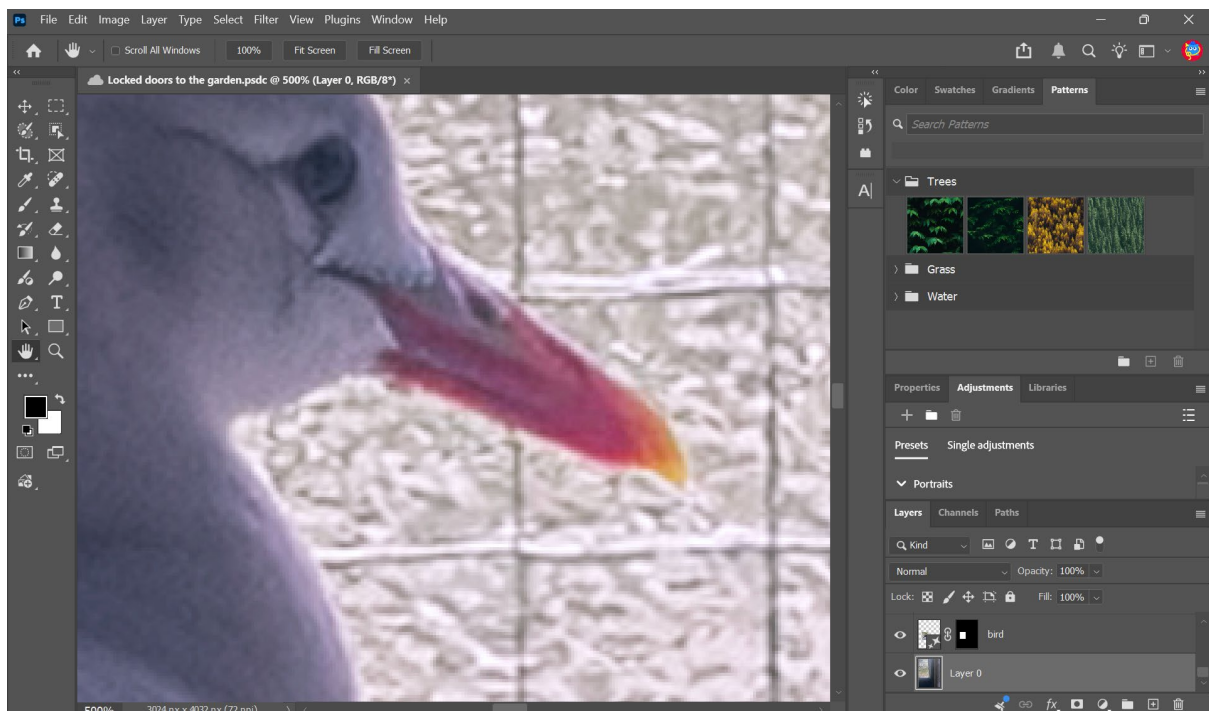
6. Confirm whether the system scales correctly using different resolutions and if the system reflows when magnified.

Windows Magnifier

It is possible to magnify the site up to 500% using Windows Magnifier, without significant loss of content or distortion.

Ctrl +

Magnification is limited as ctrl + and ctrl - allow to zoom the picture in and out but does not change the scale of the menus, example of magnification to 500%:

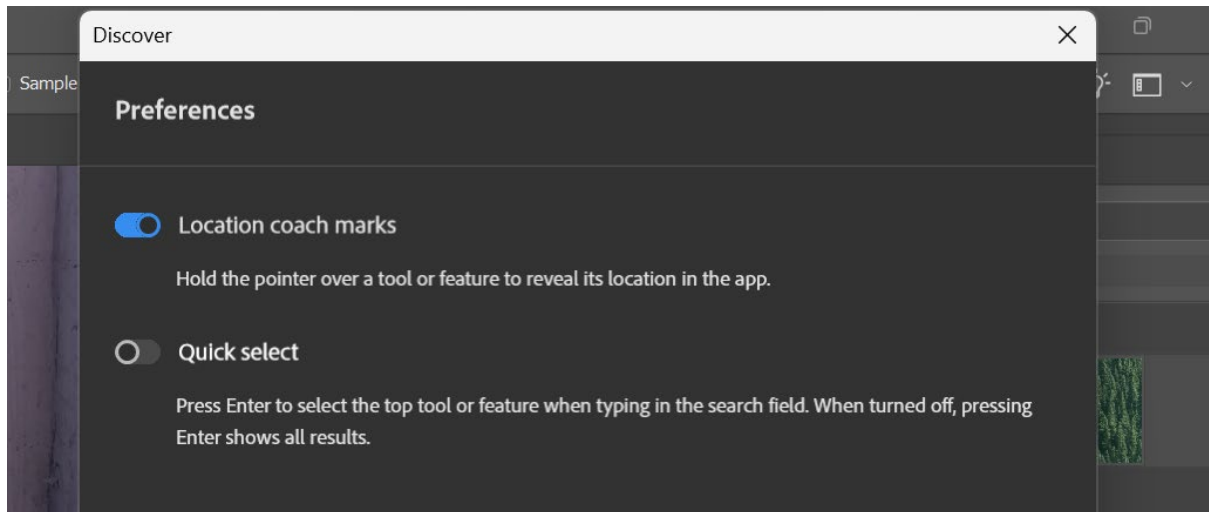


Reflow

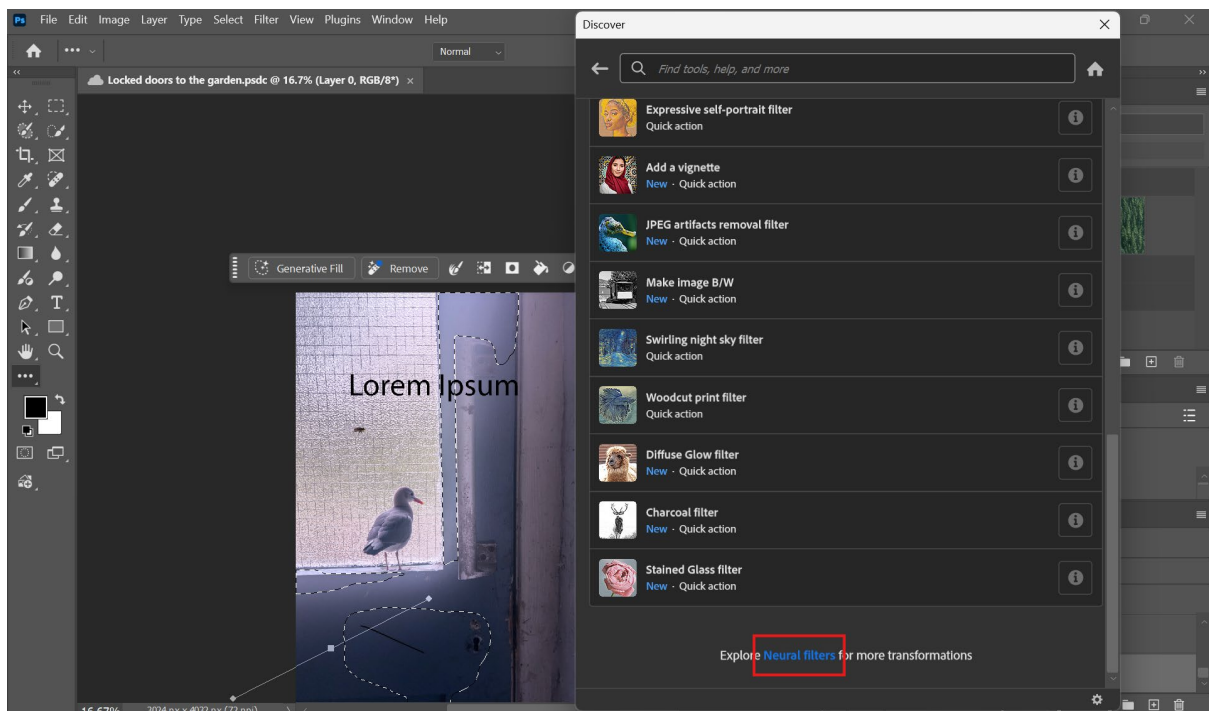
Menus cannot be zoomed in, so do not require reflow. Pictures can be zoomed in and do not have reflow at percentages when they no longer fit the screen.

7. Confirm whether the system conveys any information in colour only?

There were toggle buttons that could be said to convey information by colour:

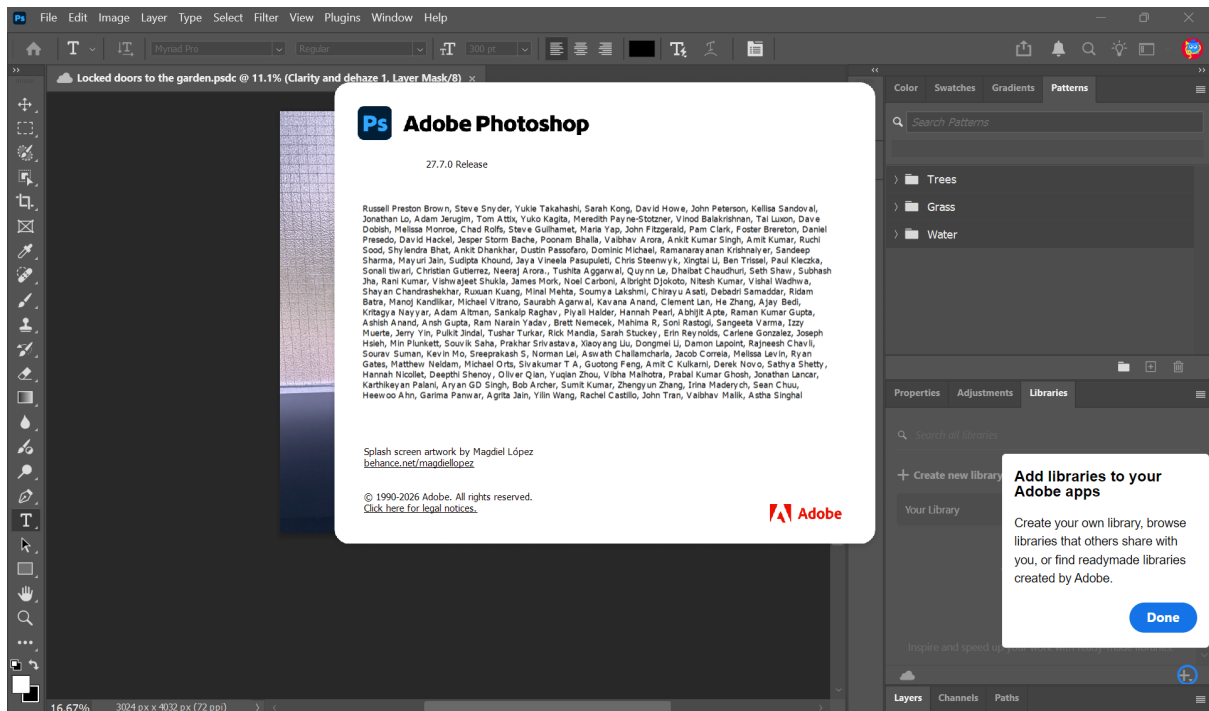


Some links were indicated by colour only:



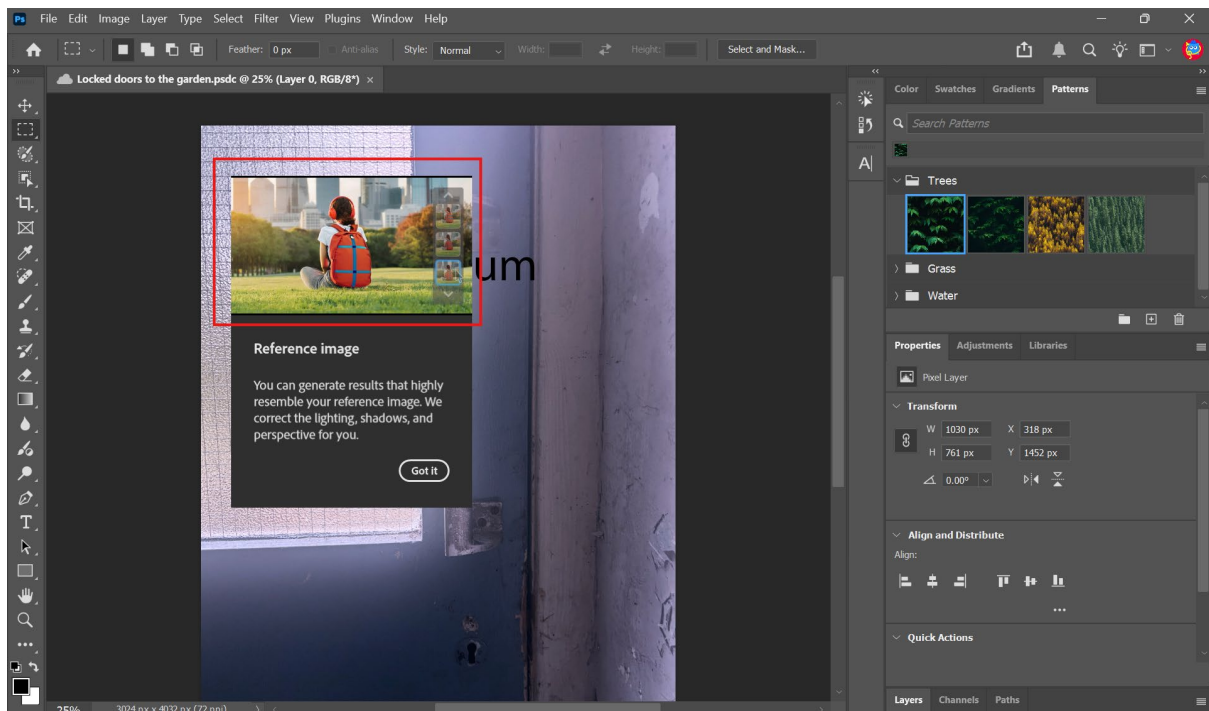
8. Is there any flashing, scrolling or moving content?

Under help, there is a 'About Photoshop' section. In it, the names of creators are slowly scrolling down:

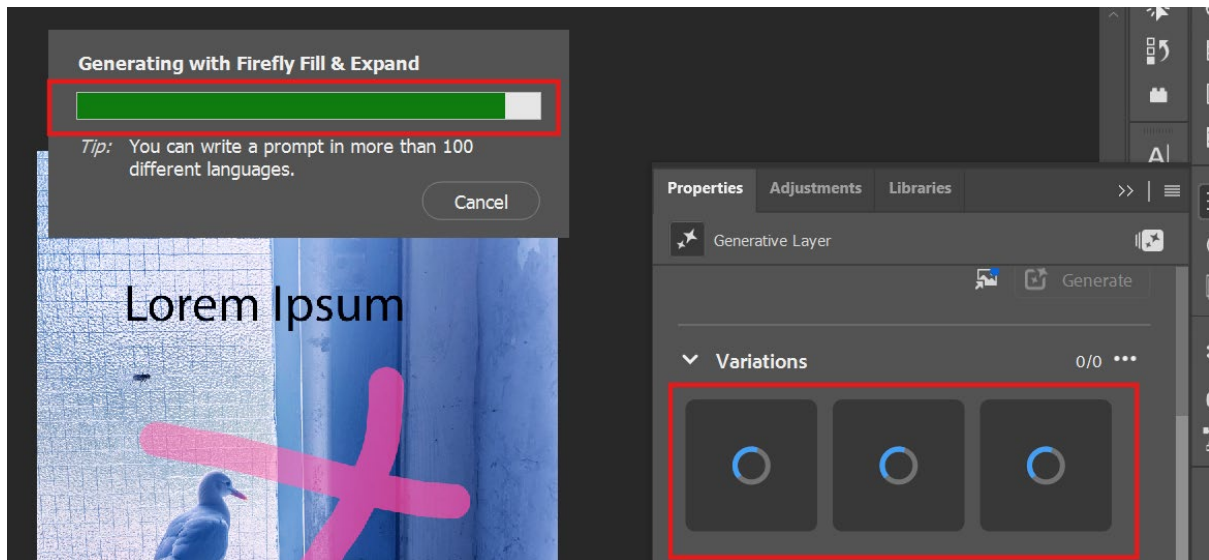


Users cannot stop this movement in the pop-up, but they can close the pop-up itself by pressing on a different part of the screen.

When a user selects some tools, some of them have pop-ups with moving videos that show what the selected tool can be used for, these videos cannot be paused but can be closed when the pop-up is dismissed:

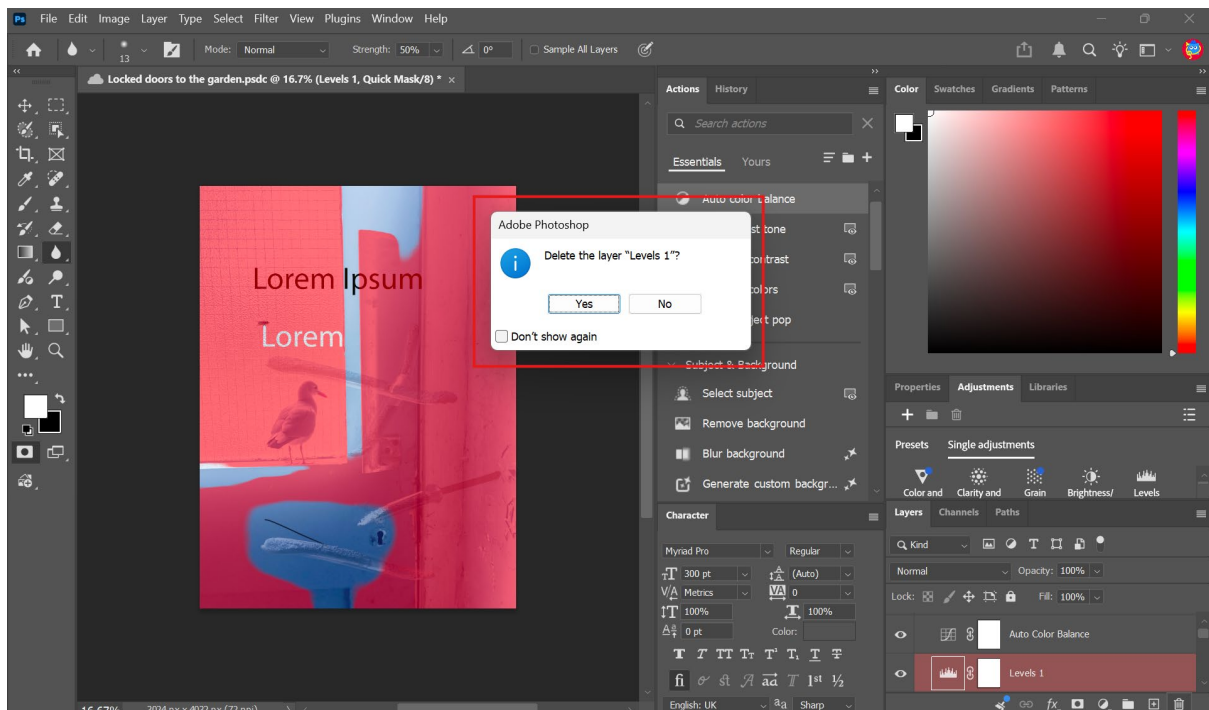


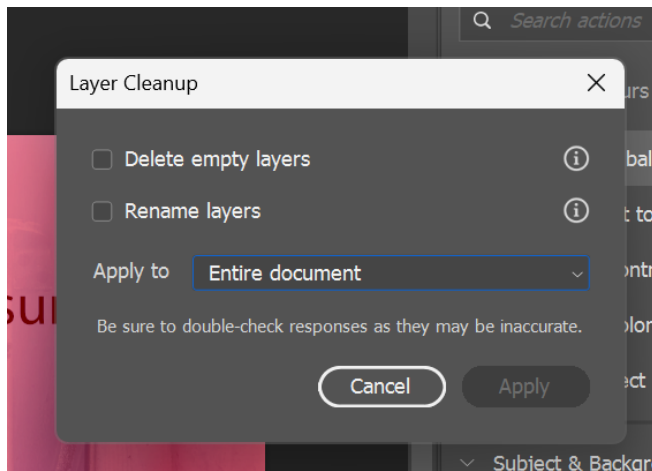
There are also various types of loading icons/progress bars:



9. Confirm whether all content is accessible through a keyboard interface and whether it requires specific timings for keystrokes (i.e., is it possible to navigate around and complete the task without ever using the mouse?).

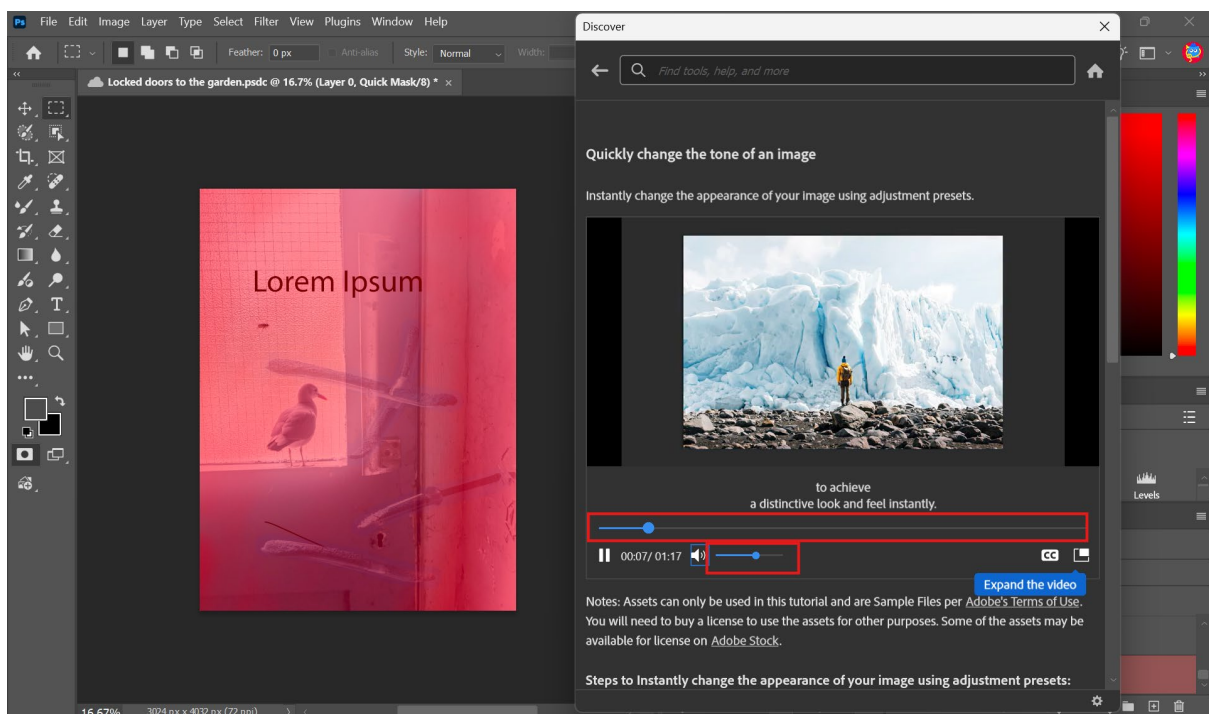
Most of the content seemed inaccessible by keyboard. Only a few areas were accessible, mostly various buttons in the pop-ups, for example:





There are a lot of keyboard shortcuts that allow users to switch between functionalities (for example, from text box to a brush) and users can customise the shortcuts. However, this does not mean that keyboard users can use the functionalities, as, for example, a keyboard user may be able to choose a brush functionality but not actually paint with that brush.

There were functionalities that required dragging and did not have alternatives (for example, the picture crop adjustments or video time/sound settings):

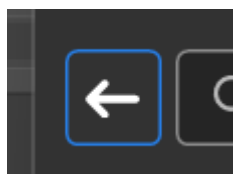


There were no skip navigation links.

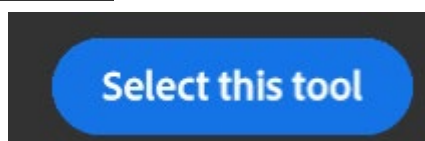
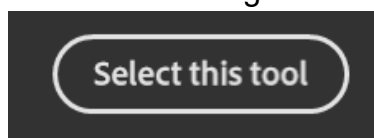
A lot of content was inaccessible, but in areas that were accessible, there were no keyboard traps and navigation order was logical.

Focus was indicated by:

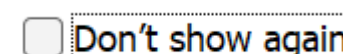
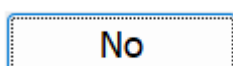
- a blue outline:



- buttons becoming blue:

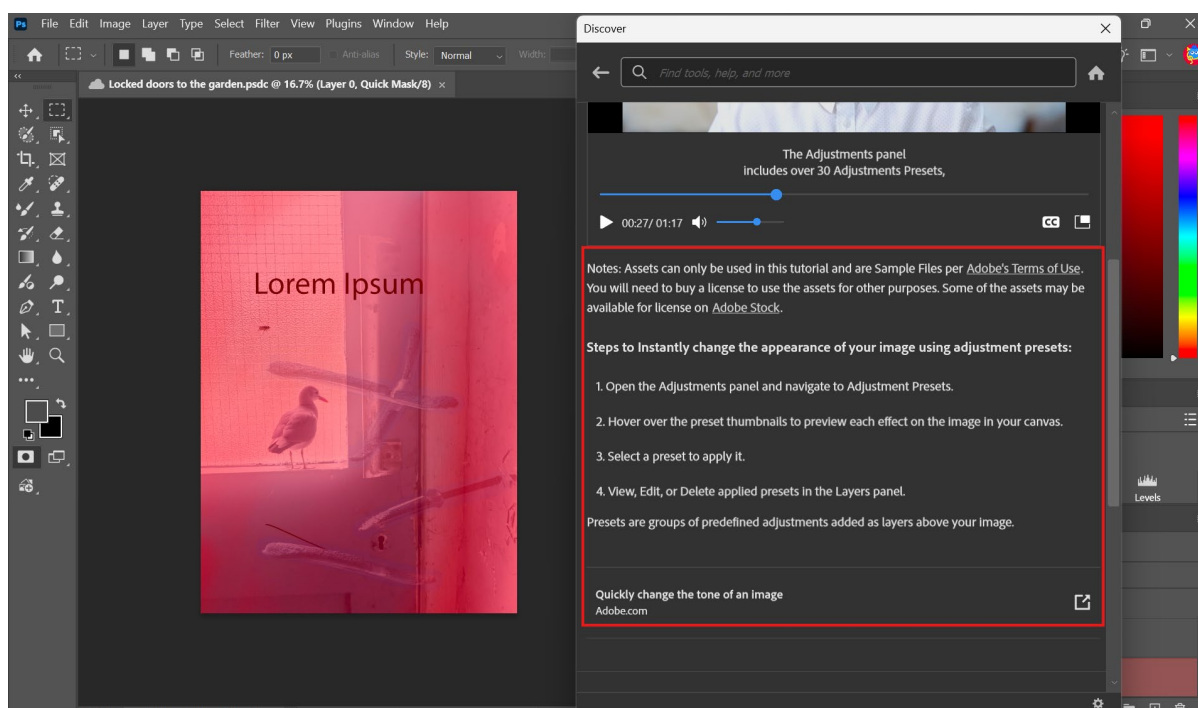


- dotted outline:



Keyboard focus indicators (especially the dotted line) could have better contrast.

A few areas did not have keyboard focus indicator, for example, links in the overlined area:



10. Is Read and Write (TextHelp) compatible with the application?

TextHelp supports spelling and grammar checking, suggesting word completion, which proves helpful for people with reading difficulties (including dyslexia), typing difficulties, or a physical impairment. This software is available on all University public access PCs, and also via download from the Software Centre to a managed desktop.

Screen masking worked well, which is important as general customisation is limited.

Spellcheck works.

Reading functionalities were limited, not all text could be read and the read text was not highlighted.

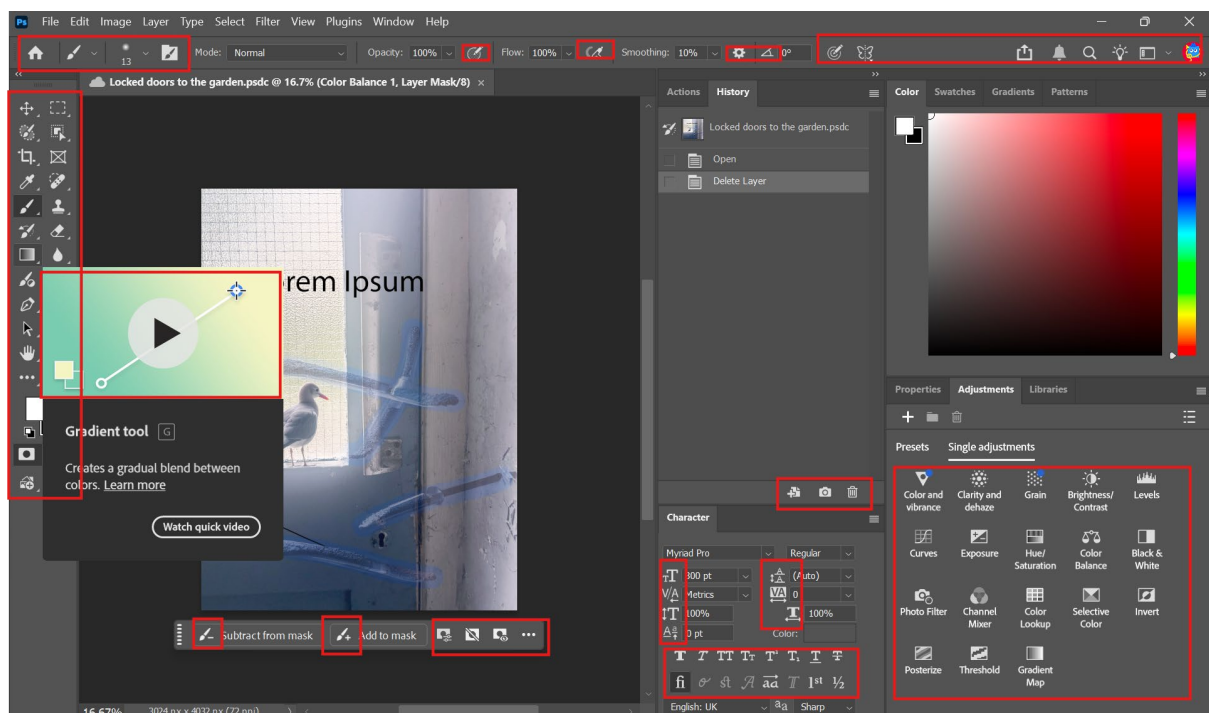
11. Is ZoomText compatible with the application? Can ZoomText be used without distortion of the pages content?

ZoomText allows users to magnify digital text and change contrast, for example, black text on white instead of white text on black. It is especially helpful for people with a visual impairment.

Colour changing and magnification functionalities worked well.

12. Are there alt text/text descriptions added for all non-text content?

There are various non-text elements, mostly icons and images, for example:



It is unclear if images, graphics and icons have alt text programmed, but most of the content and images are inaccessible by screen-readers, so this visual content would be missed by users who rely on screen-readers.

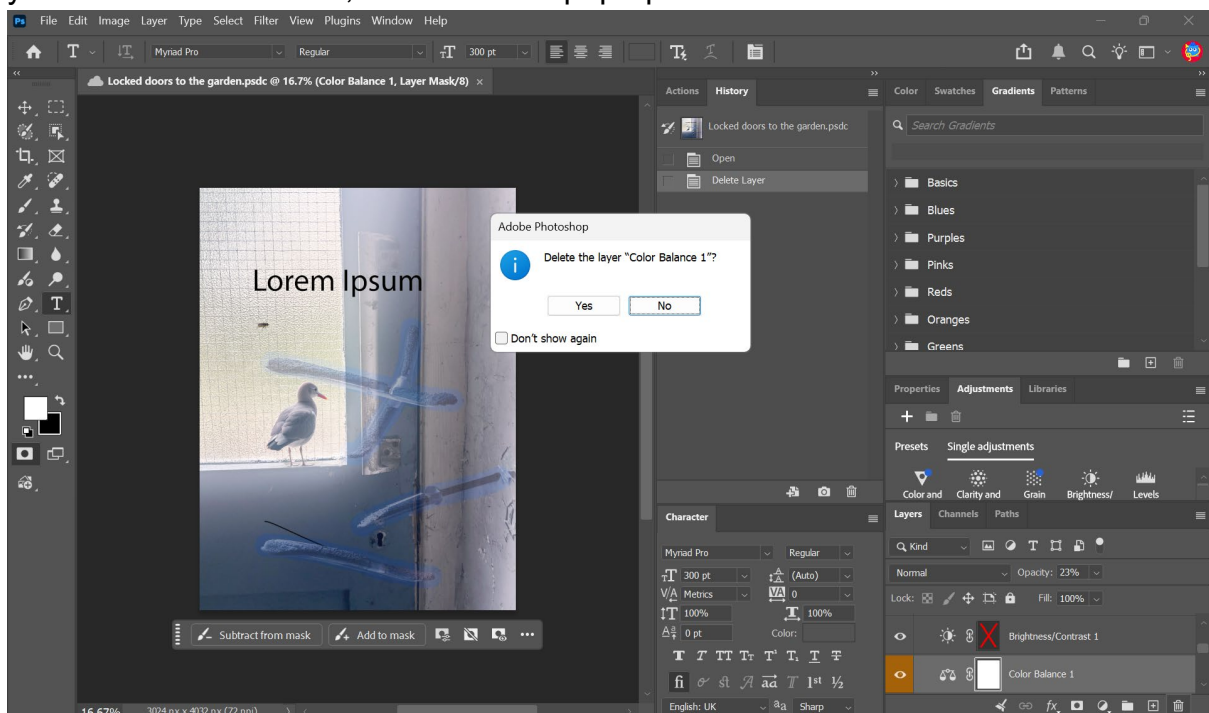
The video tutorials also contain text as an image in the videos (for example, Photoshop screen with buttons that have text).

13. Is Job Access with Software (JAWS) Compatible with the application?

JAWS is a software package that converts text to speech, and therefore a useful tool for blind and visually impaired users.

JAWS is mostly not compatible with the software. Limited keyboard accessibility limits screen-reader compatibility.

The few things that are read by the screen-reader include image title when photoshop is opened and buttons in some (not all) pop-up windows. For example, yes and no are read but, the text in the pop-up is not read:



F6 and F7 commands did not work.

14. Is Dragon NaturallySpeaking compatible with the website?

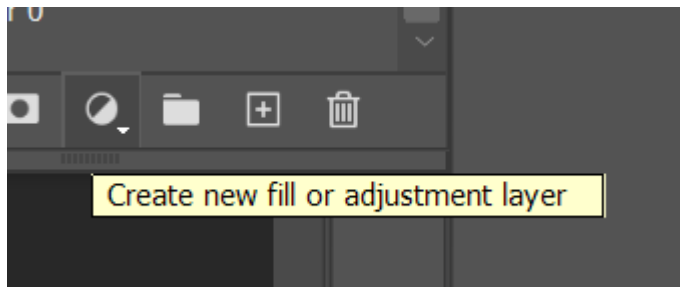
Dragon has limited compatibility, users can click on some areas using a combination of keyboard and voice commands, but most areas are inaccessible.

Saying keyboard shortcut commands like 'Press T' allowed to change between functionalities.

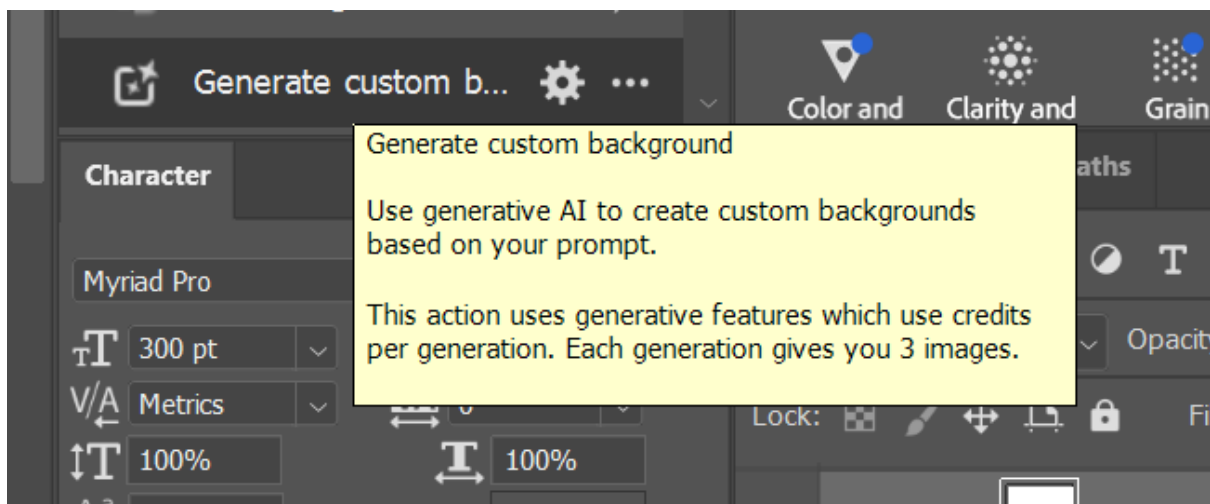
Dragon also may have been overwhelmed by the software and kept trying to open dictation box. But dictation box could also be opened when relevant too.

15. Are tooltips clear and enabled by default?

Some tooltips appeared when user hovered over certain elements (they would remain shown until a user moved the mouse away):

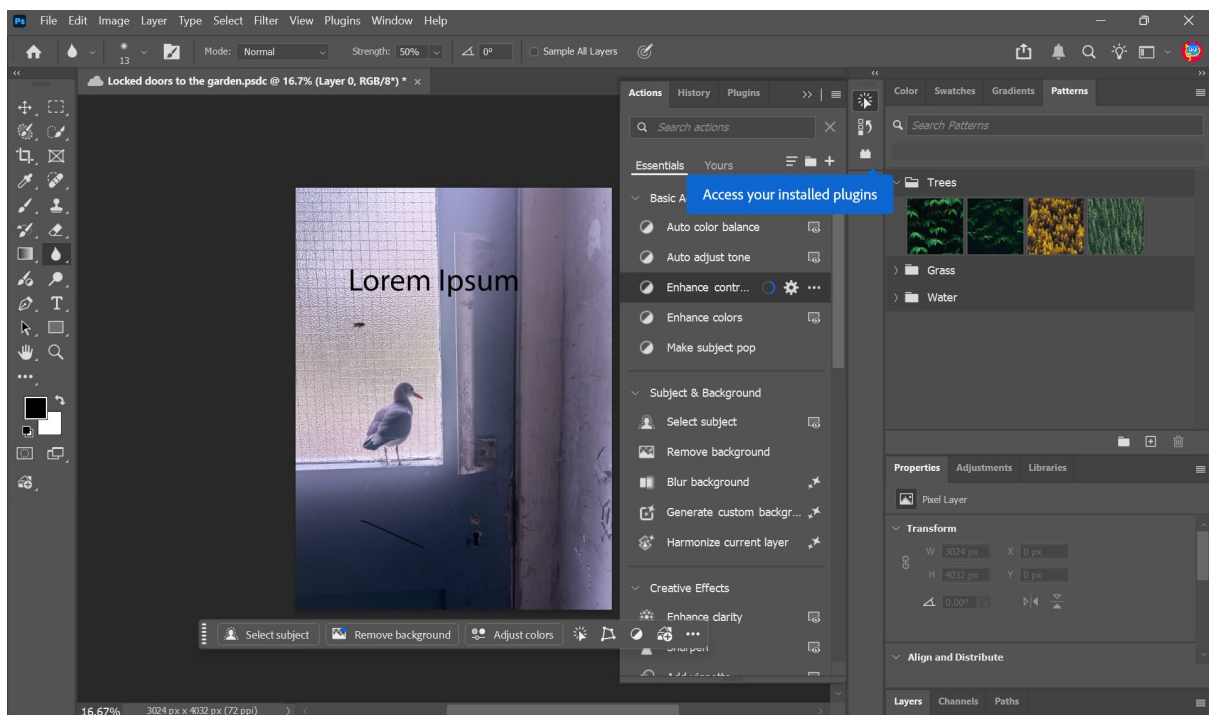
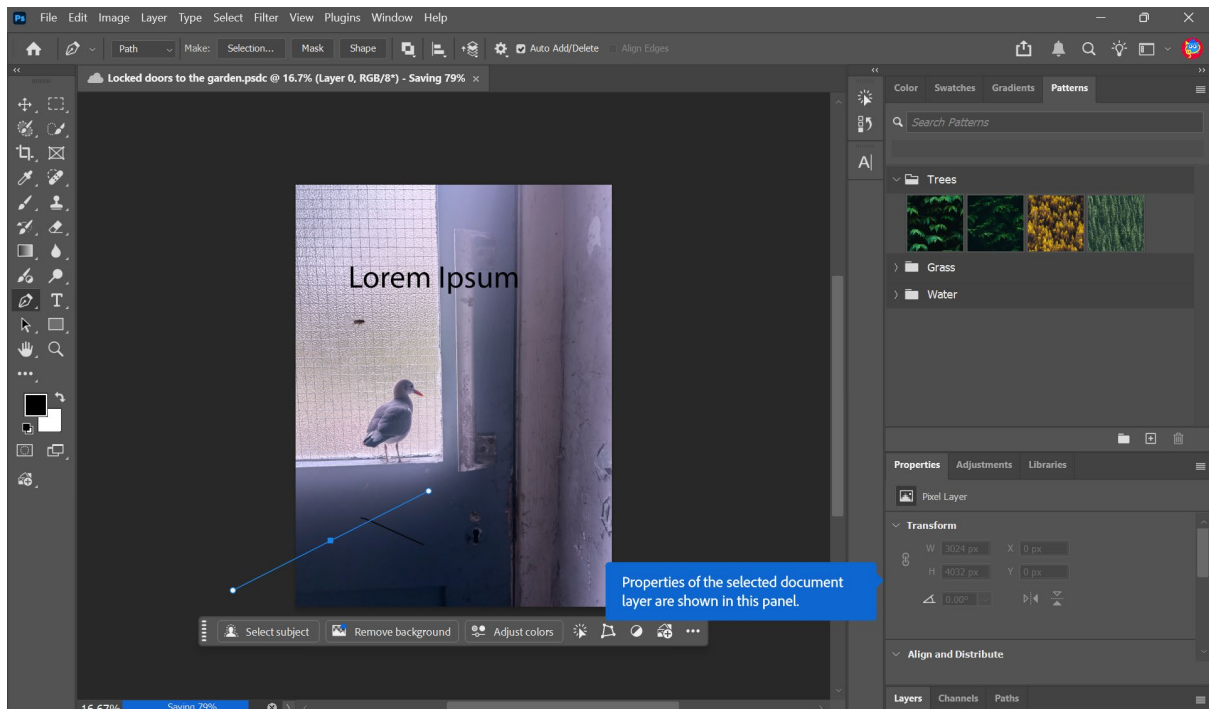


Some of them are very big and cover a lot of content and completely obscure some content:

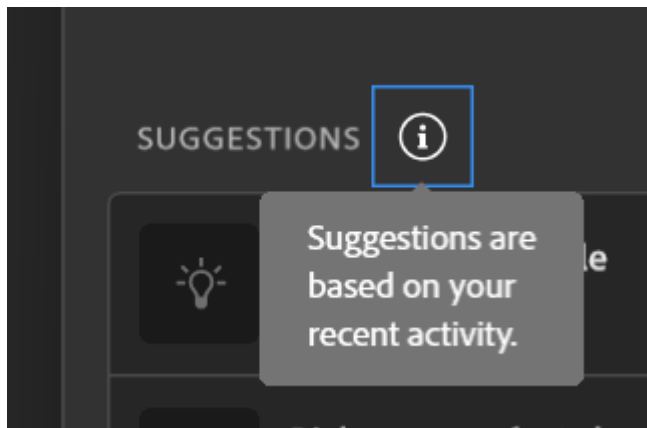


These tooltips do not contain information required for the operation of the item, but can usefully explain and inform users about the functionalities.

Some blue tooltips appeared and automatically disappear after a few seconds when a user used some functionalities for the first time, for example:

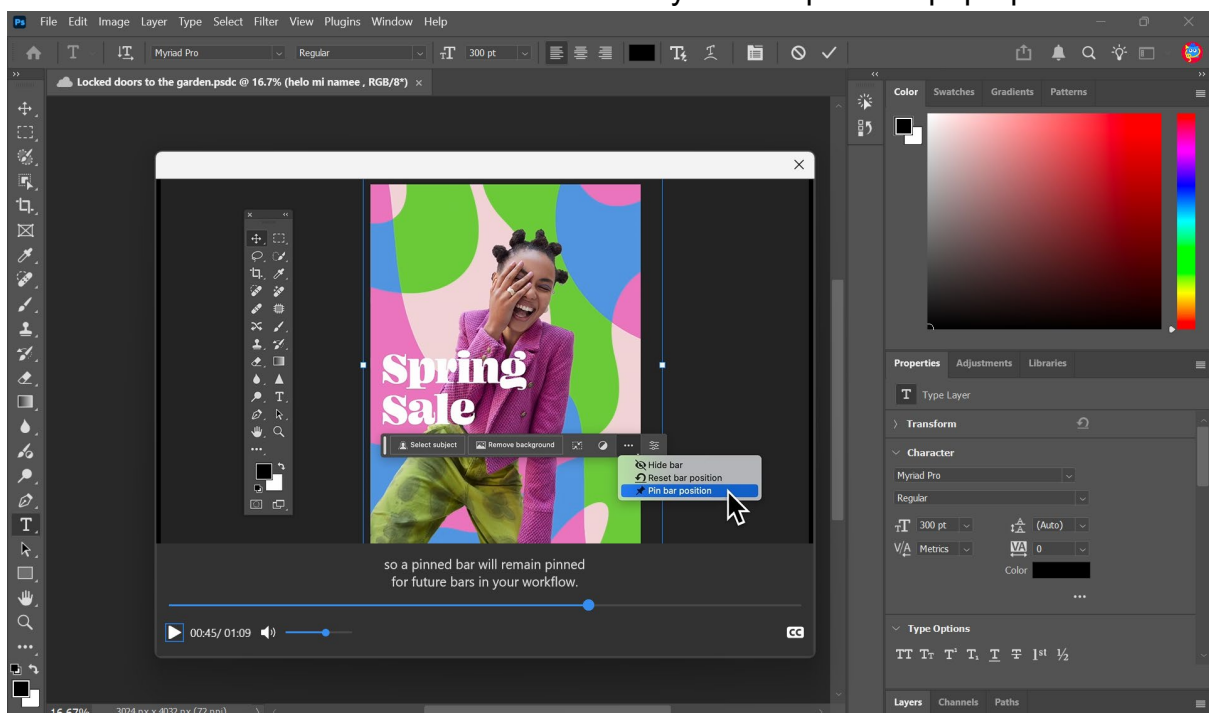


Most of these tooltips were inaccessible by keyboard because the content itself is inaccessible. However, a different type of tooltip was accessible by keyboard:



16. Accessibility of audio/visual content:

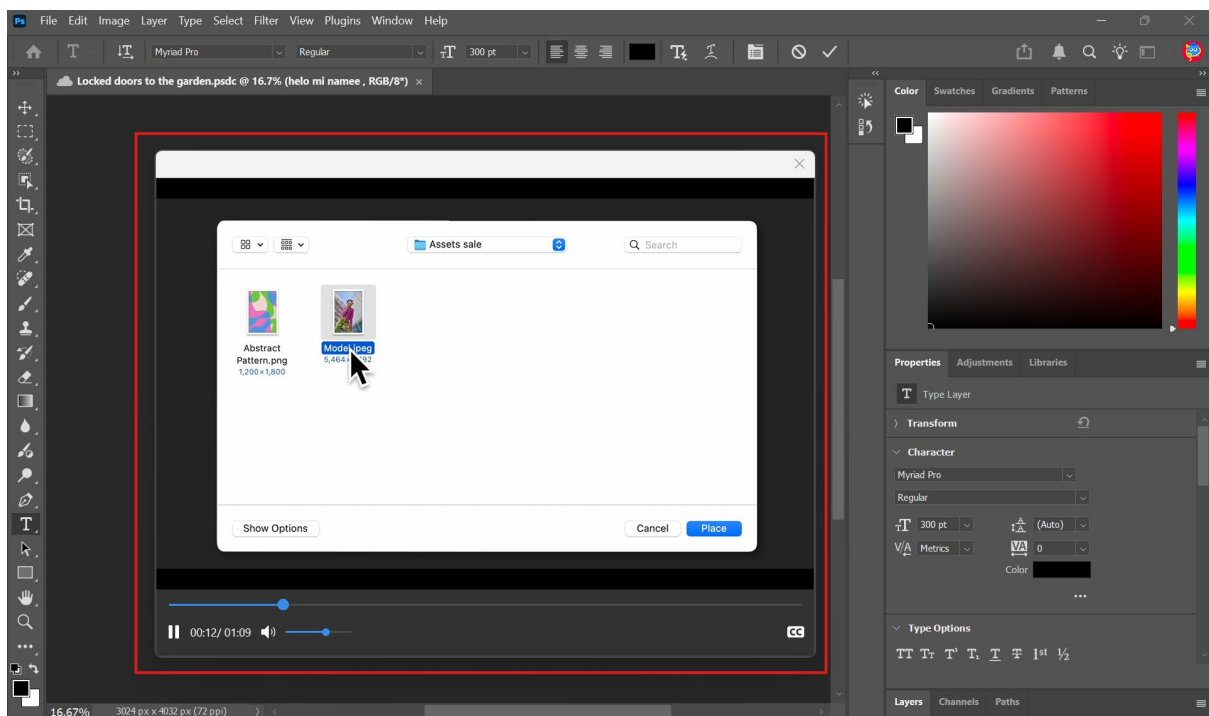
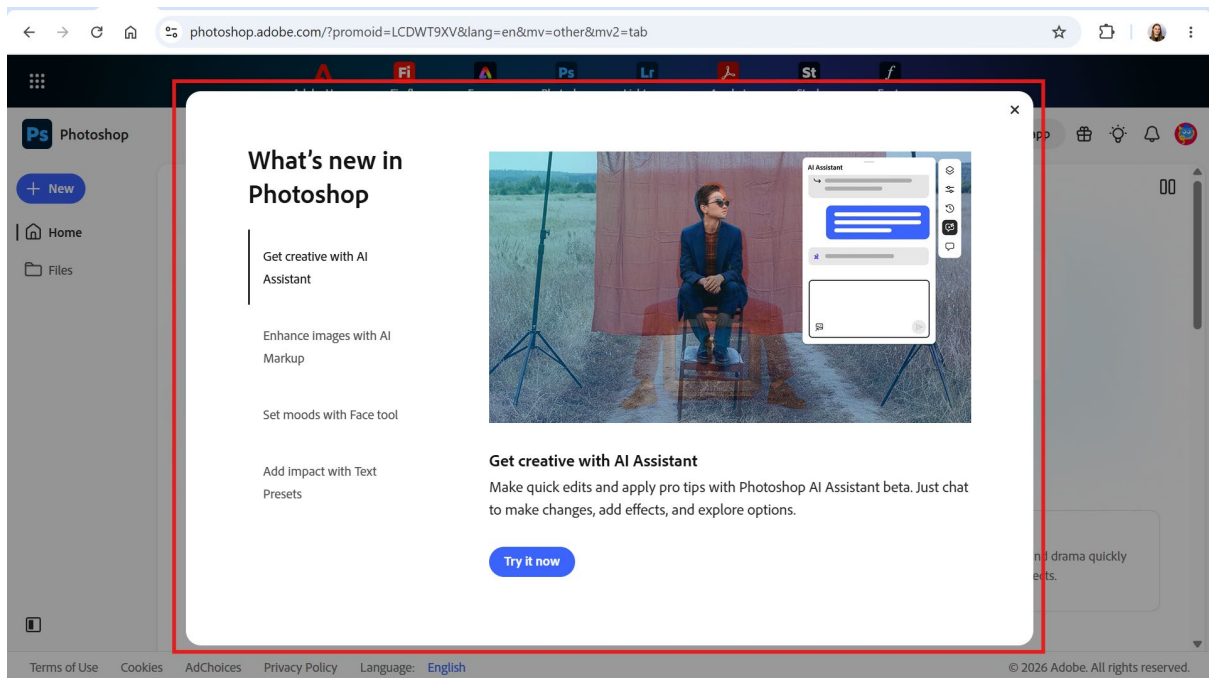
There were some video tutorials available. They would open in a pop-up window:

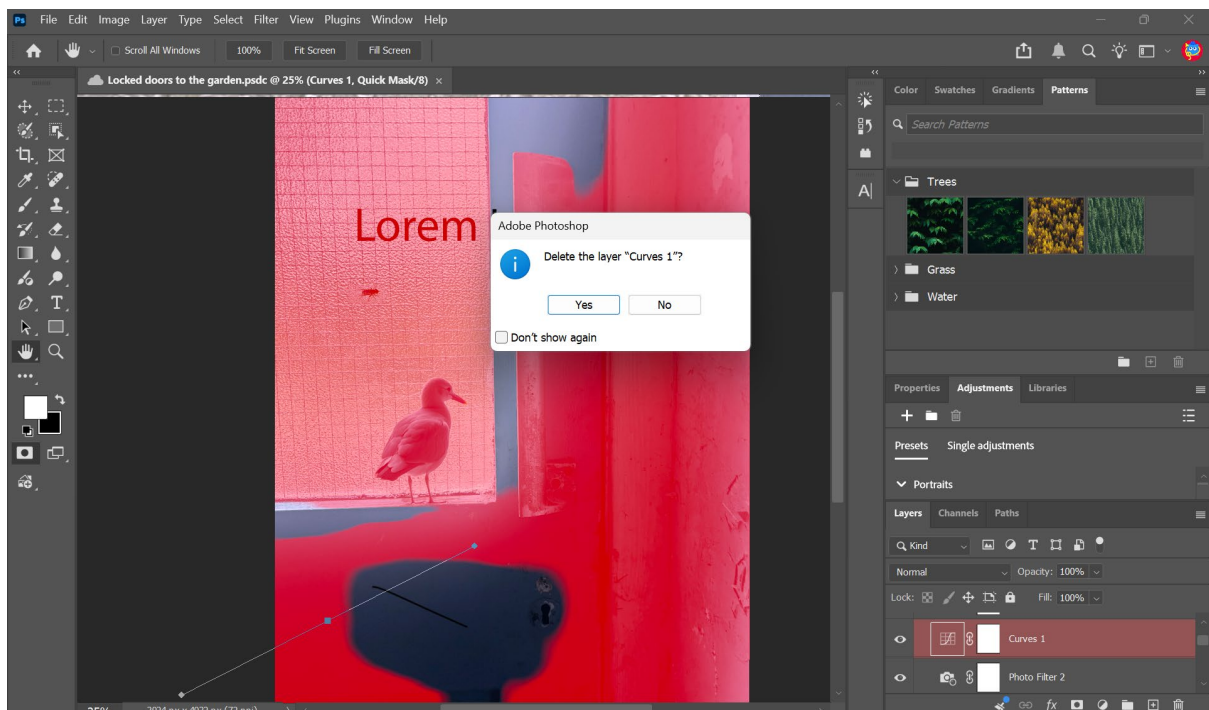
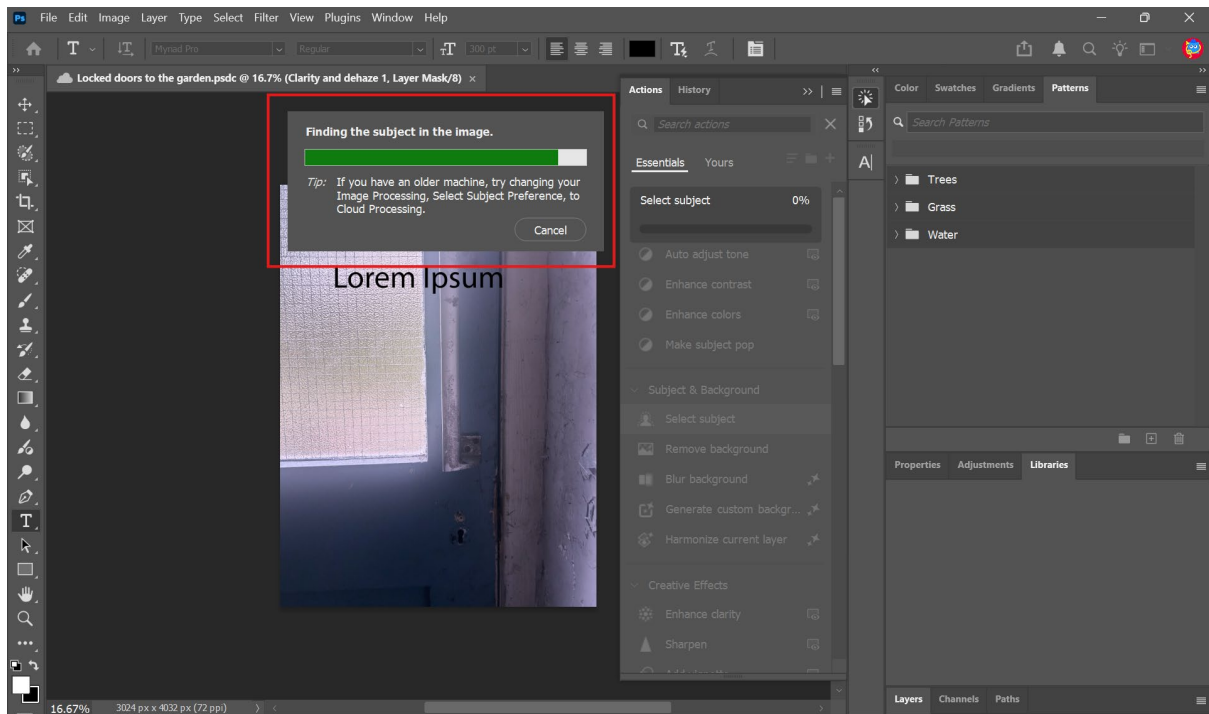


These video tutorials had closed captions enabled which appear to be human corrected. However, there were no audio descriptions or transcripts.

17. Is there an indication or warning of links which will open a new tab or a new browser tab/window?

There were pop-ups appearing without notice (either when a user first opens Photoshop or presses some button), for example:



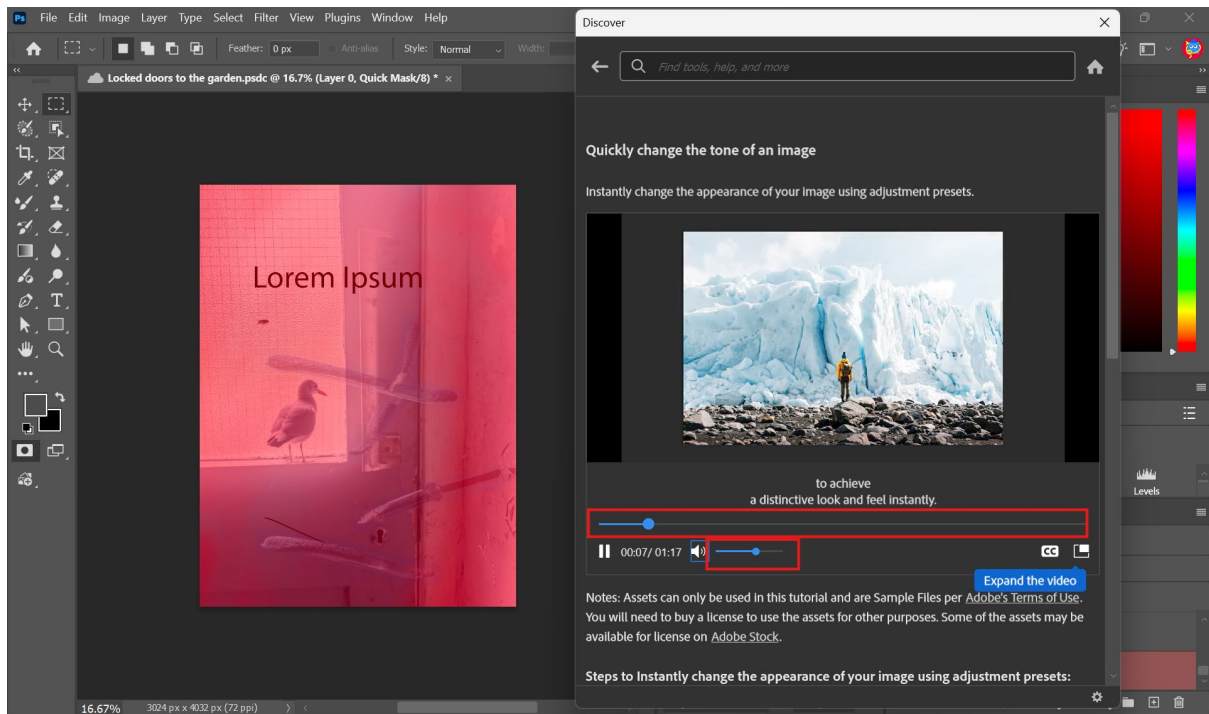


18. Are there any time limits prescribed for the viewing/inputting of content by Administrators and/or Users?

There did not seem to be any time limits.

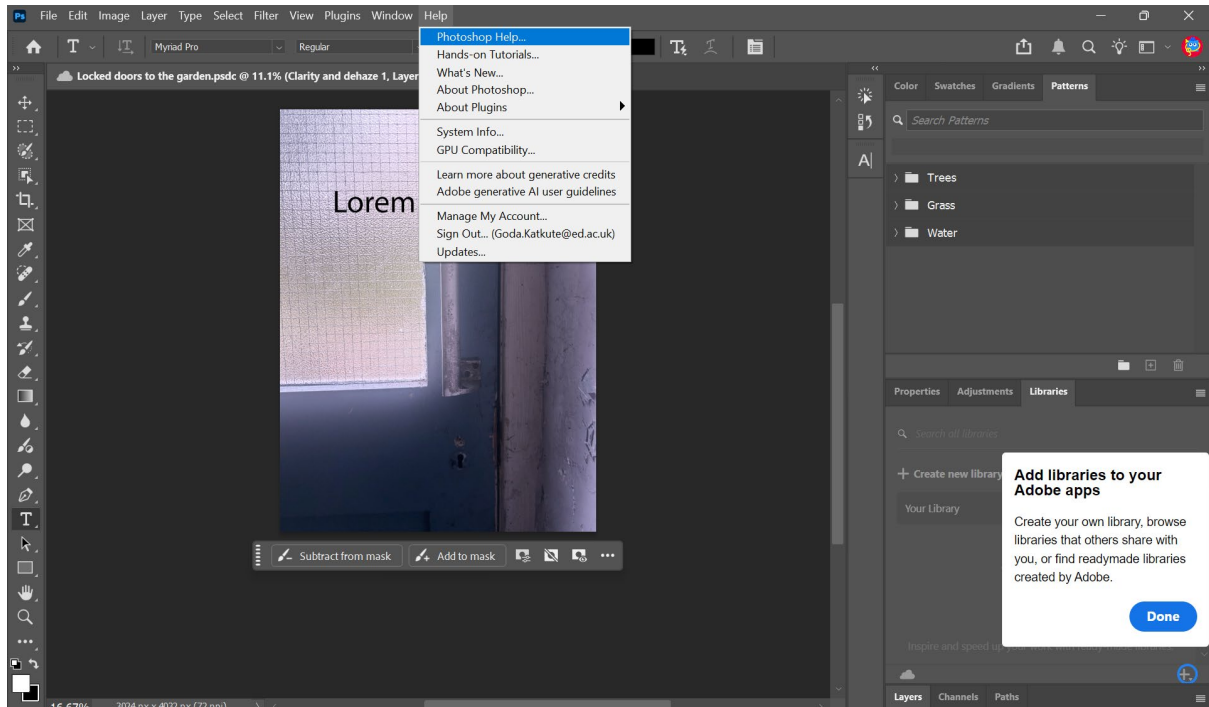
19. Is there any functionality on the site that requires the user to use a drag function, without any alternative way to interact with this element of the site?

There were functionalities that required dragging and did not have alternatives (for example, the picture crop adjustments or video time/sound settings):



20. Is there a specialist help section provided online by the system to help the user with accessibility issues?

There is a help section but there is no information on accessibility/ The help section is always in the same location.



Summary

Spellcheck is not enabled automatically, but can be used in some areas.

There were error/information messages in pop-up format, some of them disappeared after a few seconds and were not fully read by a screen-reader.

Users can access Photoshop through Adobe Creative Cloud on Software centre, they can login using their Microsoft accounts, there is a forgotten password option.

Customisation is limited. There are continuous capitals, underlining, italics used. There were no naked URLs, many links had suitable hypertext, but some could have more informative hypertext. Contrast was limited, especially where font/content is small. Links had different formatting, some of them looked like plain text.

Magnification is limited, as only images can be magnified and menus cannot. Only Windows Magnifier can be used to magnify menu options too.

Information was conveyed by colour only.

There were moving loading icons and moving gifs that users could not pause without closing the pop-up.

Most of the content seemed inaccessible by keyboard, with only a few areas being accessible. Dragging function was required. Focus order was logical and there were no keyboard traps. Focus indicator is not always visible. Keyboard shortcuts are available and can be customised, but still do not make content fully accessible.

Read&Write had some issues.

ZoomText worked well.

Most non-text content was not reads by screen-readers.

JAWS screen reader was mostly incompatible, only a few areas were read. F6 and F7 commands did not work.

Dragon was mostly incompatible, only some content could be reached.

There were various tooltips, most of them are inaccessible by keyboard and assistive technology. Some of them completely obscured other content.

There was video content with captions which appear human corrected but no audio descriptions or transcripts.

Links opened new windows without warning, error notification pop-ups appeared without warning.

There were no time limits.

Dragging functions did not seem to have alternatives.

There was no information on accessibility. Accessibility statement needs to be added. Help functionality was provide in a consistent location.

Areas to follow up

- Consider ensuring that spellcheck is enabled in all areas
- Ensure error/information messages are not in a pop-up format
- Ensure error/information messages do not disappear without being closed
- Improve customisation options
- Improve magnification options, ensuring that all content can be magnified at least to 200% without loss of content and up to 400% with reflow
- Remove the use of continuous capitals
- Remove the use of italics
- Remove the use of underlining
- Increasing colour contrast in the menus
- Ensure all links have meaningful hypertext
- Ensure that all links are underlined by default
- Ensure information is not conveyed by colour only.
- Ensure all movement can be paused or turned off
- Ensure users are informed (with visual and audio warning) about links opening new tabs
- Improve keyboard compatibility by:
 - Ensuring all content can be reached by keyboard
 - Ensuring dragging has alternatives
 - Ensuring keyboard focus indicator is always visible
 - Include a skip to main content option
- Ensure that all non-text elements have suitable alternative text and is accessible by screen-readers
- Ensure there is no text as an image
- Ensure tooltips are accessible by keyboard and assistive software
- Ensure tooltips do not completely obscure other content
- Ensure videos have human corrected transcripts and audio descriptions
- Ensure all links are formatted correctly and have suitable hypertext
- Improve compatibility with JAWS
- Improve compatibility with Dragon
- Improve compatibility with Read&Write
- Add an Accessibility Statement

For more information on this report or to ask any questions please contact Goda Katkute via email: Goda.Katkute@ed.ac.uk