

KitForma.

PRACTICAL FIELD GUIDE

An Interface Palette You Can Test

Define roles, repair contrast pairs and document a small light-and-dark interface

01



02



03



SAMPLE EDITION

ENGLISH / 1.0 / 2026

How to use this guide

Builders and designers defining small interface color and token sets.

A practical workbook using the fictional Slate Form to trace color roles, calculate twelve opaque sRGB pairs, repair six deliberate failures and export documented CSS. Includes a local demo and honest manual-review checklist.

- Create a role contract and explicit foreground-background pair table.
- Calculate twelve opaque sRGB contrast relationships and repair six supplied failures.
- Match reviewed JSON values to CSS custom properties.
- Keep non-color state cues and distinguish arithmetic from manual acceptance.

Scope and limitations

- English-only teaching edition using a fictional interface.
- Opaque six-digit sRGB only; no transparency, gradients, images or other color spaces.
- Pair calculations are not accessibility certification or a complete WCAG audit.
- The local demo does not save data or submit to a server. Its limited examples do not replace testing your own interface with users and assistive technologies.

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Contents

How to use this guide	2
Contents	3
A palette is a set of relationships	4
Sources and tools	5

01

A palette is a set of relationships

An interface palette is not just a collection of attractive swatches. It is a set of relationships between text, surfaces, controls and states. A blue that looks pleasant in a presentation may be unsuitable for a small button label on white. A muted gray that works in light mode may disappear on a dark surface. This workbook makes those relationships explicit and tests a small, original system.

The fictional interface is a project preview form called Slate Form. It has a page surface, ordinary text, helper text, a field boundary, a primary action, an error message and a focus indicator. It provides light and dark themes. The included HTML is a local teaching demo: it can switch themes and show a sample required-field error, but it does not save data, submit a project or connect to a server.

You will inspect twelve declared foreground-background pairs, six in each theme. The initial token file contains six deliberate failures. A reference token file repairs them, and a Python helper calculates the ratios using opaque sRGB colors. The exercise also requires non-color cues and a manual review plan because numerical pair checks cannot establish the accessibility of an entire interface.

Your deliverable is a documented token set, a pair table, a repair log and an acceptance receipt. The receipt must distinguish arithmetic checks from browser interaction, visual inspection and assistive-technology testing. The package does not certify conformance or guarantee usability for every person. Its practical value is that every declared pair and every claimed numerical result can be reproduced from supplied files.

Sources and tools

[S1] W3C Understanding Contrast (Minimum)

<https://www.w3.org/WAI/WCAG22/Understanding/contrast-minimum.html>

Checked: 2026-10-01

[S2] W3C Understanding Non-text Contrast

<https://www.w3.org/WAI/WCAG22/Understanding/non-text-contrast.html>

Checked: 2026-10-01

[S3] W3C Understanding Use of Color

<https://www.w3.org/WAI/WCAG22/Understanding/use-of-color.html>

Checked: 2026-10-01

[S4] W3C CSS Custom Properties for Cascading Variables

<https://www.w3.org/TR/css-variables-1/>

Checked: 2026-10-01

Inside the complete guide

Name roles before choosing values

Define the pairs you will actually test

Calculate a narrow result correctly

Find the six deliberate failures

Communicate states with more than color

Export tokens without losing their contract

Plan browser checks the arithmetic cannot perform

Capstone: repair and document Slate Form

Answer key and safe extension