

How to Run a Lighthouse Report in Google Chrome or a Chrome-based Browser

Lighthouse is a powerful automated tool that helps you improve the quality of your web pages. It audits web pages for performance, accessibility, progressive web app compatibility, SEO, and more.

Here's how to run a Lighthouse report in Google Chrome:

1. Open Developer Tools:

- Windows/Linux: Right-click on the page and select "Inspect" or use the keyboard shortcut Ctrl+Shift+I.
- Mac: Right-click on the page and select "Inspect" or use the keyboard shortcut Cmd+Option+I.

2. Navigate to the Lighthouse Tab:

- Once the Developer Tools window is open, click on the "Lighthouse" tab.

3. Configure Your Audit:

- Device: Choose the device you want to simulate (mobile or desktop).
- Throttle: Simulate different network speeds (slow-3G, fast-3G, regular-4G, etc.).
- Other Options: You can also enable or disable specific audits, such as performance, accessibility, and SEO.

4. Run the Audit:

- Click the "Run" button to start the audit.

5. Analyze the Report:

- Once the audit is complete, you'll see a detailed report with scores for performance, accessibility, best practices, and SEO.
- Performance: Identifies opportunities to improve page load speed, such as reducing image size, minifying code, and optimizing critical rendering paths.
- Accessibility: Highlights issues that could prevent users with disabilities from accessing your website.
- Best Practices: Suggests improvements to web development practices, such as using semantic HTML and avoiding JavaScript errors.
- SEO: Provides recommendations for improving your website's search engine visibility, such as optimizing title tags, meta descriptions, and image alt text.

Additional Tips:

- Repeat Audits: Run Lighthouse audits regularly to track your website's performance over time and identify areas for improvement.
- Prioritize Fixes: Focus on fixing the most critical issues first, such as performance bottlenecks and accessibility barriers.
- Test Different Devices and Network Conditions: Use Lighthouse to test your website on different devices and network speeds to ensure a consistent user experience.
- Use Lighthouse in Your Development Workflow: Integrate Lighthouse into your development process to catch performance and accessibility issues early on.

By following these steps and using the insights provided by Lighthouse, you can significantly improve the quality and performance of your web pages.