# accessible Apps for I/OS Devices

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At the time of this writing, most of these apps have been tested and proven to have a certain level of accessibility. When updates for apps come out, sometimes things change that may make the app more or less accessible. This document was updated in November 2015.

There are thousands of apps available for iPhone and other apple devices that can be found by searching the app store on your particular device. There may be different versions of an app for the iPad versus the iPhone so there may be some slight differences. For this project, I tried to choose apps that would be helpful and useful to clients of BESB. I encourage you to look for other apps that you might like and give them a test drive.

# Navigation of This Document

This document has been structured for easy navigation for screen reader users. Major sections are heading level one. Subsections are heading level two and the individual app names are heading level three. You can navigate to these using the quick navigation keys for your particular screen reader.

For JAWS users, when using quick keys in Microsoft Word, you will first need to turn quick keys on. You can do this by pressing insert Z. then you can navigate the headings by pressing the letter H. to jump to a specific heading level, do the following:

For headings at level 1 press 1

For headings at level 2 press 2

For headings at level 3 press 3

For Window-Eyes users, there is an app that comes with the program called WordNav. This allows for quick navigation of word documents with headings, etc. to turn on wordnav press insert Z. to navigate the headings, do the same as you would for JAWS users as mentioned above.

## Digital Book Readers

The first few apps are designed for the blind. There may be membership fees associated with using these apps depending on your circumstances and the book service you choose to use.

### Read2Go

Bookshare’s daisy book reader

Download and read daisy books on your phone

Download from the app store for a fee

### Learning Ally

Daisy reader from Learning Ally.

Requires the use of the internet in addition to the app

### BARD Mobile

The National Library Service’s book reader

### Voice Dream Reader - Text to Speech

Listen to PDF and Word documents, EBooks, articles, and even Bookshare books

Download from the app store for a fee

### Voice Braille Reader

Read .BRF and .BRL files on your IDevice

### OverDrive Media Console

**This app is for borrowing digital books from the library. You will need to have a** library card to use it

Not all libraries participate in lending OverDrive books

These next book readers are free but the books cost money unless they are public domain books.

### IBooks

Order books and read them on your phone with Apple’s book app

You can also read PDF documents with this app

### Audiobooks from Audible

Download and read books from Audible.com.

Fee associated with membership to Audible.

### Kindle

Download and read books from Amazon.com.

### Nook

Download and read books from Barnes and Noble.

## Education and Reference

### Blackboard Mobile™ Learn

Works with Blackboard’s Web-based teaching and learning software.

### Dictionary.com - Dictionary & Thesaurus

Get definitions for those tricky words.

May have some paid components but the basic app is free.

### Advanced English Dictionary & Thesaurus

Another good dictionary and thesaurus.

### Pocket Braille Lite

Learn the Braille code on your phone or iPad.

### Braille Sonar Pro

Look up symbols for Braille contractions, computer Braille, and Nemeth code.

Download from the app store for a fee.

### Braille Reference

Look up those tricky Braille symbols.

Not all symbols are included.

### gFlash+ Flashcards

Make flash cards right on your phone for numerous subjects.

For students of all ages.

### iTunes U

Access to free educational content and more.

### Speaking Spelling Bee

Improve your spelling skills.

Some minor accessibility issues.

There is a paid version without ads.

### Talking Calculator

A good basic calculator for blind or visually impaired.

Download from the app store for a fee.

### Talking Scientific Calculator

Accessible scientific calculator for both blind and visually impaired.

Download from the app store for a fee.

### Free Graphing Calculator

All buttons are labeled but you cannot read the graph with speech.

Some minor accessibility issues.

### Google Translate

Translate words and phrases into multiple languages.

### Spanish-English Translation Dictionary and Verbs

Look up word translations or conjugate verbs.

### LookTel VoiceOver Tutorial

Tutorial for the I/OS screen reader.

### VO Starter

Learn and practice using Voiceover.

### VisionConnect™

Look up available services for the blind or visually impaired.

### IBird Pro Guide to Birds

Hear bird calls and track various species.

Download from the app store for a fee.

## News and Information

### AccessWorld

Official app for the AFB’s newsletter.

### ACB Link

News and entertainment from the American Council of the Blind.

### NFB Connect

News, publications, and more right in your pocket.

### Earl

Read newspaper articles on your phone.

Can be used without Voiceover.

There is a cost for subscription.

Download from the app store for a fee.

### IBlink Radio

Listen to music, get news and information right on your phone.

From Serotek.

### NFB Newsline

News and information from the NFB right in your pocket.

### ViA

Helps blind and visually impaired users find apps designed for them.

## Independent Living Apps

### Be My Eyes

Sighted assistance for the blind via live video.

### Audio Memos

Simplify recording tasks with this professional audio recorder.

### Audio Labels

Use with barcodes or QR codes to label your stuff.

### OneTouch Voice Memos

Start recording in just one second.

### Find My iPhone

Find a missing phone if you have another apple Device.

### Peapod

Order groceries from your phone.

Some accessibility issues.

### Light Detector

Detects light levels and turns them into sound.

Download from the app store for a fee.

### Brighter and Bigger

Magnifying glass app for the visually impaired.

### MagLight+

Magnifying Glass and flashlight.

### Vision Assist

A great Portable video magnifier.

Store images in your camera roll for later viewing.

Download from the app store for a fee.

### Yocto Alarm Clock

Full featured alarm clock with multiple sounds and features.

Attractive display, fully configurable.

### White & Yellow Pages

Look up phone numbers and addresses.

### VO Calendar

An accessible calendar for voiceover users.

Download from the app store for a fee.

### Zoom Contacts

An app by AI Squared that takes your IPhone contacts and presents them in an easy-to-see interface.

Download from the app store for a fee.

## Color Identification Apps

### Color ID Free

One of the better free color identifiers.

### ColorDetect

Download from the app store for a fee.

### ColoredEye

Download from the app store for a fee

## Recognition Apps

### KNFB Reader

Scan and convert text to speech.

Download from the app store for a fee.

* This app is normally $100. It sometimes is offered at a discount.

### Prizmo

Scan and recognize text with your phone.

Download from the app store for a fee.

### Pocket Reader

Take a picture of text and hear it read aloud.

Offers help with page alignment for blind users.

### Text Grabber

Scan and recognize text.

Also has translation ability.

Download from the app store for a fee.

### Say Text

Free text recognition for your device.

### ZoomReader

Text recognition app for low vision users from the makers of Zoomtext.

Download from the app store for a fee.

### Text Detective

Finds and reads text in printed documents within seconds using your iPhone’s camera.

Download from the app store for a fee.

### Digit-Eyes Audio Scanner and Labeler

Scans barcodes to identify products.

You can also make your own barcode labels.

Download from the app store for a fee.

### Barcode Reader for iPhone

Another barcode scanner.

The following three apps use people to look at the picture you take to identify what the object is. Use caution and do not take pictures of items of a sensitive nature such as credit cards, or anything else with information you would not want anyone else to have.

### TapTapSee

Take a picture of something and find out what it is.

Gives great details about the object.

### VizWiz

Take a picture, ask a question, get answers.

### oMoby

Find out what things are by snapping a picture.

## Money Identifiers

### EyeNote

Free money identifier from the U.S. Treasury.

### LookTel Money Reader

Identifies money in real time using iPhone camera.

Download from the app store for a fee.

## Health and Safety Apps

### Calorie Counter & Diet Tracker by MyFitnessPal

Connect with friends for support along your fitness journey.

Gives nutritional facts about a wide variety of foods.

### Diabetes App Lite

Blood sugar control, glucose tracker and carb counter.

### Emergency Contact

Emergency information on your phone’s wallpaper.

### BlueLight – Your Personal Safety Companion Be safe and quickly connect to 911.

Access to emergency help without unlocking your phone.

### WebMD Mobile

Medical information at your fingertips.

### Siren Pro™

Use as a theft deterrent or to help someone find you in an emergency.

Also has a beacon.

Download from the app store for a fee.

### My Medical Info

Organize all of your medical info in one place for easy access.

Download from the app store for a fee.

### Pill Monitor – Medication Reminders and Logs

Never miss a dose again.

Download from the app store for a fee.

### Pocket Yoga

Talks you through sessions with pictures.

Dictionary of poses with descriptions.

Download from the app store for a fee.

### Pet First Aid

In case the guide dog or family pet gets injured.

Download from the app store for a fee.

### Dogs Nutrition Calculator

Nutritional information on what your dog is eating.

Great for deciding what food to feed your guide dog.

Some minor accessibility issues but useable.

## Travel and Mobility Apps

### Ariadne GPS

Touch the map to find out where you are.

Download from the app store for a fee.

### BlindSquare

Find out what’s around you, get contact information and more.

Download from the app store for a fee.

### Around Me

Find out what’s nearby, get directions, and so much more.

### Seeing Eye gps

Get turn by turn instructions with helpful descriptions.

Developed in cooperation with The Seeing Eye.

Download from the app store for a fee.

### Sendero GPS Look Around

Announces the current street, city, cross street, heading and nearby points of interest.

Download from the app store for a fee.

### Location Alarm

Enter your location and receive notifications when you are close to your destination.

Download from the app store for a fee.

### Uber

Request a ride and pay through the app. No cash needed.

## Text Editors and Utilities

### BrailleTouch

Type text into your device using a Braille keyboard similar to the Perkins Brailler.

There is a free version and a paid version.

### Microsoft Word

Create documents with this popular word processor right on your phone.

Requires a Microsoft Hotmail account.

Here is a link to information on what to do:

<http://www.macworld.co.uk/how-to/iosapps/how-get-microsoft-office-word-excel-powerpoint-iphone-ipad-ios-3452845/>

### Microsoft OneNote

Create and organize your notes.

Requires Hotmail account.

See link above.

### Microsoft Excel

Create and manage spreadsheets with this app.

Requires Hotmail account.

See link above.

### Voice Dream Writer

Create, proofread, and edit documents.

### MBraille

Type text using Braille, and post to Facebook, email, etc.

There is a free version and a paid version.

### Braille Pad

Create documents by typing in Braille right onto your device.

### Humanware Communicator

Multilingual face to face communication for the deafblind.

### Voice Dream Mail

Read emails with text to speech.

### PlainText

Simple to use interface.

sync with drop box.

### Drop Box

File sharing and storage.

### Bump

Share contacts, photos, and apps by bumping phones with another bump user.

## Dictation Apps

### Dictabulus

Dictate text on your portable device and watch it appear on your Macintosh computer.

Download from the app store for a fee.

### Vokul

Dictation app for those who do not have Siri.

Download from the app store for a fee.

### Dragon Dictate

Dictate text and send emails, post to Facebook, and much more.

The accessibility of this app changes often with updates.

### Dragon Go

Just speak and this app searches the web for you.

The accessibility of this app changes often with updates.

## Weather Apps

### Forecast Now

Get forecasts and weather alerts on your phone.

### iMap Weather Radio

Some minor accessibility issues but useable.

Download from the app store for a fee.

### MyWarn

Weather warnings and forecasts on the go.

Download from the app store for a fee.

### NOAA Storm Center

The official app of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association.

Keep tabs on storms.

Some minor accessibility issues but useable.

Download from the app store for a fee.

### NOAA Weather Radio

Another app from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association .

NOAA Weather Radio in your pocket.

Some minor accessibility issues but useable.

Download from the app store for a fee.

## Social Networking

### Facebook

The official Facebook app.

### Friends Planet

An app that makes Facebook easy to use.

### Twitter

The official Twitter app.

### Twitterific

An app that makes Twitter easier to use.

### Linkedin

The app is useable but there is a captcha that is not accessible.

### Word Press

Create blogs and post them from your phone.

## Entertainment Apps

### Blindfold Games

Just search blindfold in the app store to see the many blindfold games including Pong, Hearts, Simon, Bowling, and more.

### Tune In Radio

Listen to radio shows on your phone.

There is a paid version called tune in radio pro.

### I Heart Radio

Listen to live shows or create custom stations.

### Pandora

Get Pandora Radio on your phone.

There may be some cost for service.

### 7 Little Words

This word game is a mix between a crossword puzzle and an anagram.

### Clever Clues

A challenging word game.

The app is free but you can purchase other packages of puzzles.

### DiceWorld

Play different dice games, post your scores to social media.

The app is free but you can purchase dice, etc.

### Audio Archery

Use your ears to track the target and fire your arrow.

Completely audio app, no pictures.

### Accessible Fruit Machine

Play slots on your phone.

Match different fruits to win big.

### YouTube

Audio and videos for just about anything.

This is listed under entertainment but you can use it to do so much more.

Learn to do various projects, get great tips, or just entertain yourself.

# More Information on Apple Devices and Apps

This is only a partial listing. There are numerous other accessible apps out there. A good resource for searching for such apps is a website called Applevis. The address is [www.applevis.com](http://www.applevis.com). There is a lot of information on this site including reviews of the apps, detailed information on the level of accessibility of each app, as well as a short description.

Other blind users also can write their comments and rate the apps.

Below is the direct link to browse the Applevis site for iPhone and iPad apps.

<http://www.applevis.com/ios-app-directory/browse>

There is also a site called Mac for the Blind that might have some useful information.

[www.macfortheblind.com](http://www.macfortheblind.com)

You might also want to sign up for the Top Tech Tidbits email newsletter from Flying Blind.

[http://www.flying-blind.com](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Tztefmh7pynec6o15c2OMpiTNkRvll3PpfwJ3YGFTXgDHHzimxERyP-FIrattbjYf9yYtLNisDQgKvpQ5BPrkhifEMiPUGvjw6YoukdL-f7YhVoAkUELmiEAr2XMT4GyvaLdOCLKCqnVuFBFDmmRqaYFflvLRZ5gS_QMDuxuBRk=&c=BfK1sVS6q7fRUSa6vxPwUMSFV_v1pdTc5B4JBVRSqsU6bJDaRIeMeQ==&ch=lgWTPzMIkSvpZJ7NFtYcR54DQi6tifpZIiEB_DlHpCuZbf-y6pYQlQ==)