



Android Select to Speak

Installing and Enabling Select to Speak:

Select-to-Speak is a screen reader software that enables you to select sections of text on your screen to be read aloud to you. Unlike a typical screen reading software like TalkBack, this is a simpler solution for those with low vision rather than blindness. Please note Android phones vary and your phone may have slightly different steps.

Before starting, we should first ensure that we have the Android Accessibility Suite app downloaded from the Google Play store. To do this, open your Google Play store and search “Android Accessibility Suite.” Once you have found the application, choose to install it. This is a free app and should not require a payment or anything additional to download onto your phone.

Next, we need to enable Select to Speak in our Settings app. To do this, open Settings and then tap on the Accessibility sub-menu. Once you are in the Accessibility sub-menu, the method to turning on Select to Speak is different for each type of Android phone. For most Samsung phones, you can find Select to Speak under Visibility Enhancements or Installed Services. For Google phones, you can find Select to Speak under Display.

Once you have found Select to Speak, tap on the switch to enable the Select to Speak shortcut. A pop-up may show, and you should choose the “Allow” option.

Many phones default to Select to Speak using the “Accessibility button,” which is an icon of a person with their arms and legs out in the bottom right corner of the screen, provided you are using the navigation bar (meaning you have a back, home, and recents button at the bottom of your screen already). If it prompts you to choose how to enable the feature, choose the Accessibility button and uncheck any other option.

Using Select-to-Speak

There’s a little person in the bottom right corner of your screen.

When you tap the person it will activate select-to-speak. You can either tap directly on a section you want read to you OR a menu with a stop button and an arrow appears. To have the full screen read to you, tap the arrow to the left of the stop symbol and a play button with controls will appear. Hit the play button to have the full screen read to you.

If the play button is difficult to see, ignore the controller and simply drag your finger from the top of the screen to the bottom.

Touch the stop button (red circle) to stop reading.