

The Commons Assistive Technology

iOS App Guide

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AT Apps for iOS Devices

This booklet provides an overview of some apps that you may find helpful when using your Android device.

In this booklet, you will find several categories of apps, including:

- iOS Accessibility
- Screen Readers
- Magnifiers
- Dictation
- Mind Mapping
- Writing Assistance
- Note Taking and Organization
- Hand Writing Recognition
- Hard of Hearing
- Book Readers
- Other Apps

Please note that the app prices included in this booklet reflect the prices listed in the Apple Store as of October 2016.

iOS Accessibility

Your iOS device comes with a variety of built-in accessibility features, which can be accessed and activated by tapping **Settings > General > Accessibility**:

1. **VoiceOver** – a screen reader. Touch the screen to hear what’s under your finger, and gesture to control your device.
2. **Speak Selection** – beneficial for users who may have difficulty reading text on their device. Highlight text in any application, tap “Speak,” and hear it read out loud. You can adjust the voice’s dialect and speaking rate, and have words highlighted as they’re read.
3. **Dictation** – types as you speak. Accessible by tapping the microphone button on the keyboard.
4. **Zoom** – a built-in magnifier that works in any application (must first be enabled via the “Accessibility” screen). Double-tap with 3 fingers to automatically zoom 200%
5. **Large text** – increase the font size up to 56 points
6. **Invert colours** – increases contrast of screen. Adjustments are applied system wide, even to video.

Screen Readers

Firefly K3000

- Reads documents and allows you to highlight and add notes
- Must have subscription to Kurzweil 3000 for PC/Mac
- Compatible with iPad only
- Cost: free

Speakit!

- Copy and paste text into app – reads emails, documents, etc.
- Create and email audio files
- Cost: \$2.79

Prizmo

- Scan documents using your device's camera; app "speaks" text in pictures
- **Free alternative: TextDetective** – detects text using device's camera and reads it aloud
- Cost: \$13.99

Read and Write

- Reads documents and allows you to highlight and add notes
- Includes word prediction capabilities, a talking dictionary, "Speak as I Type" function, and a toolbar for the Safari browser
- Compatible with iPad only
- Cost: 30 day free trial (after which text-to-speech remains free); upgrade to premium version for \$22.99

Capti Narrator

- Allows you to upload documents from Dropbox, Google Drive, or a web browser and listen to it; save document in your playlist for future listening
- Adjust speech rate and voice
- Premium version features include: additional voices (for purchase), increase file size limit, playlists, etc.

Magnifiers/Screen Viewing

Magnifying Glass with Light

- Magnifies input from device's camera

- Allows you to magnify up to 5X
- Includes image capture and auto focus controls
- Activate device's flash for low light situations
- Cost: free

Brighter and Bigger

- Magnifies input from device's camera up to 20X
- User can increase size, brightness, and clarity of image
- Cost: free

Big Browser

- Helps low-vision users more easily navigate the web
- Includes extra large keyboard, controls, and search fields; expanded pinch zooming and multiple colour themes make content easy to read
- Compatible with iPad only
- Cost: free

Fleksy

- Increase your keyboard size to 114%
- Includes word prediction
- Cost: free (includes some in-app purchases)

Magnifier Flash

- Allows you to magnify up to 6X
- Activate device's flash for low light situations
- Includes image capture feature
- Cost: \$1.39

Navi Dys

- Browser optimized for users with dyslexia
- Adjust the font, font size, spacing, and zoom on any webpage; includes Dyslexie font
- Cost: \$3.99

ER Browser

- Adjust websites according to your own preferences – customize font, background colour, size, and spacing; includes Dyslexie font
- Cost: \$1.39

Tap Tap See

- Designed to help visually impaired/blind users identify objects
- Take picture of object and app will say what object is
- Cost: free

Dictation

Dragon Dictation

- Access your device using voice commands (e.g., send and receive texts, make calls, post social media updates, access emails, search the internet)
- Supports email dictation
- Cost: free

SoundNote

- Note taking + dictation app - record audio as you're taking notes
- When you click a word, the app will begin playing at the corresponding time in audio
- Cost: \$6.99 (also available as Mac download)

AudioNote

- Note taking + dictation app - record audio as you're taking notes
- Each note links to audio from when it was typed - tap note to hear audio
- Insert text, drawings, and photos; add highlights
- Import and take notes directly on PDFs
- Cost: \$20.99

Mind Mapping

Mind Meister

- Create mind maps and export them as RTF, PDF, or image files
- Add icons, colours, and styles to maps; play map-based presentations on device
- Cost: free

Simple Mind

- Create mind maps and export them as PDF, PNG, HTML, or TXT files
- Add icons, colours, and styles to maps
- Also available for PC download

- Lite version free; full version \$6.99

Inspiration Maps

- Build customizable diagrams and thought webs; use pre-made templates, or create your own
- Customize colours and fonts; add graphics
- Sync with Inspiration for PC/Mac
- Compatible with iPad only
- Cost: \$13.99

Popplet

- Mind-mapping app
- Customize maps, and link notes to each other
- Export finished maps as PDFs and JPEGs
- Cost: \$6.99

Idea Sketch

- Create mind maps and flow charts; convert text outlines to maps and maps to outlines
- Syncs with Dropbox
- Cost: free

Writing Assistance

Paper Helper

- Research and write at the same time – view your Internet browser and word processor side-by-side, and transfer information between the two
- Compatible with iPad only
- Cost: \$1.39

Voice Dream Writer

- Reads your sentences out loud, so it's easier to catch mistake
- Edits can be typed or voice dictated
- Search for the correct word using phonetic and meaning searches
- Cost: \$13.99

Note Taking and Organization

Simple Note

- Note taking apps with simple, distraction-free interface

- Tag your notes for easy searching
- Cost: free

Sticky

- Improve organization by creating notes and reminders
- Collect notes in “notebooks”
- Send “Sticky” content to your email and social media accounts
- Cost: free

Evernote

- Write notes; collect articles, PDFs, and images; make to-do lists
- All content is searchable, so you can find what you need quickly
- Cost: free

CamScanner

- Use device’s camera to scan documents and convert the image into readable text
- Add annotations to scanner documents
- Sync documents across devices
- Lite version free; premium subscription ranges from \$4.99-\$49.99

Hand Writing Recognition

INKredible

- Distraction-free handwriting app
- Includes close-up writing mode
- Variety of pen/writing styles available as in-app purchases
- Cost: free

Penultimate

- Supports on-screen handwriting; connects with Jot Script stylus
- Customize writing instrument style, paper style, colour, etc.
- Add photos to notes
- Export files as PDFs
- Cost: free

Snaptype

- Edit and add text to photos of documents
- Organize your documents into folders

- Cost: free

Notability

- Handwrite notes or sketch ideas
- Add photos and audio recordings to notes
- Recording feature allows you to automatically link recordings to note – during playback, watch your notes animate along with the recording
- Includes a word processor
- Cost: \$8.49

Notes Plus

- Includes close-up writing mode, palm rejection, and variety of ink effects (support for left handed users)
- Background audio recording capabilities
- Export notes as PDFs or images; import PDF and DOC files
- Cost: \$10.99

WritePad

- Take notes with finger or stylus and app converts them into typed text; adapts to your style of writing over time
- Built-in spell checker
- Sync with Evernote, Dropbox, Google Docs, etc.
- Cost: \$6.99

Hard of Hearing

Hear You Now

- Amplify surrounding sound; allows you to adjust volume per ear
- Focus on conversations held close by or further away
- Volume control allows you to adjust for three frequency bands
- Replay the last 20 seconds you recorded
- To be used with earphones
- Cost: free

Book Readers

VBookz

- Reads PDF files aloud

- Interactive cursor allows user to follow along, pause reading, and repeat line
- Additional voices available for purchase (16 languages available)
- Cost: \$6.99

Voice Dream Reader

- Reads EPUB, DAISY, PDF, Word, PowerPoint, Pages, and HTML files
- Highlights words as it reads – customize reading speed, pronunciation, font, line spacing, etc.
- 36 built-in voices
- Cost: \$20.99

Other Apps

Side by Side

- Allows split screen viewing –browse websites, download files, or take notes on each side of your screen
- Syncs files with Dropbox
- Compatible with iPad only
- Cost: free

Beeline Reader

- Adds a colour gradient to text to guide your eyes from the end of one line to the beginning of the next
- Can customize colour schemes
- Uses Open Dyslexie Font

TextExpander

- Create custom keyboard shortcuts to improve typing speed and accuracy
- Create custom abbreviations to insert in your documents
- Cost: \$6.99

gFlash+

- Create and edit flashcards
- Can use in-app templates or import flashcard information from Google Sheets
- Can insert photos and videos into flashcards
- Cost: free

Livescribe+

- Pairs with Livescribe Echo Smartpen to instantly sync what you write on paper directly to your device

- Tag notes for easy searching; add photos to notes; convert handwritten notes to text; export files as PDFs
- Cost: free

[MyScript Calculator](#)

- Recognizes on-screen handwriting; perform mathematical calculations using your own handwriting
- Cost: free

[Talking Calculator](#)

- Reads entered numbers, answers, and formulas
- Large format buttons; optional high contrast mode (black on yellow)
- Can use in-app voice or record your own voice to use
- Pairs optimally with VoiceOver to read button names before they are activated
- Cost: \$2.79

[Learner's Dictionary](#)

- Developed by Merriam Webster
- Listen to words pronounced by native English speakers
- Use voice search to search for words without having to type them
- Cost: \$6.99

[Keeble](#)

- Accessible, large-font keyboard
- Customize keyboard colours; choose between QWERTY and ABC layouts
- Use “Speak as you Type” to hear keys, words, or sentences as you type
- Prevent accidental selections with timing options; choose between completions, next-word predictions, and multi-word prediction options
- Cost: \$27.99

[AccessNote](#)

- Notetaking app for blind/visually impaired users
- Keyboard optimized for both QWERTY and braille display keyboards -
- Cursor tracking allows you to keep your place when taking a note
- Optimized for use with VoiceOver
- Cost: free

[iAnnotate PDF](#)

- Annotate PDFs – highlight, add notes, underline, and add photos and voice recordings

- Also read, annotate, and share DOC, PPTS, and image files
- Syncs with Dropbox and Google Drive
- Cost: \$13.99

iStudiez Pro

- Organization app – great for staying on top of your schedule, homework, and due dates
- Keep track of grades and calculate your GPA
- Syncs across Apple devices
- Cost: \$3.99

inClass

- Keep track of courses and course tasks – take text, video, audio, and image notes
- Get reminders for when tasks are due
- Collaborate with classmates
- Cost: free

30/30

- Create task lists and assign length of time to each task – the time will alert you when you should move on to your next task
- Cost: free

The Commons

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