

Low-Cost & No Cost Assistive Technology Solutions

Presented by

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Low cost or No Cost Assistive Technology for the Computer

Name	Description	Price/Company/Web Address	Computer	Disabilities
Windows Vista Accessibility Features	Magnifier -- Magnifiers screen in separate window Speech Recognition Narrator -- Limited screen reading On-Screen Keyboard Mouse Keys Sticky Keys / Filter Keys Visual Notifications	Free Microsoft http://www.microsoft.com/enable/products/windowsvista/	Windows Vista	Various
Mac OSX Accessibility Features	VoiceOver -- screen reader Talking Clock Screen Magnification Visual Alert Closed Captioning in Quicktime and DVD Player Automator -- records keystrokes and commands Speech Recognition -- for commands only On-Screen keyboard Slow keys / Sticky Keys Mouse Keys Built-in Dictionary and Thesarus Spelling and Grammar Checking	Free Apple http://www.apple.com/accessibility	Mac OSX	Various
Desktop Zoom	Small but powerful screen magnification utility with basic speech support, the full screen magnification mode, tracking of windows objects and caret. Other features include magnification around the mouse, magnification in a fixed window, caret tracking, font smoothing, save settings and basic speech support.	Free http://users.telenet.be/littlegems/MySoft/DesktopZoom/Index.html	Windows XP, Windows Vista (must disable Aero)	Vision

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Magnifying Glass Pro	An intermediate screen magnifier, with support for full-screen magnification and tracking of mouse cursor and input caret. Included are some unique features like targets and mouse shaking.	\$24.95 (free trial available) Workers Collection http://www.workerscollection.com/wcollect/english/html/mg_pro.html	Windows 98, 2000, XP Vista	Vision
Virtual Magnifying Glass	Open source screen magnifier, for Windows, Linux, FreeBSD and Mac OS X.	Free Open Source http://magnifier.sourceforge.net	Windows, Mac OSX, Linux, FreeBSD	Vision
Large Pointers 1.0	Over 80 additional pointers and cursors for those with visual or perceptual difficulties. Icon styles include animated, colored, large, I-beams and circles.	Free Ace Center http://ace-centre.hostinguk.com/ (then click on "Software" then click on "Large Pointers 1.0")	Windows	Vision
Philip's Large Coloured Cursors	Large mouse cursors for Windows versions starting with Windows 95.	Free Author: Philip Henderson http://www.philip-henderson.co.uk/cursor.shtml	Windows 95/98, 2000, XP	Vision
RapidSet	Allows quick and easy changing of the background and font colors, without having to go through the Screen Properties dialogs.	Free http://www.fxc.btinternet.co.uk/assistive.htm	Windows	Vision
Sonar 4	Provides an expanded ring around the mouse pointer for those with difficulty locating the pointer. Unlike Windows XP, this program places a permanent ring around the pointer with the option to vary the color of the Sonar ring.	Free http://www.fxc.btinternet.co.uk/assistive.htm	Windows	Vision

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NonVisual Desktop Access (NVDA)	Free and open-source screen reader for the Windows Operating System. Allows the user to access and interact with all parts of the Windows operating system. Works with programs such as Internet Explorer, MS Word, Excel and Outlook. Comes in a portable version that works without needing to be installed on the computer.	Free NVAccess http://www.nvda-project.org/	Windows XP, Windows Vista	Vision
SystemAccess To Go	System Access To Go, made by Serotek, is a full-blown screen reader for Windows that is initiated via the web. It also works as a talking screen magnifier. Linking to the System Access To Go site will begin a process in which the user downloads a small executable and runs it. The executable stays connected to Serotek and loads a screen reader. The software is on the user's machine until the browser is exited.	Free (online version only) Serotek Corporation http://www.satogo.com/	Windows XP, Windows Vista	Vision
System Access Mobile	Commercial screenreader with magnification which runs from any computer via a flash drive. Company offers free license for any visually impaired child in grades K-12.	\$499 or Free for children in grades K-12. Serotek Corporation http://www.serotek.com/kk12.html	Windows XP, Windows Vista	Vision
Fire Vox	An open source, freely available talking browser extension for the Firefox web browser. Think of it as a screen reader that is designed especially for Firefox. In addition to the basic features that are expected of screen readers, such as being able to identify headings, links, images, etc. and providing navigational assistance.	Free Author: Charles Chen http://firevox.clcworld.net/	Windows, Macintosh, Linux	Vision, Learning

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ReadPlease 2003	Windows program which reads text from any program via the Windows clipboard. Works with Windows Vista.	Free; Plus version not free http://www.readplease.com/english/readplease.php	Windows XP, Windows Vista	Vision, Learning
DSpeech	DSpeech is a TTS (Text To Speech) program with functionality of ASR (Automatic Speech Recognition). It is able to read aloud the written text and choose the sentences to be pronounced based upon the vocal answers of the user.	Free Author: Dimitrios Coutsoumbas http://dimio.altervista.org/eng/	Windows NT, 2000, XP, VISTA	Vision, Learning
TextAloud	TextAloud uses voice synthesis to convert text into spoken audio. Listen on your PC or create MP3 or WMA files for use on portable devices like iPods, PocketPCs, and CD players.	\$30.00 Add AT&T Natural Voices Crystal and Mike for \$25 more. Nextup Technologies http://www.nextup.com		
Text Cloner Pro	Scanning program that converts printed material into electronic text. Does not have its own voice for reading text, instead, it uses the voice from a screen reader program such as JAWS.	\$99.95 Premier Assistive Technology http://www.readingmadeez.com/products/TextClonerPro.html	Windows XP, Vista	Vision
Scan and Read Pro	Converts printed material into electronic text. Features Include: Full Color or Black and White scanning, highlight by Word, Sentence or Paragraph while reading, adjustable spacing for lines, words and characters, selectable voices with adjustable voice rates, talking Spell check with 250,000+ Word Dictionary, Zooms (magnifies) up to 400%, Can open existing documents (e.g., MS WORD), works with any USB TWAIN compatible scanner. Multiple languages, Predictor Pro Word Prediction, Can create MP3 and WAV audio files.	\$150 Premier Assistive Technology http://www.readingmadeez.com/products/scanreadpro.html	Windows XP, Vista	Vision, Learning

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Ultimate Talking Dictionary	Comprehensive dictionary with over 250,000 words. Looks up words that you highlight in other programs (word processing, Internet). Reads the definitions aloud. Can also highlight each word as it is spoken. Can suggest the correct spelling for words that are not typed correctly.	\$39.95 Premier Assistive Technology http://www.readingmadeez.com/products/UltimateTalkingDictionary.html	Windows XP, Vista	Vision, Learning
PowerTalk	Program that automatically speaks any presentation or slide show running in Microsoft PowerPoint for Windows. Speaks the text on any presentation and uses standard Windows speech.	Free http://fullmeasure.co.uk/powertalk/	Windows 98 SE, 2000, XP, Vista, Office 2003 and 2007	Vision, Learning
WordTalk	Plug-in for use with all versions of Microsoft Word (from Word 97 upwards), which can speak the text of the document and will highlight it as it goes. It contains a talking dictionary. It allows you to adjust the highlight colors, the voice and the speed of the speech.	Free Call Centre http://callcentre.education.ed.ac.uk/wordtalk/index.html	Windows	Learning, Vision
ieSpell	A free Internet Explorer browser extension that spell checks text input boxes on a webpage. Does not require Microsoft Office or any other third party components.	Free Red Egg Software http://www.iespell.com/	Windows	Learning
Click, Speak	Click, Speak is part of the CLC-4-TTS Suite of products, it features a mouse driven interface, and it reads web pages and sections thereof. Click, Speak is designed for sighted users who want text-to-speech functionality. It doesn't identify elements or announce events - two features that are very important for visually impaired users but annoying for sighted users.	Free Author: Charles Chen http://clickspeak.clcworld.net/	Windows, Macintosh, Linux	Learning

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Inspiration	Concept mapping software to organize, visualize, and present ideas. User creates a diagram with various concepts which can then be transformed into an outline. The diagram and/or outline can then be transferred into MS Word.	\$69.00 Inspiration Software Inc. http://www.inspiration.com	Windows, Mac OSX, Pocket PC, Plam OS	Learning
ADD Planner	Software planner specifically designed for adults and teens with Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD).	\$54.95 Wolf in the Moon Software http://www.addplanner.com	Windows 98, 2000, XP	Learning, ADD
LetMeType	Word prediction software that runs in the background, it analyzes what you type and guesses a word after you have typed only the first two or three letters. A list of the most probable words is displayed, and you can select one with a single keystroke or just continue typing.	Free Author: Carsten Clasohm http://www.clasohm.com/lmt/en/	Windows XP, Windows Vista	Physical, Learning
Dwell Clicker	Windows program to use the mouse without pressing the buttons.	Free Sensory Software International http://www.sensorysoftware.com/dwellclicker.html	Windows	Physical
Autohotkey	Open-source utility for Windows. You can automate almost anything by sending keystrokes and mouse clicks. You can write a mouse or keyboard macro by hand or use the macro recorder. Create hotkeys for keyboard, joystick, and mouse. Virtually any key, button, or combination can become a hotkey. Expand abbreviations as you type them.	Free Author: Chris Mallett http://www.autohotkey.com	Windows	Physical
Click-N-Type Virtual Keyboard	An on-screen virtual keyboard for Windows computers that allows one to type using a mouse, trackball or other pointing device.	Free Lake Software http://www.lakefolks.org/cnt	Windows 95/98, 2000, XP, Vista	Physical

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Joystick 2 Mouse	Windows program that allows you to control the mouse and keyboard using a joystick or gamepad.	Free Atzitz http://atzitznet.no-ip.org/Joy2Mouse3/	Windows	Physical
Symbol Vocab	Program aimed to help people to communicate with others using symbols and speech synthesis.	Free Author: Robert Rasiewicz http://symvoc.googlepages.com/	Windows XP, Windows Vista	Physical
AAC Keys	AAC Keys is a keyboard and mouse emulation program for Microsoft Windows-based and Macintosh computers. AAC Keys receives commands through your computer's serial port and translates them into keystrokes and mouse moves, giving you full control of your computer from another device.	Free http://www.aacinstitute.org/Resources/ProductsandServices/AACKeys/AACKeys.html	Windows XP	Physical
RapidKeys	A virtual keyboard used with a pointing device, such as a mouse. It learns from what the user types and contextually suggests words that can be typed with a single click. Also has user-defined autoexpandable abbreviations.	Free Author: Lucian Velea http://rapidkeys.netfirms.com/	Windows XP	Physical
PhraseExpress	PhraseExpress pastes all your frequently used text phrases into any Windows application.	Free and Professional versions Bartels Media GmbH http://www.phraseexpress.com		Physical, Learning
Big Calculator	A large calculator for Windows where the size of the calculator buttons is determined by the width of the calculator window. Can use SAPI 4 speech for speech output.	Free Sensory Software International www.sensorysoftware.com/bigcalculator.html	Windows	Various
Sound Timer	Windows program that plays a sound file at a certain time.	Free Sensory Software International www.sensorysoftware.com/soundtimer.html	Windows	Various

Low cost or No Cost Software for the Computer

Name	Description	Price/Company/Web Address	Computer	Disabilities
OpenOffice.org	The leading open-source office software suite for word processing, spreadsheets, presentations, graphics, databases and more. It is available in many languages and works on all common computers. It stores all your data in an international open standard format and can also read and write files from other common office software packages.	Free Author: Open Source http://www.openoffice.org	Windows, Mac OSX, Linux	
IBM Lotus Symphony	An office software sweet with programs for word processing, spreadsheets, and presentations. Can save/open files in OpenOffice format or MS Office 2003.	Free IBM http://symphony.lotus.com	Windows, Mac OSX	
TypeFaster Typing Tutor	Typing tutor software. Features include: support for multiple keyboard layouts, a clear indication of which fingers to use, 3D typing game, typing statistics, multi-user support, teacher support (view student statistics), interface for editing lesson files and game settings, backspace support, variable text size. Accessible version available for blind/visually impaired users.	Free Author: David le Roux http://www.typefastertypingtutor.com/index.html	Windows	
TheSage's English Dictionary and Thesaurus	TheSage's English Dictionary and Thesaurus is a professional software package that integrates a complete dictionary and multifaceted thesaurus of the English language.	Free Sequence Publishing http://www.sequencepublishing.com/thesage.html	Windows XP and Vista	
Flash Card Manager	Flash Card Manager is an application that lets you create and review sets of many flash cards. You can then review them when studying.	\$25.00 Vendant Software http://www.vendant.com/FlashCardManager/	Windows XP, Vista and Windows Mobile	

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Name	Description	Price/Company/Web Address	Computer	Disabilities
Hott Notes	Hott Notes is the free sticky notes reminder program for your desktop. Not only can you post sticky note reminders, you can make checklists, set alarms, draw on your notes, and archive.	Free http://www.hottnotes.com/howtouse.html	Windows	
PrimoPDF Creator	Create PDF files by printing documents to the PrimoPDF Printer driver.	Free http://www.primopdf.com/	Windows	
FireFox	Open source web browser for surfing on the Internet. A good alternative to Internet Explorer.	Free Mozilla http://www.mozilla.com/	Windows, Mac OS X	
AVG Antivirus	AVG scans files on demand, upon access, on a schedule, and in e-mail. Its rescue disks will help you recover from disaster.	Free and pay versions available Grisoft http://free.grisoft.com/	Windows	
ClamWin Antivirus	ClamWin Free Antivirus comes with an easy installer and open source code.	Free Open Source http://www.clamwin.com/	Windows (up to Vista)	
Malwarebytes Anti Malware	Removes malware programs infecting a Windows computer.	Free and pay versions available Malwarebytes http://www.malwarebytes.org/	Windows	
Super Anti-Spyware	Includes spyware scan and clean.	Free full version trial http://antispysware.org/free_super_antispysware_download.htm	Windows	
CCleaner	CCleaner is a freeware system optimization, privacy and cleaning tool. It removes unused files from your system - allowing Windows to run faster and freeing up valuable hard disk space.	Free Piriform http://www.ccleaner.com/	Windows	

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SyncToy v2.0	SyncToy helps you copy, move, rename, and delete files between folders and computers quickly and easily.	Free Microsoft http://www.microsoft.com/downloads (then click on "More popular downloads")	Windows	
Audacity	Open source easy-to-use audio editor and recorder. You can use Audacity to: 1)Record live audio, 2) Convert tapes and records into digital recordings or CDs, 3)Edit Ogg Vorbis, MP3, WAV or AIFF sound files, 4)Cut, copy, splice or mix sounds together, 5)Change the speed or pitch of a recording.	Free Author: Open Source http://audacity.sourceforge.net/	Windows, Mac OS X, Linux	
WavePad	A sound editor program for Windows. This software lets you make and edit voice and other audio recordings. You can cut, copy and paste parts of recording and, if required, add effects like echo, amplification and noise reduction.	Free NCH Software http://www.nch.com.au/wavepad	Windows, Mac OS X, Linux	
Express Scribe	ExpressScribe is free professional audio player software designed to assist the transcription of audio recordings.	Free NCH Software http://www.nch.com.au/scribe	Windows, Mac OS X, Linux	
CamStudio	CamStudio is able to record all screen and audio activity on your computer and create industry-standard AVI video files and using its built-in SWF Producer can turn those AVIs into bandwidth-friendly Streaming Flash videos.	Free CamStudio.org http://camstudio.org/	Windows	

Useful and Interesting Websites

Name	Description	Price/Company/Web Address	Computer	Disabilities
Accessible Google Search	Google Web Search with results optimized for visually impaired and blind users.	Free http://labs.google.com/accessible/		
Accessible Weather	Weather Underground provides a simple text web page with the weather for any city/state/zip code. Don't worry about the word "braille" being part of the name, you do not need to know braille to access the page.	Free http://braille.wunderground.com		
Accessible Web Browser	Webanywhere is an online service that lets you navigate web pages as with a screenreader, but requires no special software to be installed on the user's computer.	Free http://webanywhere.cs.washington.edu/		
Online Free Touch Typing Program	Web based free typing tutorial program.	http://www.sense-lang.org/typing		
SpokenText.net (Text to Speech)	SpokenText.net is a free text to speech converter, it allows you to record (English, French, Spanish or German) PDF, Word, plain text, PowerPoint files, RSS feeds, emails and web pages, and converts them to speech automatically.	Free http://www.spokentext.net/		
iSpeech.org Text to Speech	iSpeech is a free web service that allows you to convert your text to voice and gives you an option to preview/download it.	Free http://www.ispeech.org		
Reference.com Dictionary	Internet based dictionary. Special note is that the mobile version of the website (m.reference.com/d) offers an uncluttered screen.	Free http://dictionary.reference.com or http://m.reference.com/d/		
Quizlet.com Flashcards	Internet website that lets one study by entering information into flashcards.	Free http://quizlet.com/		

Useful Assistive Technology Devices

Name	Description	Price/Company/Web Address	Computer	Disabilities
StepPAD	StepPAD is a small hand-held device that works like a tape recorder. Ideal for recording step-by-step instructions. Users press “play” to hear the cue as often as needed. Press “forward” for the next step or “rewind” for the previous one. Total 72 seconds.	\$30.00 Attainment Company http://www.attainmentcompany.com/		
Pocket Timmer	A super simple, pocket-sized countdown timer ideal for letting students know when the time is up. Use to reinforce attention to task and to develop independence by alerting students when a job is done or it’s time to move on.	\$4.50 Attainment Company http://www.attainmentcompany.com/		
Voice Cue	Voice Cue is an all-new, discrete auditory cueing device. Record up to five messages (60 seconds total recording time) and set the clock to play back messages at pre-set times.	\$40.00 Attainment Company http://www.attainmentcompany.com/		
ezRead Electronic Magnifier	Hand-held camera that connects to the video input on a television in order to magnify text and graphics for viewing and reading.	\$99.95 Available from MaxiAids on the Internet at: www.maxiaids.com Item number 606200		