



OSU Minimum Web Accessibility Standards (rev. 06/30/2004)

<http://www.wac.ohio-state.edu/standards/>

Standard 16 -- Timed Response. When a timed response is required, the user shall be alerted and given sufficient time to indicate more time is required.

Examples:
16.1 -- Do not automatically forward, refresh, or otherwise alter pages, unless you provide the user with a method to adjust the timing of these content changes .

Timed Response -- Dos and Don'ts

Do	Don ' t
Place a redirect message on pages that have moved or been deleted.	Automatically redirect users to the new URL of outdated pages.

Why: Automatically forwarding pages can be disorienting to users who do not have enough time to read the redirect message or who are trying to use their BACK or HISTORY buttons to return to a particular page.

How: Do not use the meta "refresh" or "redirect" element. Instead, put a link to the new location in the body of the page and direct users to activate the link.

Do	Don ' t
If a script "expires" after so long due to inactivity or no response, give users an option to request more time.	Cause data to disappear or be deleted or cause pages to reload or refresh if a certain response is not given within a certain time frame.

Why: Someone's disability can have a direct impact on the speed with which he or she can read, move around, or fill in a web form. For instance, someone with extremely low vision may be a slower-than-average reader. A page may "time out" before she is able to finish reading it. Many forms, when they "time out" automatically, also delete whatever data has been entered. The result is that someone with a disability who is slow to enter data cannot complete the form.

How: Sometimes, this technique is used for security reasons or to reduce the demands on the computer serving the web pages. When a timed response is required, the user shall be alerted via a prompt and given sufficient time to indicate whether additional time is needed.

Get more help with time responses, visit [PENN State's "Redirects and Other Time Responses"](#).

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