



Unlocking Accessibility: Essential Apps for the Deaf, hard of hearing, blind and partially sighted community

Unlocking Accessibility: Essential Apps for Mobile and Tablet Devices on Android and Apple iOS. This curated selection aims to empower individuals within the Deaf, hard of hearing, blind and partially sighted community by addressing common daily challenges. Our carefully chosen apps strive to promote independence and enhance accessibility, fostering a more inclusive digital experience. We invite you to explore these tools and welcome any personal recommendations to enrich our list, contact us at technology@sightforsurrey.org.uk.

Apps for the Hard of Hearing and Deaf Community

Roger Voice

This app is designed to enable the Deaf and hard of hearing community to make calls by providing a transcribe facility. It also offers the option to communicate via the keyboard with text to voice if speech is also a problem.

Operating System

Android 6.0 Marshmallow / Apple iOS 15 (Minimum).

Website: <https://rogervoice.com>

Tap SOS

TapSOS is a revolutionary emergency response app designed to provide swift assistance to individuals in times of crisis. With its intuitive interface and customisable features, including visual, auditory, and text-based communication options, TapSOS ensures accessibility for users with diverse abilities. By prioritising reliability and security, the app delivers peace of mind, allowing users to activate SOS alerts and connect with emergency contacts quickly and effectively. TapSOS is a lifeline in your pocket, empowering users to navigate emergencies with confidence.

Operating System

Android 5.1 Lollipop / Apple iOS 8.0 (Minimum).

Website: <https://tapsos.com>

AVA/ AVA CC

AVA is a cutting-edge app revolutionising communication for individuals who are Deaf or hard of hearing. With its real-time captioning feature, AVA transcribes spoken conversations into text, enabling users to follow along effortlessly. The app integrates seamlessly with Android, iPhones Microsoft Windows and Apple iMacs ensuring accessibility in a diverse range of settings. Additionally, AVA facilitates group conversations, allowing multiple users to participate simultaneously. By breaking down communication barriers, AVA empowers users to engage more fully in social interactions and everyday conversations.

AVA Operating Systems

Android 8.0 Lollipop / Apple iOS 8.0 (Minimum).

AVA CC Operating System

Windows XP SP 1/2, 7, 8, 10, 11 /Mac 14 iOS (Minimum).

Website: <https://www.ava.me>

Apps for the Vision Impaired Community

Be My Eyes

This free app is designed to connect blind and visually impaired individuals with sighted volunteers worldwide via live video calls.

Through the app, users can request assistance with tasks like reading labels, identifying objects, or navigating unfamiliar surroundings. Volunteers receive notifications when someone needs help and can assist in real-time through the video call feature.

Operating System

Android 6.0 Marshmallow / Apple iOS 13.6 (Minimum).

Website: <https://www.bemyeyes.com>

Seeing AI

Seeing AI is a free app that narrates the world around you. Designed with and for the visually impaired this ongoing research project harnesses the power of AI to open up the visual world by describing nearby people, text, and objects.

Operating System

Android 10 Quince tart / Apple iOS 13.6 (Minimum).

Website: <https://www.seeingai.com>

Lookout Assisted Vision

This free app uses a smartphone camera to help the visually impaired identify objects quickly, read text aloud, documents, and identify food labels.

The explore feature enables you to receive descriptive feedback about your surroundings, enhancing your spatial awareness.

Operating System

Android 6 Marshmallow / Not available on iOS (Minimum)

Website: <https://bit.ly/LookoutApp>

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Operating System

Android 5.1 Lollipop / Apple iOS 8.0 (Minimum).

Website: <https://tapsos.com>

WeZoom

The WeZoom Magnifier app offers a range of features designed to improve visibility and accessibility, including adjustable magnification, high-contrast modes, and customisable colour schemes to enhance readability and reduce eye strain.

One-Tap Activation: Activate the magnifier with just a single tap, ensuring quick access whenever it's needed, whether you're reading a menu in a dimly lit restaurant or examining fine print.

Operating System

Android 4.2 Jelly Bean / Not available on iOS (Minimum).

Website: <https://bit.ly/WeZoom>

Lazarillo

Lazarillo is the ultimate navigation app designed to make your travels easier, safer, and more efficient. Packed with powerful features, Lazarillo offers a seamless navigation experience tailored to your needs.

Key Features:

Accessible Navigation: Lazarillo is built with accessibility in mind, providing clear and concise directions for users with visual impairments or disabilities.

Points of Interest: Discover nearby points of interest, including restaurants, shops, ATMs, and more, with detailed descriptions and reviews.

Public Transportation Integration: Plan your journey using public transportation routes, schedules, and real-time updates to streamline your commute.

Offline Access: Access maps and directions even without an internet connection, perfect for travelling in areas with limited connectivity.

Operating System

Android 6.0 (Marshmallow) / 13.0 iOS (Minimum).

Website: <https://lazarillo.app>

For help and advice please contact us on:

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