

Debora Ermel

Digital Quality & Delivery Specialist

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I work inside Agile teams to keep web projects on track by identifying risks early across UX, accessibility, and implementation. I handle test planning, regression, and defect tracking from feature build through production, while working closely with design, development, and PMs to resolve issues before they impact timelines, scope, or release quality. I combine cross-browser, real-device, and accessibility testing in the same pass to prevent problems from resurfacing later.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Independent QA & Accessibility Specialist

Remote | Oct 2024 - Present

- Led end-to-end accessibility and UX audits across e-commerce systems, from scoping and evaluation to delivery of actionable findings
- Conducted structured audits identifying WCAG failures and interaction gaps before release
- Exposed keyboard and screen reader blockers in checkout and filtering flows that would prevent task completion
- Evaluated Figma components against production builds to prevent focus order, contrast, and ARIA regressions
- Worked directly with clients to prioritize fixes based on user impact, effort, and release timelines

Usability QA & Web Accessibility Specialist

Dog and Pony Studios - Toronto | Sept 2023 - Jun 2024

- Designed a cross-functional "Site Health" framework combining usability, accessibility, and SEO validation, increasing site health scores by 40%
- Participated in sprint planning and daily standups, aligning QA scope with release timelines and priorities
- Owned test planning, execution, and regression validation across web builds before production deployment
- Managed defect lifecycle in Asana, including triage and prioritization, helping teams resolve issues and stay on track for release
- Worked closely with PMs, designers, and developers to align QA scope with sprint timelines and delivery needs
- Validated cross-browser and real-device behaviour to catch inconsistencies before release
- Delivered structured defect reports with clear reproduction steps and context, accelerating resolution across teams

Shopify Technical Project Manager

Satel Creative - Vancouver | Jan 2023 - Aug 2023

- Led coordination across clients, design, QA, and development teams to keep Shopify projects on track and aligned with timelines
- Defined and standardized acceptance criteria and QA handoff workflows in Jira and Confluence, reducing ambiguity across sprint cycles
- Managed defect triage and prioritization across teams, resolving blockers and protecting release timelines
- Balanced competing priorities, tight timelines, and client expectations in a fast-paced agency environment

WORK EXPERIENCE

Shopify Frontend Developer & UX Analyst

Satel Creative - Vancouver | Sept 2021 - Jan 2023

- Developed accessible Shopify components with predictable behaviour, reducing remediation time by 25%
- Ran pre-launch usability and design reviews to catch visual drift and interaction failures before release
- Built and customized Shopify themes, deepening understanding of how frontend logic impacts regression risk
- Collaborated with QA during sprint cycles to ensure theme customizations met acceptance criteria before release

Lead Frontend Developer & QA Contributor

Play Business - Mexico City | Sep 2018 - Sept 2021

- Reviewed frontend developers' pull requests, providing structured code feedback and approving merges to maintain quality standards
- Validated feature behaviour before opening pull requests by running Rails test commands and confirming automated GitHub checks passed
- Collaborated with backend engineers to verify business logic and prevent production defects
- Identified usability and interaction issues during build phases, introducing UX improvements before formal processes existed

CORE QA COMPETENCIES & TOOLS

Delivery & QA

- Test Planning & Test Case Development
- Regression Testing
- Defect Lifecycle Management
- Agile Sprint Validation
- Cross-Browser & Real-Device Testing
- Acceptance Criteria Review

Accessibility & UX Validation

- WCAG 2.2 AA
- Screen Reader & Keyboard Testing
- UX and interaction testing
- Component & Design System QA
- Semantic HTML
- axe, WAVE, Lighthouse
- ARIA

Web Technologies & Tools

- HTML, CSS, JavaScript fundamentals
- Chrome DevTools
- Storybook
- GitHub
- Jira, Asana, Confluence
- Shopify (Liquid), WordPress
- CMS & Admin Panel

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATION

- Certified Professional in Accessibility Core Competencies CPACC – IAAP 2025
- IAAP WAS Certification Preparation 2.2 – Deque University 2025
- UX Design Certification – Glasgow Caledonian University 2021
- Web Development Associate Degree – IronHack Coding School 2018

COMMUNITY & VOLUNTEER WORK

Community Involvement

WP Accessibility Day | 2024 - 2025

- Translated accessibility content to expand access to wider audiences
- Supported global 24-hour operations for the conference and coordinated APAC coverage

Content Contributor

The Inclusivity Online | 2024 - Present

- Write blog posts on digital accessibility for developers, designers, and site owners

LANGUAGES

Portuguese (native), English (fluent), Spanish (fluent), French (intermediate)