

# Use Visual Accessors for Mobile Testing

**Last reviewed:** September 30, 2026

Use this article when mobile tests need visual matching because a stable DOM, accessibility ID, or native locator is not available.

## What changed in this article

- Clarified that visual accessors are a fallback or targeted strategy, not the first locator choice for every mobile step.
- Added reliability checks for device resolution, orientation, theme, image crop, wait timing, and tolerance thresholds.
- Added guidance to prefer stable IDs/accessibility locators when available and to review visual matches after app UI changes.

## Validation workflow

1. Try a stable native, accessibility, or DOM locator first when the app exposes one.
2. Use a tightly cropped visual accessor only for the element region that must be matched.
3. Replay on the target device profile and confirm the match survives expected resolution, orientation, and theme variations.

**Review note:** This page now explains when visual accessors help mobile testing and how to reduce false positives.

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If you have feedback on this topic, contact [documentation@appvance.ai](mailto:documentation@appvance.ai).

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