

A guide to talking mobile phones and mobile phone software

This guide highlights the features of talking mobile phones available as well as software that can be installed on mainstream mobiles to make them accessible. If you are looking for a mobile phone with clear design and large print display, visit our website rnib.org.uk/shop

Contact our dedicated **Technology Support Team** on **0845 900 0015** or **020 7391 2280**, or by email ict@rnib.org.uk for more information.

Please note: prices are correct at time of publishing, please call for latest pricing and availability. Standard rate VAT at 20% applies.

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Apple iPhone

The iPhone from Apple has VoiceOver screen reader software built-in and operates out of the box. The iPhone is a touchscreen phone, with nearly all aspects of the phone controlled by icons on the screen. With VoiceOver enabled, you can control the iPhone using a simple set of gestures. A simple press or tap on the screen will give you a description of the button you pressed. A double tap will activate the button, and sliders are controlled by sliding your finger up or down the screen.

The latest iPhone 4S (October 2011) also has new Siri speech recognition software built in which is described as a personal assistant and under instruction will make calls, send messages, control apps, schedule appointments and reminders.

There are hundreds of thousands of iPhone apps (applications), many of which are accessible. Apps include:

- iBooks for downloading and reading the latest books as well as free ones
- Radio apps for listening to the radio from around the world
- GPS apps for finding your way
- Social Networking apps for Twitter and Facebook
- Apps for keeping up to date with news, sport and anything else you can think of
- Apps for finding the time of your next train, tube or bus

The iPhone is widely available on the high street with prices starting from around £320.00 (version 3), £500 (version 4s) for an unlocked model and starting at £30 a month on a contract from various providers. Prices correct at time of publishing.

Getting started with the iPhone: an introduction for blind users

Learning to use Voiceover and the iPhone can be a frustrating experience to begin with, but you'll be glad you stuck with it in the end. To help get up and running quickly, this guide provides step by step instructions of the main features and real world examples to illustrate how it works. Before long you'll be making calls, text messaging, sending emails, surfing the web and downloading new apps. [Getting started with the iPhone: an introduction for blind users](#) is available from RNIB in braille and DAISY, **priced £12.99 each**.

Software for Symbian phones (Nokia)

Nuance TALKS™ Premium edition

TALKS™ Premium is a screen reader which runs on Symbian-based mobile phones, including Nokias. It converts the contents of the display into speech, allowing you to use all the features of the phone. It will read out call lists, contacts, messages, echo key presses, change profiles and aid browsing the internet. TALKS™ Premium edition includes ZOOMS™ screen magnification software to give low vision users magnification and speech together

- works through keystrokes on the keypad
- simple keystrokes to hear caller ID, time and date, network and battery information, signal strength and other phone status indicators.
- adjust the speed, volume and verbosity of the speech
- training mode talks you through the phone's keys and functions
- choose from the Eloquence voice (familiar to JAWS users), or alternatively from the range of RealSpeak voices for a more natural-sounding human voice
- read by line or word and spell individual words at a slower rate when reading or writing text messages, emails and notes
- numbers longer than four digits can be read as single digits, pairs or whole numbers
- support for braille displays via Bluetooth (wireless) connection, to read the screen contents in braille, and control many of the phone's functions from a braille keyboard, making it accessible to blind and deafblind users.

Nuance TALKS™ Premium edition software (HM03) **Priced £150.00 ex VAT, £180.00 inc VAT.** Blind and partially sighted people do not pay VAT on this product.

Nokia C5 mobile phone pre-installed with TALKS Premium

This unlocked phone has TALKS Premium pre-installed and is ready to use straight out of the box. The Nokia C5 is a "candy-bar style" phone with a large, full colour screen and tactile keys. The number keys are raised towards the centre to form a bump which helps to distinguish one button from another. Call our Helpline or visit our online shop for more information about the **Nokia C5 with TALKS bundle** (HM35). **Priced £299.99 ex VAT, £323.38 inc VAT.** Please note full rate VAT applies to the phone, but blind and partially sighted people do not pay VAT on the specially designed software, meaning overall there is a different rate of VAT applied to this bundle.

Nuance ZOOMS™

ZOOMS™ is an easy-to-use magnification software package for low vision users for use on a Symbian based mobile phone, which can magnify the screen up to 16 times its original size.

- display can be switched into black and white or greyscale for easier viewing, and text can be set to scroll automatically across the screen
- ability to keep all-important areas of the display in view with the distributed views mode, or keep focus on what you are writing with the full screen mode
- improve the legibility of text and graphics by inverting colours
- simple keystrokes to alter magnification levels, switch between full screen and distributed views
- ability to magnify network, battery level, signal strength and other phone status indicators
- set scrolling speed for text.

Available from [TalkNav](http://talknav.com) (talknav.com) or [Computer Room Services](http://comproom.co.uk) (comproom.co.uk), priced **£125.00 ex VAT, £150.00 inc VAT**.

Compatible Nokia handsets

Nuance software can be installed on many, but not all, Symbian based mobiles. The following list of compatible handsets is correct at the time of writing, but may be subject to change. It is not definitive, and some models may be more readily available than others. Before you purchase the software, we recommend you contact our **Technology Support Team** or your current mobile phone supplier for up-to-date information on existing and new models.

Nokia C5, Nokia C5-00 5MP, Nokia C7-00, Nokia N8-00, Nokia E7-00, Nokia C5-03, Nokia C6-01, Nokia E6-00 (web browser and e-mail not yet supported), Nokia 5228 Xpress Music, Nokia E5-00

The [Nuance website](http://nuance.com) (nuance.com) maintains a list of all the [handsets that support TALKS and ZOOMS](#) including technical specifications.

TALKS™ preinstalled with Vodafone

Vodafone sell three mobile phones with TALKS standard speech software pre-installed. This version of Talks does not include Zooms and it does not have a user dictionary to add new words and improve pronunciation. This software is only available from Vodafone and is not available to purchase separately. You can upgrade this version of TALKS to Premium for £50.00 by contacting RNIB after you have bought your package from Vodafone.

Currently, Vodafone offer TALKS installed on Nokia models C5-03, C7, E7, N8 and 6700 Slide. Prices vary depending on your choice of airtime contract. For more information please contact [Vodafone](#) on 08700 733 222.

Mobile Speak and Mobile Magnifier

Mobile Speak (screen reader) and Mobile Magnifier (magnification) applications can be installed Symbian mobile phones or Windows Mobile Smartphones.

Mobile Speak supports calls, text messages, emails, browsing the internet, viewing the list of dialled, received and missed calls, managing contacts, appointments, and altering settings. There are three verbosity options available depending on how much information you wish to be spoken, it supports most major European languages as well as Chinese and Arabic, and is available with a choice of speech synthesizers. **Priced £125.00 ex VAT, £150.00 inc VAT.**

Mobile Magnifier automatically detects and magnifies the area of interest as you navigate through the user interface of your handset. Offers high contrast colour reading schemes for those who find particular colour combinations beneficial and Hot Keys for the most common features and different areas to be displayed. **Price £90.00 ex VAT and £108.00 inc VAT.**

Both are available from [Rammland](http://rammland.net) (rammland.net), [Computer Room Services](http://comproom.co.uk) (comproom.co.uk) or [TalkNav](http://talknav.com) (talknav.com).

Loadstone GPS software

This free GPS satellite navigation software for Symbian phones has been developed with support from RNIB and works in conjunction with TALKS and Mobile Speak. The software is "open source" meaning the program is constantly evolving with developers adding new features based on user feedback. Loadstone GPS is totally free to use, however it will use the chargeable data connection on your phone so check you package or pay as you go options with your network provider.

- mapping information is from public sources. You can add way points and additional information to the mapping database on your phone. You can share your stored information with other Loadstone users via an online share point resource
- there is no direct technical support from the developers, although there is a full set of instructions to help you get the most out of the software. There is also an active mailing list, where you can find support direct from other users by posting your questions
- System requirements: TALKS version 3.1 or above, installed on a Symbian S60 version 2 or version 3 handset, Bluetooth GPS receiver, data subscription (GPRS, EDGE or 3G/UMTS) from your mobile operator/wireless carrier.

For more information please visit the [loadstone website](http://loadstone-gps.com) (loadstone-gps.com).

K N F B reader software (OCR)

The K N F B reader is software that can be added to Symbian phones to enable you to photograph a printed document and convert it into text. When combined with Talks Premium it enables you to photograph printed documents and listen to them when you are out and about. You can save images and text so you can listen to the document later and the reading speed can be adjusted to suit you. The software analyses the camera image and provides audible feedback to help you line up the document and ensure your document is aligned correctly.

Compatible with the following Nokia mobile phones: 6220 Classic, 6700 Slide, C5, N79, N82, N85, N86 8MP, N95 8GB, N95 NAM, E71 and E73.

KNFB reader software (HM15) **Priced £499.00 ex VAT, £598.80 inc VAT.** Blind and partially sighted people do not pay VAT on this product.

Software for Android phones

Mobile Accessibility is a suite of 10 accessible applications including Phone, Contacts, SMS, Alarm, Calendar, Email, Web, Where am I, Apps and Settings which have been specially designed. Install the app onto an Android smartphone handset and use the simplified menu system to access various features. Information is spoken using Nuance Vocalizer® voice synthesiser.

With Mobile Accessibility you can manage phone calls, contacts, text messages, alarms, full web browsing, calendar, access to Gmail account, apps, settings and quick access to date, time and key phone information. The “Where am I?” GPS application gives updates on your current location. This software is available on all Android phones running Android version 2.1 or later. You can download a free 30 day trial from the Android app store.

Useful links

Nuance (nuance.co.uk)

Loadstone free GPS (loadstone-gps.com)

Apple - Accessibility (apple.com/accessibility)

Contact details

For information and advice on RNIB's full range of accessible phones, Daisy players, computers and GPS software contact our **Technology Support Team** on 0845 900 0015 or 0207 391 2280

Email: ict@rnib.org.uk

To buy or browse our full range of products visit rnib.org.uk/shop
Telephone our Helpline on: 0303 123 9999 or email shop@rnib.org.uk

Rammland (rammland.net)

Mobile Speak/Magnifier

Telephone: 07801 73 47 22

Email: enquiries@rammland.net

Computer Room Services (comproom.co.uk)

TALKS, ZOOMS, Mobile Speak/Magnifier, Mobile Accessibility for Android

Telephone: 01438 74 22 86 Mobile: 07956 33 49 38

Email: steve@comproom.co.uk

TalkNav (talknav.com)

TALKS, ZOOMS, Mobile Speak/Magnifier

Telephone: 0161 277 7997

Email: service@talknav.com

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- Products and publications e-newsletter, keeping you informed about new product launches and providing exclusive reader offers. Email productnews@rnib.org.uk and let us know if you would prefer plain text or html format.

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