Accessible Javascript

Not Voodoo – not much
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Semantic Markup

• Markup your Content to make it work by itself
• Think about every element and its Role
  – Have you really found a new Use for DL? ;-)
Serverside Interaction

• Everything you want to do using Javascript Magic you first have to solve without
• Think what you can do with Page reloads (yes I know they’re not the cool Kids anymore...)
Progressive Enhancement

• Everybody should have heard about this by now. Do you?
• When everything works start adding Magic
• Hijack Existing Elements and add new Functionality
• Add new Controls for Javascript only
CSS

• Pay Attention what you hide, how and when
• Display:none and visibility:hidden are not generally useless or evil but often
Update and Inform

• (Most) Screen Readers know Javascript
• Most of the Stuff actually works, they just don’t know
• Make them know something changed by setting the focus()
• Use a hidden Form Element to force the Screen Reader rebuild its Virtual Buffer
Not Only Screen Readers

• Think about Keyboard only Users
• Tab your App. Does it work?
• Do hidden Elements Show on focus?
Good Ressources

http://www.isolani.co.uk/blog/
http://www.accessibilitytips.com/
http://juicystudio.com/
http://learningtheworld.eu/
http://uk.tv.yahoo.com/ (The Search on the upper right was used for the Example)