

# Building Compose Apps for Everyone

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Making your Jetpack Compose Apps Accessible

@hitherejoe



**15%**

The percentage of the population,  
**worldwide**, with some form of disability

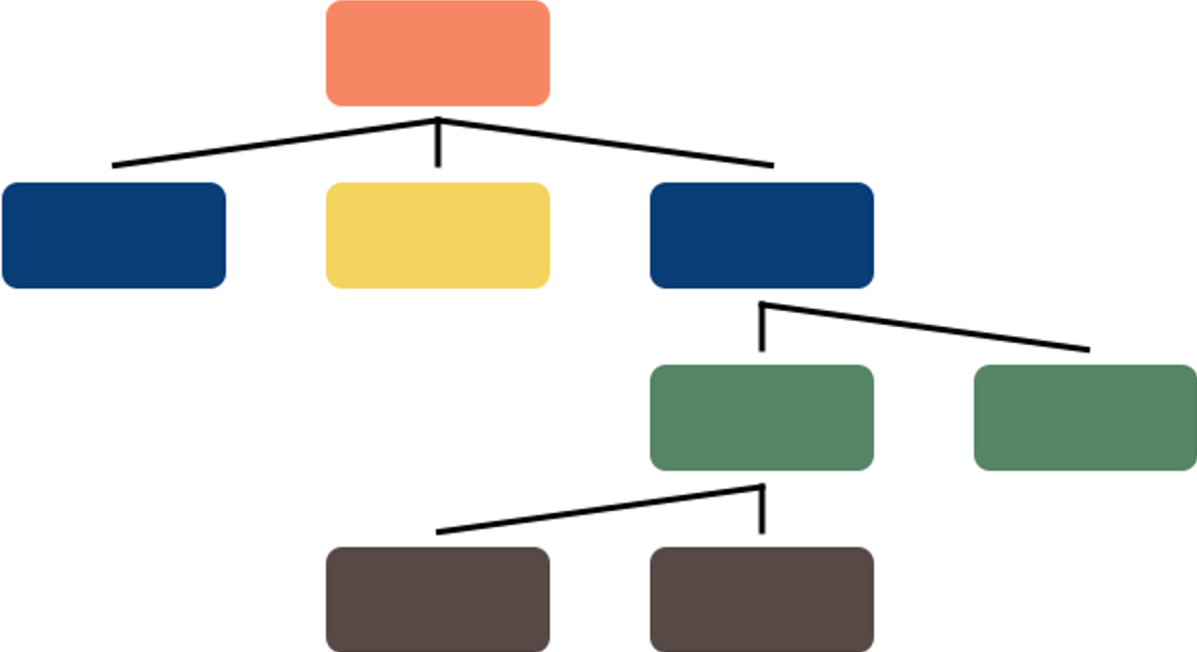
**17%**

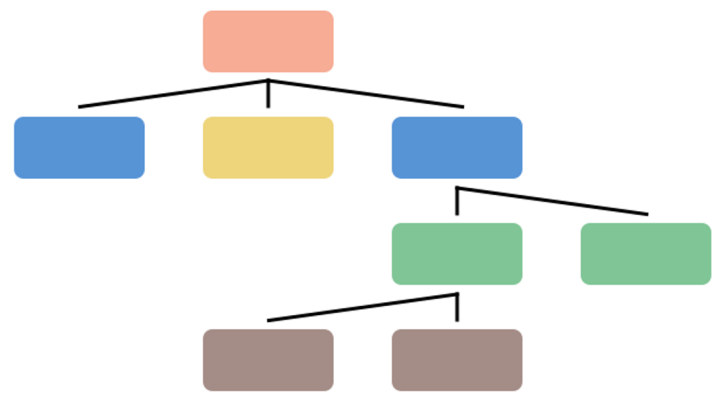
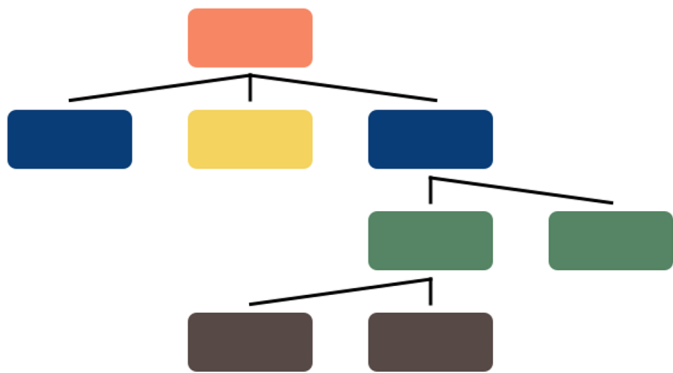
The percentage of people, **in the UK**, who were born with their disabilities

**How can we make  
composables accessible?**

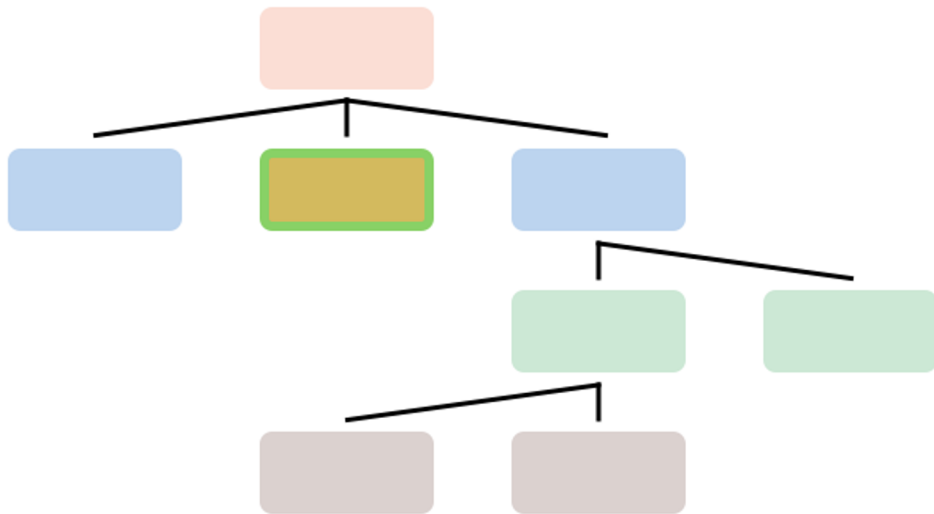
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# Semantics



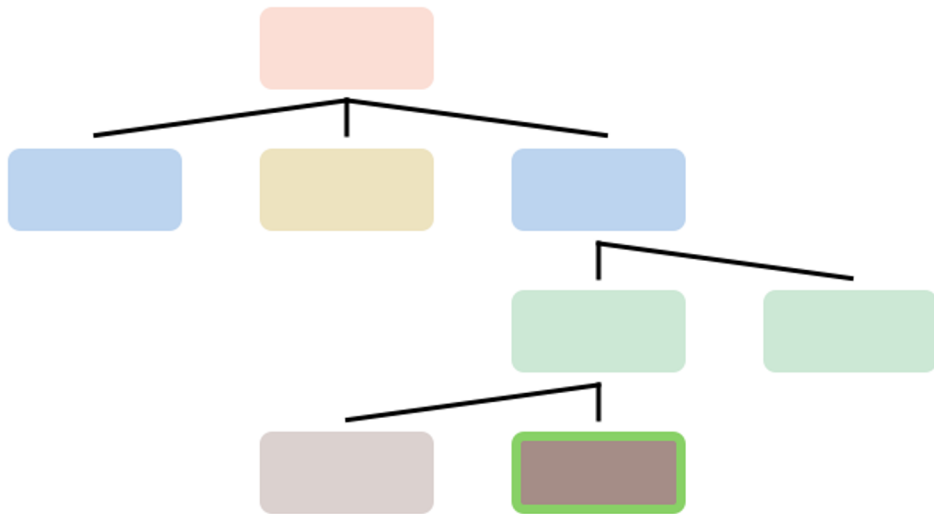






**“Click to add the PS5  
to your shopping cart”**

---



**“Stock notifications are currently off. Click to enable stock notifications”**

```
[  
  text = "Buy"  
  contentDescription = "Buy the PS5"  
  role = Role.Button  
  selected = false  
]
```

```
[  
  text = "Buy"  
  contentDescription = "Buy the PS5"  
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  selected = false  
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```

```
[  
  text = "Buy"  
  contentDescription = "Buy the PS5"  
  role = Role.Button  
  selected = false  
]
```

### Button @composable

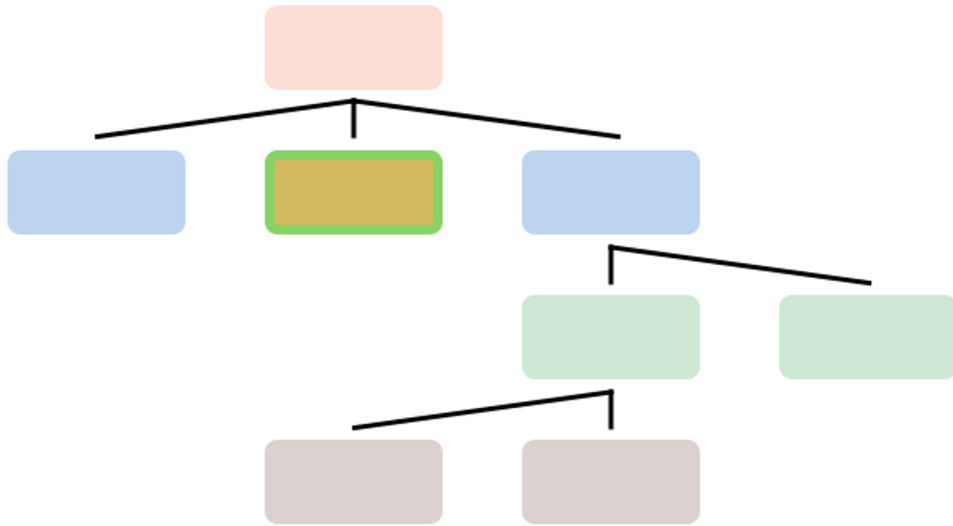
```
[  
  text = "Buy the PS5"  
  role = Role.Button  
]
```

### Icon @composable

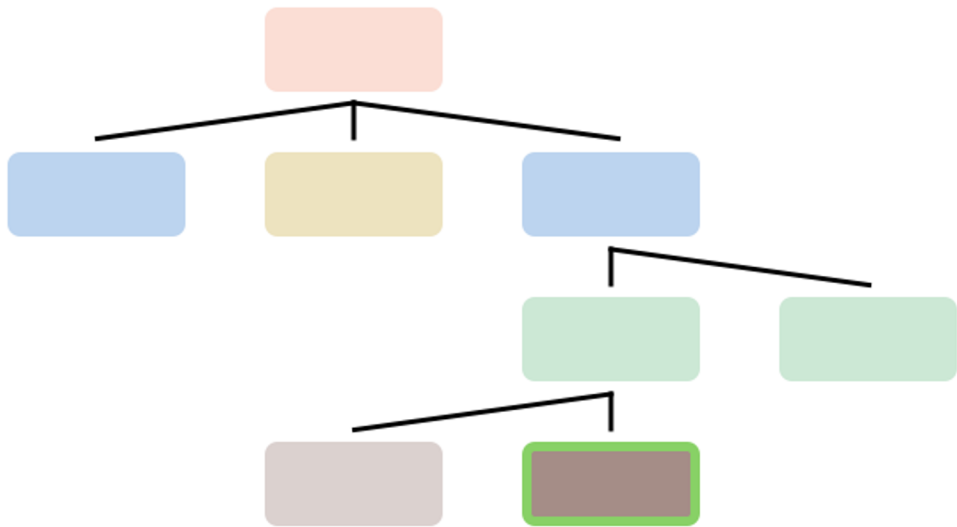
```
[  
  role = Role.Image  
]
```

### Switch @composable

```
[  
  text = "Message Notifications"  
  role = Role.Switch  
  value = true  
]
```



**"Image"**



“ ”

### Button @composable

```
[  
  text = "Add to Cart"  
  role = Role.Button  
]
```



```
[  
  text = "Add the PS5 to your shopping cart"  
]
```

### Icon @composable

```
[  
  role = Role.Image  
]
```



```
[  
  contentDescription = "Delete email"  
]
```

### Switch @composable

```
[  
  text = "Message Notifications"  
  role = Role.Switch  
  value = true  
]
```



```
[  
  stateDescription =  
    "Message notifications are  
    currently disabled"  
]
```

# **Approaching Accessibility**



# Touch Targets

```
Icon(  
    modifier = Modifier.clickable {  
        // Handle click  
    },  
    imageVector = Icons.Default.Close,  
    contentDescription = stringResource(R.string.cd_close_settings)  
)
```



Settings

```
Icon(  
    modifier = Modifier  
        .clickable {  
            // Handle click  
        }  
        .padding(18.dp)  
        .size(30.dp),  
    imageVector = Icons.Default.Close,  
    contentDescription =  
        stringResource(R.string.cd_close_settings)  
)
```



Settings

```
IconButton(onClick = {  
    // Handle click  
}) {  
    Icon(  
        imageVector = Icons.Default.Close,  
        contentDescription =  
            stringResource(R.string.cd_close_settings)  
    )  
}
```



Settings

# Touch Targets

## Dos

- Ensure touchable elements have a size of at least 48dp



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- Default to using material implementations where possible

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## Don'ts

- Sacrifice touchable areas for design requirements

# Touch Targets

## Dos

- Ensure touchable elements have a size of at least 48dp
- Default to using material implementations where possible

## Don'ts

- Sacrifice touchable areas for design requirements
- Reduce / override default touch targets provided by material components

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# Content Descriptions

```
Icon(  
    imageVector = Icons.Default.Close,  
    contentDescription = null  
)
```



Settings

```
Icon(  
    imageVector = Icons.Default.Close,  
    contentDescription =  
        stringResource(id = R.string.cd_close_settings)  
)
```



Settings



```
Canvas(  
    modifier = Modifier  
        .semantics {  
            contentDescription = "Add to cart"  
        },  
    onDraw = {  
        drawRoundRect(...)  
        drawLine(...)  
        drawLine(...)  
    }  
)
```

# Content Descriptions

## Dos

- Use the content description to provide meaningful descriptions for composables

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- Use null descriptions when composables are purely decorative

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- Default to applying null to content description arguments

# Content Descriptions

## Dos

- Use the content description to provide meaningful descriptions for composables
- Use null descriptions when composables are purely decorative

## Don'ts

- Default to applying null to content description arguments
- Use content descriptions for the sake of having content descriptions

# Click Labels

```
Card(  
    modifier = Modifier  
        .fillMaxWidth()  
        .clickable {  
            handleCardClick()  
        }  
) { ... }
```

```
Card(  
    modifier = Modifier  
        .fillMaxWidth()  
        .clickable(  
            onClickLabel = "Open Item One Article"  
        ) {  
            handleCardClick()  
        }  
    ) { ... }
```



# Click Labels

## Dos

- Use click labels to provide **interaction descriptions** for composed content

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- If also using content descriptions, ensure these **compliment** each other

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## Don'ts

- Rely on content descriptions for action descriptions

# Click Labels

## Dos

- Use click labels to provide **interaction descriptions** for composed content
- If also using content descriptions, ensure these compliment each other

## Don'ts

- Rely on content descriptions for action descriptions
- Modify text semantics to account for actions

# Text Semantics

```
Text(text = "£60 p/m")
```

```
Text(  
    modifier = Modifier.semantics {  
        text = AnnotatedString("£60 per month")  
    },  
    text = "£60 p/m"  
)
```

# Text Semantics

## Dos

- Use text semantics to improve the representation of composed content



# Text Semantics

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## Don'ts

- Use the other semantic properties to replicate the same behaviour

# Text Semantics

## Dos

- Use text semantics to improve the representation of composed content

## Don'ts

- Use the other semantic properties to replicate the same behaviour
- Use text semantics to remove composable representation

# Merge Descendents

```
Column {  
    Row {  
        Text()  
        Text()  
    }  
    Text()  
}
```

**You've won!**

28th June

Thanks for entering our competition! We're excited...

---

**RE: Coffee**

1st April

Was great to bump into you the other day. Would I...

---

**Join our team**

16th March

Are you looking for a new role? We're hiring for our...

```
Column(  
    modifier = Modifier.semantics(  
        mergeDescendants = true  
    ) { }  
)  
{  
    Row {  
        Text()  
        Text()  
    }  
    Text()  
}
```

**You've won!**

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Thanks for entering our competition! We're excited...

---

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Was great to bump into you the other day. Would I...

---

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# Merge Descendants

## Dos

- Use merge descendants to **group related content** into a single descendant



# Merge Descendants

## Dos

- Use merge descendants to **group related content** into a single descendant

## Don'ts

- Use merge descendants for the sake of simplifying navigation between descendants

# **State Descriptions**

```
Row(  
    modifier = Modifier  
        .toggleable(  
            value = enabled.value,  
            onChange = {  
                enabled.value = !enabled.value  
            },  
            role = Role.Switch  
        )  
)
```

Enable notifications



Enable dark theme



```
val description = if (enabled) {  
    stringResource(R.string.enabled)  
} else stringResource(R.string.not_enabled)
```

```
Row(  
    modifier = Modifier  
        .semantics {  
            stateDescription = description  
        }  
        .toggleable(  
            ...  
        )  
)
```

# State Descriptions

## Dos

- Use state descriptions to **improve the state representation of composed content**

# State Descriptions

## Dos

- Use state descriptions to **improve the state representation of composed content**

## Don'ts

- Use state descriptions to **describe actions for a component**

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# Toggle Components



```
Row {  
    val enabled = remember { mutableStateOf(false) }  
    Text(...)  
    Switch(  
        checked = enabled.value,  
        onCheckedChange = {  
            enabled.value = !enabled.value  
        }  
    )  
}
```

```
val enabled = remember { mutableStateOf(false) }
Row(
    modifier = Modifier
        .toggleable(
            value = enabled.value,
            onChange = {
                enabled.value = !enabled.value
            },
            role = Role.Switch
        )
) {
    Text(...)
    Switch(
        checked = enabled.value,
        onCheckedChange = null
    )
}
```

Enable notifications



Enable dark theme



# Toggle Components

## Dos

- Lift out toggleable state to the parent container of a toggle component

# Toggle Components

## Dos

- Lift out toggleable state to the parent container of a toggle component

## Don'ts

- Forget to set the role for the toggleable component!

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# Accessibility Actions

```
Column(  
    modifier = Modifier  
        .clickable(  
            onClickLabel =  
                stringResource(R.string.cd_read_email)  
        ) { ... }  
)  
{  
    Row(...) {  
        IconButton(  
            onClick = { ... }  
        ) {  
            Icon(  
                imageVector = Icons.Default.Close,  
                contentDescription =  
                    stringResource(R.string.cd_delete_email)  
            )  
        }  
        ...  
    }  
}
```

**Item One**



This is the first item in the list.

**Item Two**



This is the second item in the list.

**Item Three**



This is the third item in the list.



```
Column(
    modifier = Modifier.semantics {
        customActions = listOf(
            CustomAccessibilityAction(label = stringResource(R.string.cd_read_email)) {
                // handle action
                true
            },
            CustomAccessibilityAction(label = stringResource(R.string.cd_delete_email)) {
                true
            }
        )
    }
) {
    Row(...) {
        Text(...)
        IconButton(
            modifier = Modifier.clearAndSetSemantics { },
            onClick = { ... }
        ) {
            Icon(
                imageVector = Icons.Default.Close,
                contentDescription = stringResource(R.string.cd_delete_email)
            )
        }
    }
}
```

# Accessibility Actions

## Dos

- Use accessibility actions to provide access to actions on within a list of items

# Accessibility Actions

## Dos

- Use accessibility actions to provide access to actions on within a list of items

## Don'ts

- Disregard accessibility for the UI components that trigger those actions

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# Headings

```
Text(  
    text = "Learn Jetpack Compose",  
    fontWeight = FontWeight.Bold  
)
```

## Learn Jetpack Compose

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Aenean in turpis dolor. Aliquam quis nunc id felis faucibus eleifend id ut sem. Etiam nec metus mattis ante suscipit egestas vel non sem. Phasellus commodo vulputate diam eget congue. Curabitur ut nulla felis. Duis rutrum tincidunt rhoncus. Nam ut arcu feugiat, ultrices sapien sed, imperdiet erat. Proin porttitor, diam et volutpat tempor, dolor est sagittis odio, eu aliquet ex lacus vitae ligula. Curabitur et venenatis justo

### What is Jetpack Compose?

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Aenean in turpis dolor. Aliquam quis nunc id felis faucibus eleifend id ut sem. Etiam nec metus mattis ante suscipit egestas vel non sem. Phasellus commodo vulputate diam eget congue. Curabitur ut nulla felis. Duis rutrum tincidunt rhoncus. Nam ut arcu feugiat, ultrices sapien sed, imperdiet erat. Proin porttitor, diam et volutpat tempor, dolor est sagittis odio, eu aliquet ex lacus vitae ligula. Curabitur et venenatis justo

### Let's learn about state

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Aenean in turpis dolor. Aliquam quis nunc id felis faucibus eleifend id ut sem. Etiam nec metus mattis ante suscipit egestas vel non sem. Phasellus commodo vulputate diam eget congue. Curabitur ut nulla felis. Duis rutrum tincidunt rhoncus. Nam ut arcu feugiat, ultrices sapien sed, imperdiet erat. Proin porttitor, diam et volutpat tempor, dolor est sagittis odio, eu aliquet ex lacus vitae ligula. Curabitur et venenatis justo

```
Text(  
    modifier = Modifier.semantics {  
        heading()  
    },  
    text = "Learn Jetpack Compose",  
    fontWeight = FontWeight.Bold  
)
```

# Headings

## Dos

- Use headings to breakup content into navigable sections



# Headings

## Dos

- Use headings to breakup content into navigable sections
- Think about how you structure the content to utilise visual heading

# Headings

## Dos

- Use headings to breakup content into navigable sections
- Think about how you structure the content to utilise visual heading

## Don'ts

- Use headings for elements that are not section breaks

# Headings

## Dos

- Use headings to breakup content into navigable sections
- Think about how you structure the content to utilise visual heading

## Don'ts

- Use headings for elements that are not section breaks
- Use headings for visual decorations

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# Custom Composables

```
var enabled by remember {
    mutableStateOf(false)
}
Row(
    modifier = Modifier.clickable {
        enabled = !enabled
    }
) {
    Icon(imageVector = ..., contentDescription = null)
    Text(text = stringResource(R.string.enable_feature))
}
```

```
var enabled by remember {
    mutableStateOf(false)
}
Row(
    modifier = Modifier.toggleable(
        value = enabled,
        role = Role.Checkbox,
        onChange = {
            enabled = !enabled
        }
    )
) {
    Icon(imageVector = ..., contentDescription = null)
    Text(text = stringResource(R.string.enable_feature))
}
```

```
Canvas(  
    modifier = Modifier  
        .clickable {  
            // Handle click  
        },  
    onDraw = {  
        drawRoundRect(...)  
        drawLine(...)  
        drawLine(...)  
    }  
)
```

```
val ps5ContentDescription = stringResource(R.string.buy_ps5)
Canvas(
    modifier = Modifier
        .clickable(
            onClickLabel = "Add to cart"
        ) {
            // Handle click
        }
        .semantics {
            role = Role.Button
        },
    onDraw = {
        ...
    }
)
```



**What next?**

# Further Reading

- **Google Jetpack Compose Accessibility Codelab**
  - [developer.android.com/codelabs/jetpack-compose-accessibility](https://developer.android.com/codelabs/jetpack-compose-accessibility)
- **Compose Academy Blog**
  - [compose.academy/blog](https://compose.academy/blog)
- **Compose Accessibility Best Practices**
  - <https://tinyurl.com/76shxzyw>
- **Understanding Semantics**
  - <https://tinyurl.com/24ktnfh9>



[compose.academy/practicaljetpackcompose](https://compose.academy/practicaljetpackcompose)

**Thank you!**

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