



Android: Low Vision

Select to Speak

Your Android device can take the text you've selected on the screen and read it out loud to you.

This is different from using TalkBack—when you turn that on, it is always reading information whenever you use the phone. Select to speak reads only the text you've selected. **Check it out.**

Tip: If you'd like to learn more about TalkBack, check out Hadley's Android series "Listen with TalkBack."

1. On the home screen, tap the **Settings** app to open it.
2. Scroll down to the **Accessibility** settings. Tap the **Accessibility** option to see the settings.
3. Scroll below the **Display** heading to find **Select to speak**.

Tip: If you don't see **Select to speak**, go the Play Store to download the latest version of **Android Accessibility Suite**. If you'd like a hand with that, just reach out to a Hadley learning expert.

Tip: And if you'd like to select a different language or voice for all the Android features that read text aloud, just reach out to a Hadley learning expert for more info.

4. Tap on **Select to speak** to explore its options.

Tip: You can turn it on with the toggle switch, but tapping the words gives you options.

5. A screen will ask you to allow **Select to speak** to have full control of your device. Scroll down and select **Allow**. This way the feature can read any text on your screen.
6. Then you can choose your shortcut. Select **Tap Accessibility button**. Select **Save** at the bottom right of your screen.
7. Now you can turn on **Select to speak** just by tapping the **Accessibility button** inside the navigation bar at the bottom right of the screen.

Tip: To learn how to make changes to the **Accessibility button**, reach out to a Hadley learning expert.

Using Select to Speak

You can try this feature out on an app of your choice.

8. Touch and hold the **Accessibility button**. A popup will let you choose which feature you want to use the next time you tap the **Accessibility button**. Tap **Select to speak**.

Tip: If you completed previous workshops in this series, you will have set two different features to use the **Accessibility button**, **Select to speak**, and **Magnification**.

9. Open an app that has something you'd like to read.
10. Quickly tap the **Accessibility button** in the bottom right of the screen. A toolbar will appear with:
 - **Stop** button on the right
 - **Play** button to the left of **Stop**
 - **Left arrow**: tapping this expands the toolbar with more buttons

Tip: If you don't select any text for 10 seconds, the toolbar will get small.

11. Tap an area of the text you have open, like a title. The text highlights and your phone reads it aloud.

Tip: The toolbar disappears after the text has been read. Just touch the **Accessibility button to bring it back.**

12. To read a section of text, use your finger to touch and drag down the screen to select the section you want to hear read.
13. To hear all of the text on the screen, touch the **Play** button in the **Select to speak** toolbar.
14. Other options in the toolbar become available when you tap the left arrow. The **Plus (+)** and **Minus (-)** icons can change the talking speed, and the **Pause** button will pause the reading.

How did that go? It can be a nice option when you just want to quickly listen to an article or email rather than read it. With continual use, features like this become more helpful.

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