

Introduction
Digital Assistive Technology

Content

- What are smart devices, and what are some of the differences between them?
- What are some of the options available to make your device easier to use?
- What is an app, and why would you need one?
- How can you use smart devices to increase social connections?
- There are also other workshops in this series which will go into further detail

What are Smart devices?

- Smart Phones
- Laptops
- Tablets
- Smart Watches
- Smart home technology
 - Smart locks
 - Smart lighting

How do you choose which device is right for you?

- What do you want to be able to do?
 - Video calls?
 - Prompts and reminders
- How are you going to use it?
- Is it easy to charge
- Is it compatible with your other tech
- Do you need additional features?
- Where do you want to use the device
- How does it need to be setup for you
- Can you travel with it?
- Is anyone else going to use it
- What is your internet quality like?



Why choose a phone?

- Portable
- Can support communication
- Can be used with other devices



Why choose a tablet?

- Need a larger screen
- Engaging in therapy sessions via telehealth
- Access to internet
 - Online banking
 - Emails
 - Browsing the internet



Why choose a computer?

- Specific mounting
- Need to complete more complex tasks



Why choose a smart watch?

- You often leave phone behind
- You respond better to vibrations (haptics) rather than on-screen notifications or sound
- Some watches rely on a mobile phone being nearby to make phone calls



What can digital AT do

- Allow access to:
- Social media (Facebook, Instagram, etc)
 - Video calling
 - Online gaming
 - Online communities

Connect to smart technology
Home control

Will enhance social connection

Allows you to access these things when it suits you and you can take breaks when needed.



What can digital AT do

- Information sharing and receiving
- Access to up to date information
- Communicate with service providers
- Monitor finances and NDIS funding
- Health monitoring including falls detection
- Prompts and reminders
- Apps for leisure activities
- Puzzles and brain training games
- Record Keeping
- Increased control of environment (smart home control)

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How do I use Digital Assistive

You need to be able to

- Know what is on your screen
- Identify what you want to interact with
- Interact with your target
- Write letters/ symbols

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Know or identify what is on the screen

In built features on devices:

- Magnification
- High Contrast settings
- Larger screen
- Simplified Layout

Additional Peripheral options:

- Text to speech
- Braille readers

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Hear

In built Features:

- Use of vibration or visual alerts
- Use of captions

Additional options to support function:

- Auditory hearing supports (hearing loops)
- Speech to text software or apps

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Target/ Touch

In Built Features

- Increase the size of the target
- Change the mouse speed settings/ size of the cursor
- Positioning

Additional Options

- Mouse alternatives
- Screen or keyboard guards
- Switch control

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Interact (e.g. write)

Inbuilt features

- Modified mouse controls (e.g. dwell to click or 'ignore repeats')
- Slow keys
- Sticky keys

Additional Options to support function

- Voice to text software
- Grammar applications
- Modified keyboards
- Switch control
- Eye Gaze

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Attend (pay attention to)

In Built Features

- Simplified Screen
- Use of shortcuts

Additional Options to support function

- Use of focus/ productivity apps
- Software that can highlight text
- Use of prompts/ reminders

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What is an App?

- An app is a piece of software you can download to increase device functionality.
- Apps can look different depending on whether you use a mobile device or computer
- Some apps require an internet connection or GPS
- Some are free, some require a fee, and others require an ongoing subscription.

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Apps for Visual Access

- Be my eyes
- Google lens
- Voice dream reader
- Good maps outdoor

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Apps for Physical Access

- Exercise apps
- Apps to enhance coordination



Apps to support executive functioning

- CanPlan.
- Luminosity (brain training app)
- Google calendar/Google assistant (using reminders)
- Brain in hand
- Timer
- Visual schedule planner



Apps to support emotional regulation

- Calm.
- Portal
- Trigger Stop social and emotional check in



Apps to support communication

- Proloquo2go

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Thankyou for Listening

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