

# Add Alternative Description for Image Files

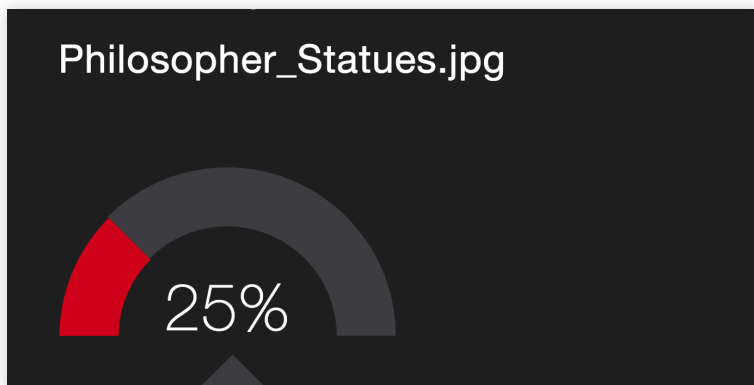
Add a rich description to images and graphs to improve comprehension

## Ally Micro-Learning

Images can be a great way to engage your learners with different modes of learning, and can help communicate complex ideas to students. For students with visual impairments, “alternative descriptions” that explain the content of an image are crucial for their learning. For all students, text descriptions can provide deeper context to aid their comprehension.

## Scenario: You add an image file to your course for students

1



If your image lacks a text description, the Ally indicator will appear “red.” Clicking the indicator will reveal that the file is only 25% accessible because it lacks an alternative description. Click the “What this means” button for an explanation, and “How to write a good description” for some quick tips.

2

When you’re ready, simply add your alternative description to the text field in the Ally feedback window. When you’re done, click “Add.” Make sure your description is more than just the title of the file, or Ally will report an accessibility error. Describe the image and what’s important, and mention any text in the image to improve your score.

3

**Decorative images**

In some cases, the image may be non-informative or doesn't represent relevant content. You don't have to describe these images, but you do have to indicate that they are decorative by using the 'Indicate image is decorative' button.

Indicate image is decorative

**Example**

Accessibility score for:  
**Philosopher\_Statues.jpg**

100%

Perfect!

You have successfully added a description.

If your image is only for visual effects, and does not contain info relevant to the learning content, you can also mark the image as “decorative.” This means no alternative description is necessary, and your accessibility score will improve. This helps assure students of the purpose of those files.