



MS Windows

Getting Online: Screen Reader

Getting Around on the Web

Here are some tips and tricks for getting around on the web using a screen reader. You'll learn how to move back and forth between web pages, and about browser tabs for when you need more than one website open at a time.

These instructions are for using the Google Chrome browser along with NVDA as a screen reader, but the concepts are pretty similar no matter which screen reader and browser you're using. **Try it out.**

1. Use the shortcut Alt + D to get to your address bar.
2. Open a website, such as nlsbard.loc.gov. This site is for downloading audio and braille books.

Tip: If you're not familiar with BARD, Hadley has a whole series that will get you up and running with this service, so be sure to check that out.

3. If it was a site you visited before, the screen reader fills in the address after the first couple letters that you type. The browser tries to predict the address you're typing to save you time and fills in the rest. You can always verify the address you've filled in by pressing the NVDA key plus the up arrow key.
4. Start exploring the web page by pressing your down arrow key.
5. Once you get to something that interests you, such as the list of books and magazines added in the last 30 days, press the Enter key to open it.
6. Once you're on the web page, bring up your elements list with NVDA + F7 to get a list of links.
7. Press the Enter key to open a link.
8. Bring up a list of links again with NVDA + F7, or just use the H key to move by heading, since all of the titles have headings.
9. Press the Alt key plus the left arrow key to go back to your previous page.

10. Press the Alt key plus the right arrow key to move forward a page.
11. Keep in mind each time you close your browser, you'll be starting fresh, so the Alt + left arrow keystroke won't take you anywhere since there's no previously visited page to go back to.

How to Open a New Web Page While Leaving the Current Web Page Open

12. Press Control + T to open a new tab without closing the current one.
13. In the new browser window, type another website, such as target.com and press the Enter key.

How to Move Back and Forth Between Web Pages

14. You can switch back to the BARD website by pressing Control plus your Tab key.
15. When you get to the place you want to be, stop holding down the Control key.

How to Close a Web Page

16. When you're done with one website, such as the target.com website, press the Control key plus the letter W to close it.
17. To get back to the start page, which is what you see when you first open your browser, press the Alt key and the Home key.

Now you know how to get around on the web. Try another workshop to learn more.