Smartphones = Best Low Vision Device

Every patient experiencing changes in vision should know there are a multitude of accessibility options available in their smartphones (and tablets), designed to help compensate low vision.

Apple & Android Accessibility Settings
• Text Size increased and bolded
• Screen Brightness adjusted
• Dictation converts speech to text
• VoiceOver, Talk Back screen readers
• Zoom magnifies entire screen
• Video Magnifier up to 15x
• Reverse contrast to white text on black
• Color filters for legibility
• Speak Selection reads selected content aloud
• Speak Screen reads page aloud from top to bottom
• Highlight Content as it is spoken
• Typing Feedback spoken
• Select voice and set speaking rate
• Audio Descriptions for video content
• FaceTime, Google Duo or other apps for video calls

Voice Assistants
Siri, Google & Alexa await your voice command. Ask them to open apps, make calls, send messages, search the web, tell time, get weather, turn on lights, play music and much, much more.

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Vision Accessibility Apps

Seeing AI, by Microsoft for iOS, reads text, identifies products, people, currency, color, scenes, and handwriting.

Soundscape, by Microsoft for iOS, 3D sound narrates your surroundings, left, right and center.

LookOut, by Google for Android, camera vision delivers info in 3 modes: Explore, Shopping and Quick Read.


Aira, an acronym for AI Remote Assistance, teams artificial intelligence with live agents to help you get around and get things done. Many free services and guest locations.

Be My Eyes, volunteers on call to assist visually impaired users, when they need to borrow a better pair of eyes, and direct access to technical support for Microsoft and Google.

Accessibility Support Phone Lines

Apple Accessibility Support: 877-204-3930
Google Accessibility Support: Call on Be My Eyes app
Amazon Accessibility Service: 888-283-1678
Microsoft Accessibility Answer Desk: 800-936-5900

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