Assistive Technology for Deaf-Blindness

easterseals Crossroads

Individuals with deaf-blindness have both hearing and visual impairments — making it challenging for affected individuals to communicate with each other. However, there is a broad range of hearing and vision aids as well as devices with accessibility features and apps to aid in communication.

MOBILE APPS
- **AVA:** An instant speech-to-text app that provides 24/7 real-time audio transcription
- **Rogervoice:** First software that can live subtitle all phone conversations in more than 80 languages
- **Sound Amplifier:** Improves audio quality by enhancing and amplifying sounds from the real world
- **Subtitle Viewer:** Synchronizes with television or movies to display subtitles in real time
- **ntouch:** Mobile sign language communication with the best possible video relay service (VRS)
- **Wavello:** Video chat app for the hearing to communicate with those who are deaf
- **QR & Barcode Scanner:** Quickly captures the product bar and verbally announces information
- **Color Blind Pal:** Allows those with color blindness or color deficiency to see colors more clearly
- **EyeNote:** Recognizes U.S. paper currency and communicates verbally back to the user
- **BuzzCards:** Helps people who are deaf communicate easily with those who don't know sign language
- **Seeing AI/Lookout:** Uses computer vision to assist people with low vision or blindness
- **Be My Eyes:** Connects people needing sighted support with a global community of helpers

AMPLIFIED PHONES AND ACCESSORIES
- **Clarity JV35W Big Button Braille Phone:** Features jumbo-size buttons with braille characters
- **Panasonic 40db Phone with Talking Caller ID:** Six voice tone settings and slows speed of speech
- **CapTel Caption Phone:** Works with a no-cost captioning service to show every word caller says
- **Clarity 55173 Super Loud Ringer:** Features adjustable ring volume and ringtone control
- **Portable Phone Amplifier:** Increases incoming sounds allowing for more amplification

VIRTUAL ASSISTANT DEVICES
- **Amazon Alexa:** Virtual artificial intelligence (AI) smart assistant from Amazon
- **Amazon Echo Show:** Smart speaker enabled with a touchscreen, featuring Alexa
- **Amazon Dot:** Compact dot device with built-in microphone and speaker, featuring Alexa
- **Google Home:** Mobile app for controlling smart home devices that work with Google Assistant
- **Google Assistant:** Voice control software like Amazon Alexa or Siri

VIDEO MAGNIFIERS
- **Merlin Elite Pro:** Desktop video magnifier (CCTV) with HD camera and full-page text-to-speech (OCR)
- **Topaz PHD Portable CCTV:** Lightweight video magnifier with collapsible, portable design
- **RUBY:** Handheld video magnifier with 4.3-inch screen to magnify items from two to 14 times the size

COMPUTER SOFTWARE AND ACCESSORIES
- **ZoomText Magnifier:** Advanced screen magnification program that enlarges and enhances everything on the computer screen
- **JAWS:** Job Access With Speech, the world's most popular screen reader, providing speech and braille output for computer applications
- **Fusion:** Combines the power of ZoomText and JAWS to provide the ultimate accessibility tool for any level of vision impairment
- **NVDA:** NonVisual Desktop Access, a free and open-source portable screen reader for Microsoft Windows
- **Large Print Keyboard:** Standard QWERTY keyboard with larger and bolded characters
- **Braille Display:** Connected to a computer, smartphone or tablet, fed information from a screen reader — information presented to the user with a series of adjustable braille cells