TapSpeak Choice User Manual

For TapSpeak Choice and TapSpeak Choice AAC

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TapSpeak Choice Basics

Every child's communication needs are different so TapSpeak Choice strives to make itself adaptable to communication needs. You can use the app for a wide range of applications from two-button selection boards, grow to simple communication systems, and expand all the way to full-fledged speech-generation systems.

TapSpeak Choice is delivered with a few sample pages and libraries to give you an idea on how to get started using the app. Our Choice AAC page set, a full-feature speech generation page set, is available as an In-App purchase or included with TapSpeak Choice AAC.

The idea behind TapSpeak Choice to adapt the app to your communication needs, not conform your communication to the app. You can use Pixon® symbols, your own images, or text for button images. You can use any of 88 voices in 30 languages for text-to-speech voices or your own voice recordings for button messages.

What good is an app if it isn't accessible? Our unparalleled accessibility options make assistive communication available to everyone short of eye-gaze needs, which we'll support as soon as some enterprising company makes it available! For scanners we have:

- Direct Select
- Bluetooth switch support
- One-switch auto-scanning and step-scanning
- Two-switch auto-scanning and step-scanning
- Sequential, row-column, column-row options
- Restart scanning from last position option
- Configurable scan cycles
- Private preview (with recordings only at this time)
- Selectable scan order (left/right, top/bottom)
- Separate speaking and preview messages
- Scannable and configurable keyboard

For those with motor-skill or stimming behaviors we have:

- Anti-stimming setting
- Tap mode (requires touch and release)
- Tap mode can be configured to encourage finer-grained motor control
- Touch mode (requires only a touch of a button. No release needed)
- Touch on Release mode (detects touch on release)
- Touch Averaging (averages the last few seconds of finger movement (configurable) to determine touch location)
- Touch Release and Touch Averaging works with multiple fingers or parts of the hand touching the screen.

And new for version 5.0 is a preview mode.

- Tap/Touch - initial tap announces a button and a second tap selects it. Tap buttons until you find the one you want and then touch it again to select it.

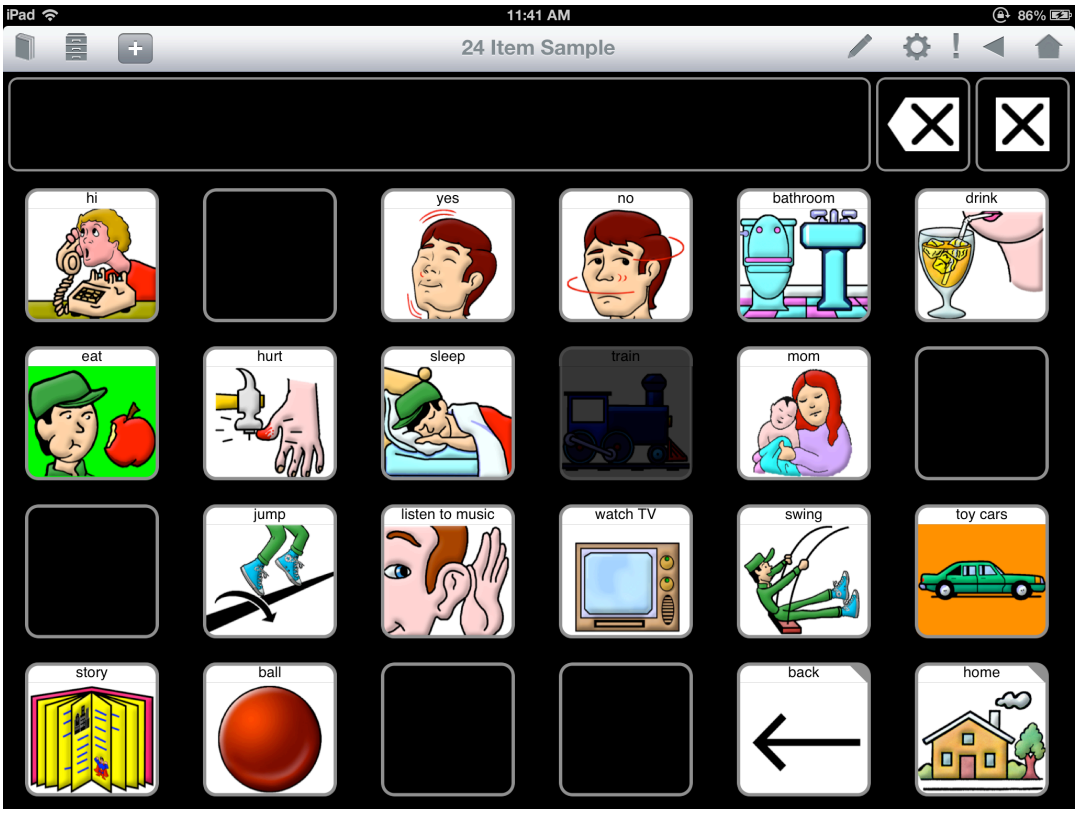
- Touch Release/Touch Average - As you drag your finger(s) along the iPad surface, buttons are announced. Release all fingers to select the button.

Taps with the whole hand, several fingers, grabbing motions, swipes, etc. can be detected using the right accessibility setting. Try different settings until you find one that works best. Contact us at help@tapspeak.com for assistance with using these new accessibility settings.

Pages/Boards

We use the idea of pages and libraries where ***a page consists of links to buttons which are stored and managed in libraries***. Starting with TapSpeak Choice 4.0, you do not have to use libraries if you don't want to use them. You can add buttons directly to a page without first creating them in a library.

Here's an example page. We'll go through each icon and page element.



Book icon - This icon displays the page list. In the page list you can create new pages, edit page information such as page gird dimensions, home page, and whether the page is editable.

Filing cabinet icon - This icon flips the display to the library view. In the library view you can create and edit buttons. More on this later.

Plus icon - Adds buttons to a page. Tapping this displays an add button list where you can choose the button source. You can either create a new button directly in a page,

add a button from the navigation library, or add a button from the last library you looked at in the library view.

Title and pencil icon - Tapping either of these puts the page into edit mode. In edit mode you can drag buttons to move them, delete a button, or long-press a button to bring up an editor list.

Gear icon - Displays a list of settings for the app. You can configure board folders, scan settings, accessibility, voices, message window, scan feedback, and the play lock.

Exclamation point icon - Displays a list of resources and backup options. You can access this document, our website, YouTube channel, and help system, backup/restore, import/export your database, or refresh your keyboard pages.

Back icon - Navigates to your previously-viewed page. Very useful for communication boards with teacher/parent assisted navigation.

Home icon - Navigates to your home page.

Message window - The message window consists of three elements, the message, back, and clear buttons. The message window is optional.

Buttons on a page - Buttons can be blank (except Dynamic page grid), hidden, or display a symbol or an image from your photo library. Buttons with a gray triangle on the upper-right corner are navigation buttons and will take you to its destination page.

Libraries

TapSpeak Choice stores buttons in libraries. Pages consist of references to buttons in libraries. When you edit a button in a library, all references to that button in any page will reflect those editing changes. The only caveat is that you can override background color and completion action in a page.

Here's a sample library. Also showing is the editor list that appears when you long-press a button. A similar editor list appears on a page when it's in edit mode and you long-press a button. Swipe left or right to view all buttons in a library.

Book icon - Tap this to return to the page view.

Filing cabinet icon - Tap this to display the library list. Just like with pages, you manage libraries in the library list. Tap the plus button in the library list to add a library.

Plus icon - Tap this to add a button to the library. The new button will have a red circle as its image and it will appear at the upper-left corner. Long-press the new button to display the editor list.

Microphone icon - Tapping this icon invokes the speech editor. The speech editor lets you specify the text-to-speech message or record a message. You can have separate spoken and prompt messages and it can speak a different message from the button title.

Eye icon - Invokes the image editor. The image editor lets you set a Pixon symbol (PCS too if you purchased the app before version 4.0), an image from your Photo Library, or a text string.

Gear icon - Shows a settings list. You can configure the folders available in the library list and set up your background coloring scheme.

Exclamation point icon - Displays a list of resources and backup options. You can access this document, our website, YouTube channel, and help system, backup/restore, import/export your database, or refresh your keyboard pages.

Page/Library Views

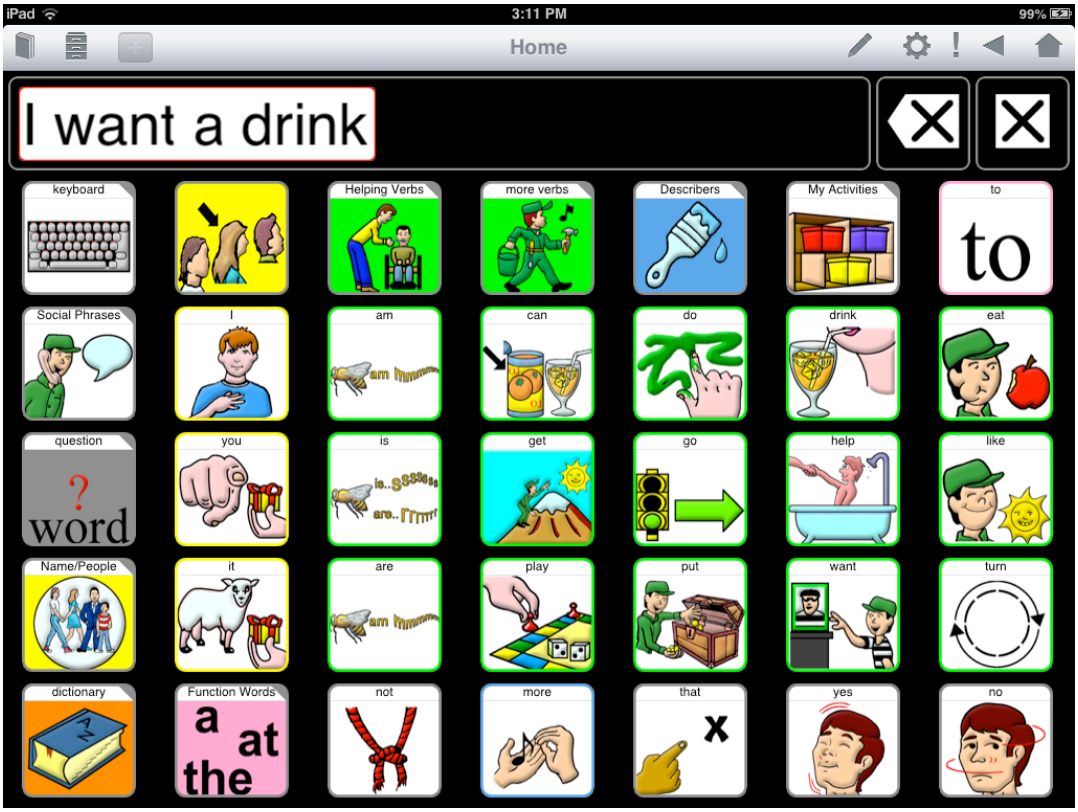
In TapSpeak Choice you have two views of your system, the page and the library views. Pages consist of references to buttons managed in libraries. You don't have to use libraries, but they're great in that you can set up just the buttons in the user's vocabulary in libraries and then when you create a page for them, you can easily access the buttons in a library. You don't have to search through thousands of symbols every time you want to add a button by using libraries.

You switch between the page and library views using the book and filing cabinet icons in the toolbar. Tap the book icon to show the page view and tap the filing cabinet icon to show the library view. Tap the book or library icon a second time and you'll see the page or library list.

Page View

The page view is where you access pages buttons, create messages, and speak messages.

Depending on your access method (direct access or scanning) you tap buttons to speak buttons and/or build messages in the optional message window.



Toolbar

The Page toolbar buttons from left to right are:

- Page/user list
- Switch to library view
- Add button to page
- Page title
- Edit/play
- Settings
- About
- Back
- Home

Message Window

The message window is where you build up messages from buttons on a page. It consists of the message “button”, the backspace button, and the clear button.

The message button can display message text or a copy of the button that was tapped. Make the message buttons speak its message by tapping it. Tap the backspace button to remove the last word/button. Tap the clear button to clear the message button.

If you want to use TapSpeak choice as a traditional selection board or communication board, turn off the message window.

Page Buttons

Tap page buttons to speak a button or build a message in the message window. Buttons can have an image, be blank, or it can be hidden. Buttons can be access with direct select or scanning. Direct select access can be modified to accommodate a wide range of motor skills. our Accessibility settings accommodate stimming behaviors, touch averaging, touch release, and a number of other special modes.

Library View

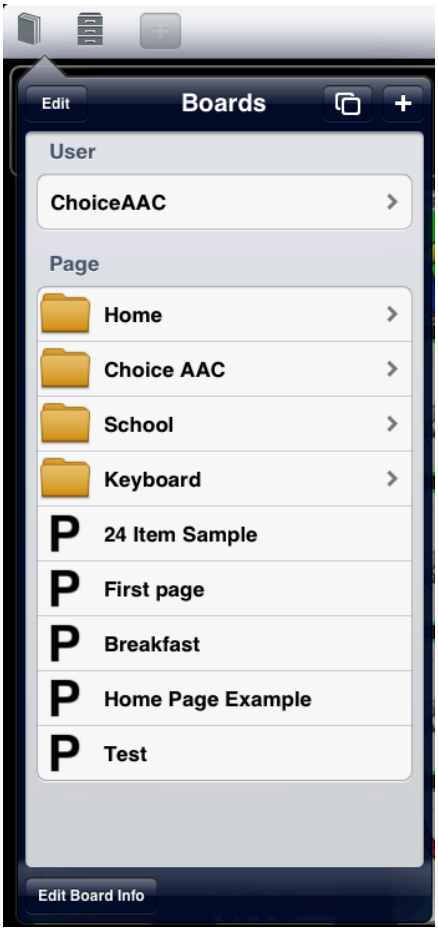
The library view is where you edit buttons. Use of libraries are optional. You can bypass using libraries by using the “New” option when adding buttons on a page.

The Library toolbar buttons from left to right are:

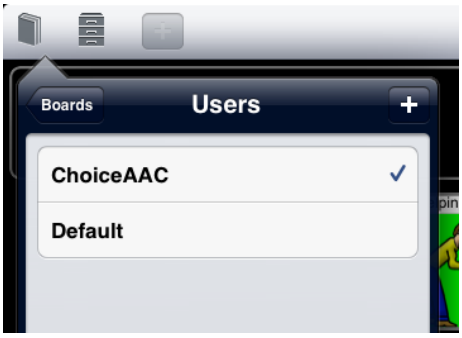
- Page Button
- Library List
- “+” Button
- Microphone Button
- Eye Button
- Settings
- About
- Library Buttons

User Databases

In version 5.0 we introduced the ability to support multiple user databases. A user database contains all the pages and libraries for that user. Neither pages or libraries are shared between users. You select a user database from the page list on the page view.The current user is shown in the top section of the page list.

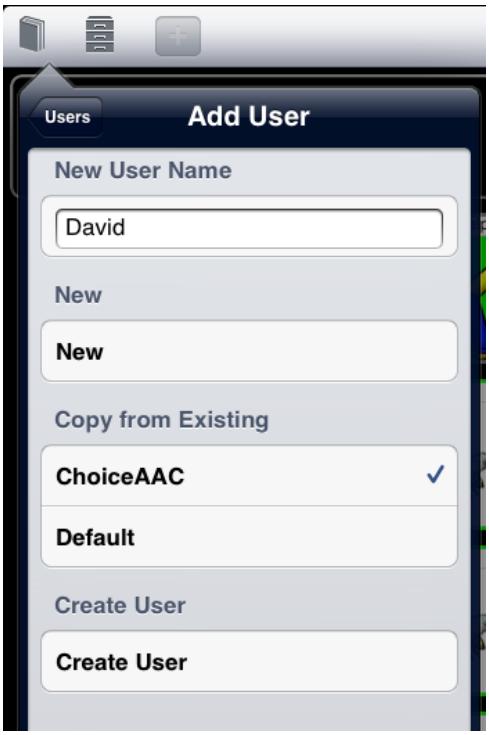


Tap the current user to go to the user list. Select a different user to switch to that user's database.

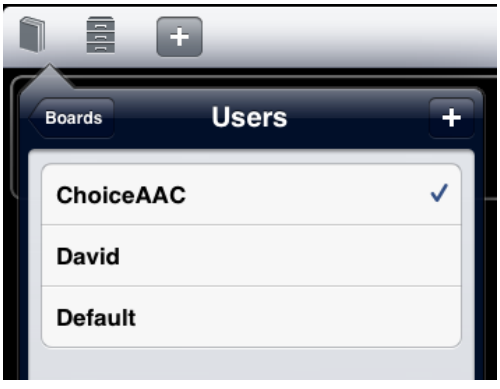


Create a new user by tapping the plus button at the top of the user list. You'll then go to the screen where you can specify how to create the new user.

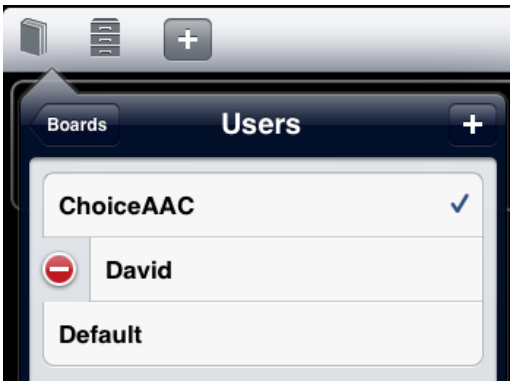
You can create a user database based on any of the existing users, a blank "New" database, or you can create a user from the default database. The Default database will always be an option as well as the New database.

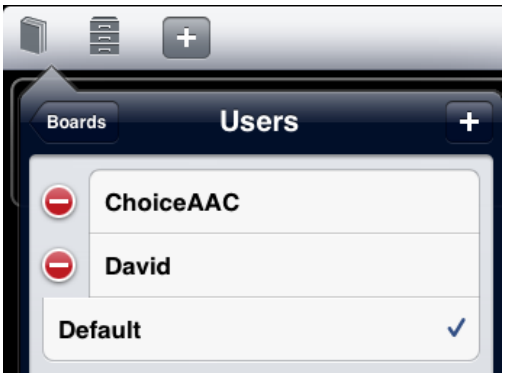


First, type in a name for the new user. Select the source database from New, any exiting user, or Default and then tap Create User to create the user database. When you go back to the user list you'll see the new user database. Select it to switch to that user.



In the user list you can delete user databases. Tap the Edit button at the bottom of the user list to enter the user edit mode. Note that you can't delete the default or the current user database.

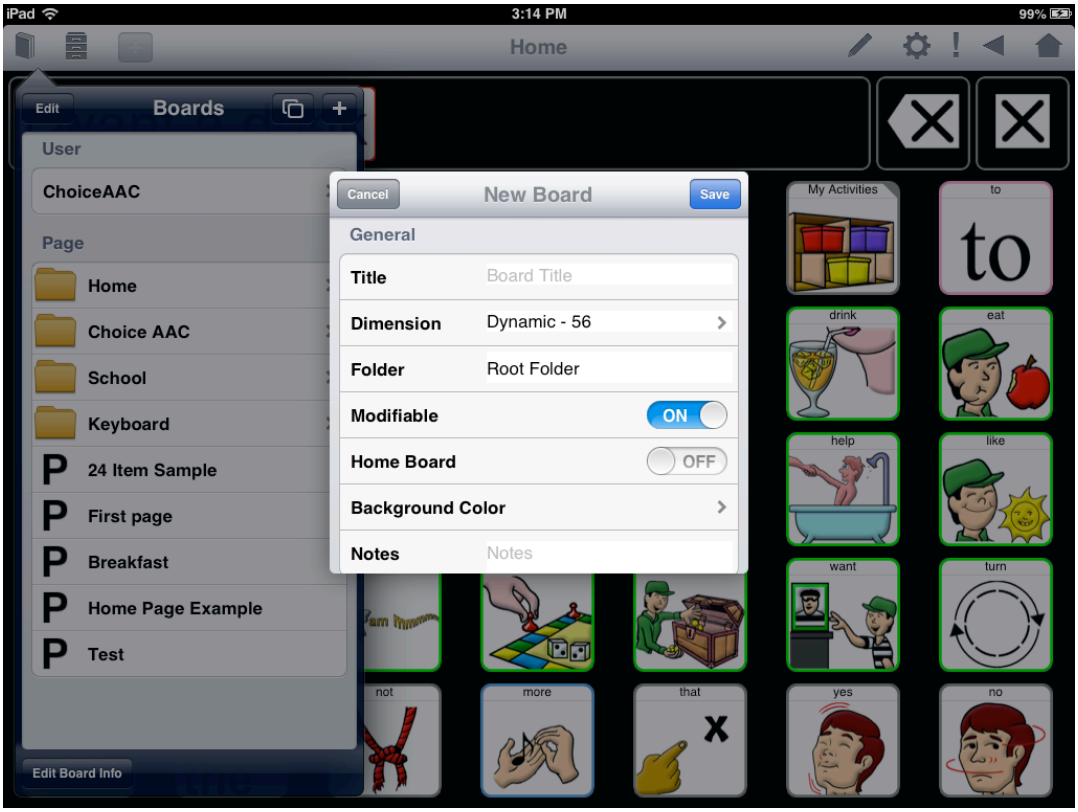

Boards
Users
ChoiceAAC
David
Default


Boards
Users
ChoiceAAC
David
Default

Page Editing

Create a Page

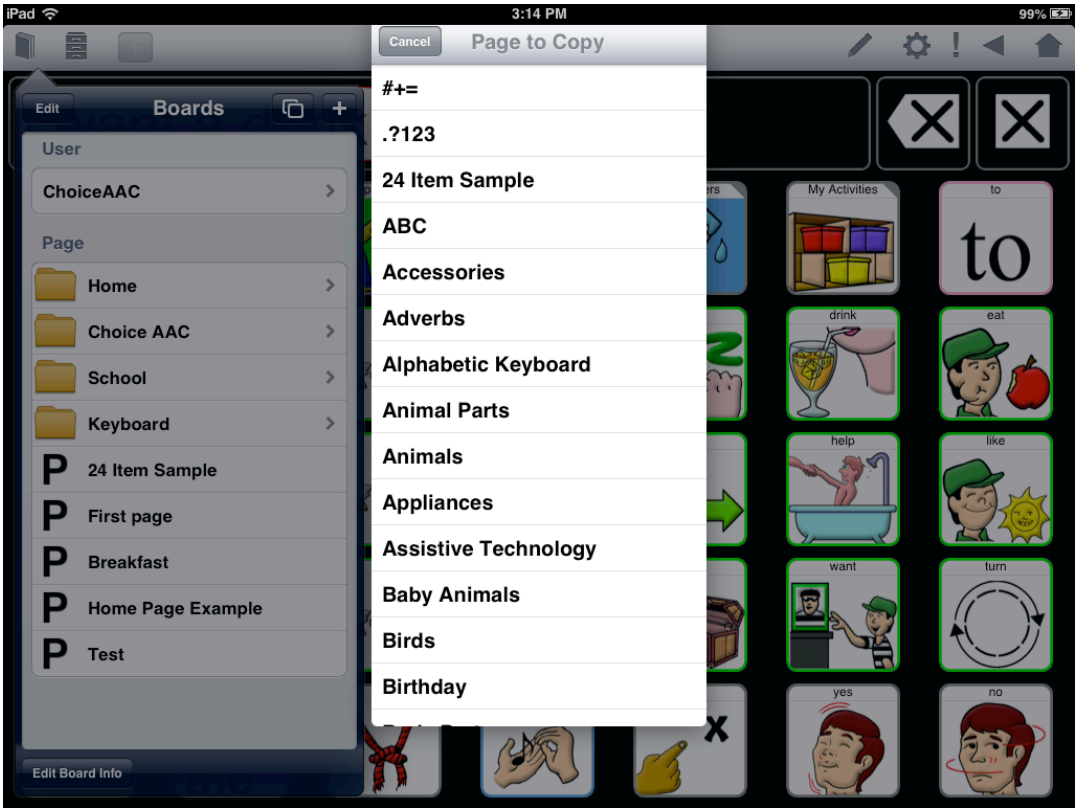
Create a page by first opening the page list. At the upper-right corner is a “+” button. The “+” button creates a new page by first displaying the New Page view.



In the New Page view, enter a title and select the page’s grid dimension. “Grid Dimension” refers the number of rows and columns on the page. You can have 1x1, 1x2, 3x4, up to 7x8 button grids on a page. The Dynamic page gird resizes a page gird automatically according to the number of buttons on a page. As you add/delete buttons, if the new number of buttons best fit on a smaller/larger gird, TapSpeak Choice automatically resizes and reflows the buttons on the page. Once you’ve set the title and page grid dimension, tap the Save button and you’ll see and can start adding buttons to the new page by using the “+” button in the toolbar.

Copy a Page

Create a page by first opening the page list. At the upper-right corner to the left of the “+” button is the page copy button. The page copy button first shows you a list of all pages for your current user database.



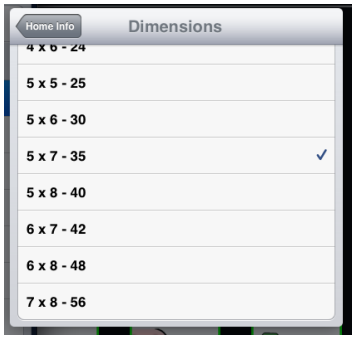
Scroll up and down through the page list to find the page you want to copy. Select the page and then you'll see a page copy confirmation alert. Reply "Ok" and the new page with an exact copy of all the source page's buttons will be created. The new page name will be the same as the source page name but the page name will be prefixed with "Copy of". The page copy confirmation alert will show you the new page name and the folder where it was placed.

Edit Page Information

At the bottom of the page list is the "Edit Board Info" button. This lets you change the page's properties. You can tap the Cancel button to discard changes you've made or the Save button to save the changes.

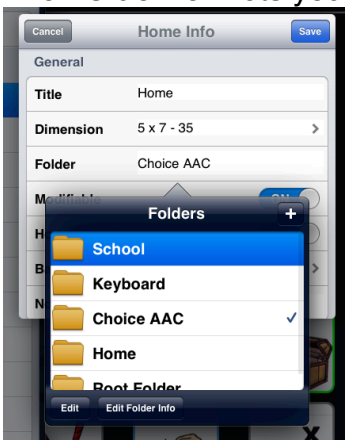
The **Title** row lets you change the page's title.

The **Dimension** row lets you change the page's button grid dimension. You can change a page's dimension to one with more buttons than you have on a page, but you can't change it to a dimension with fewer buttons.



We have many pre-set dimensions from 1x1 to 7x8. In addition there are some keyboard-specific grids that are meant for easy keyboard layout. While you can use these for pages, we recommend that you reserve their use for keyboards as in the iPad portrait orientation, these grid sizes don't work well.

The **Folder** row lets you move the current page to another folder.



Tap the folder row to see the available folders. Select a new folder and the page will be moved to that folder.

The **Modifiable** row lets you protect the current page from modification. If this switch is set to Off, page editing is disabled. The new button button (the “+” button in the toolbar) and the page edit button (the pencil in the toolbar) are disabled and grayed-out when the Modifiable button is Off.

The **Home Board** lets you set the current page as the home page. Turn this switch On to do so. You’ll get a confirmation alert which will also tell you the previous home page.

The **Background Color** row lets you select a color for the background color. This can help users with vision issues or provide a visual cue for what page is being used. Tap this row to display a list of colors and select a color to change the page background color

The **Notes** row lets you add some descriptive notes for a page. A note isn’t used by the app; it just gives you a place to write down additional information about a page, why you made it, how it should be used, etc.

Page Play/Edit

A page can be in one of two modes: Play or Edit. In play mode you can operate the page and add buttons using the “+” button on the toolbar. In edit mode you can edit, move, and delete buttons.

Enter edit mode by tapping the edit button (the pencil) on the toolbar. The page background will turn from black to grey, you’ll see a delete button badge on each button and the button border will disappear. Switch back to play mode by tapping the play button on the toolbar. The play button is a right-pointing arrow in the same location as the edit button. You can also toggle play/edit mode by tapping the page title.

Moving/Deleting Buttons

You **move** buttons around the page by dragging and dropping them. When you drag and drop a button onto an existing button, the two buttons will swap positions. Buttons will swap positions regardless of whether the target position is occupied by a button or a blank button.

As you drag a button to be moved (the source button) around a page the target button under the source button will expand when the two are close enough for a drop and replace to occur.

You cannot drag and drop a blank button. You can only drag and drop a populated button onto a blank button.

Delete a button by tapping the “X” badge on the button’s upper-left corner.

1.If the page uses a static grid dimension (like 3x4 or 5x7), the button will be replaced by a blank button.

2.If the page uses a dynamic grid dimension, the page will be reflowed by moving to the left and up all buttons after the deleted button. If deleting a button fits the next grid size with fewer buttons, the app will change the displayed grid and reflow all the buttons. For example, going from 13 to 12 buttons changes the page grid from 4x4 to 3x4.

Add a Button

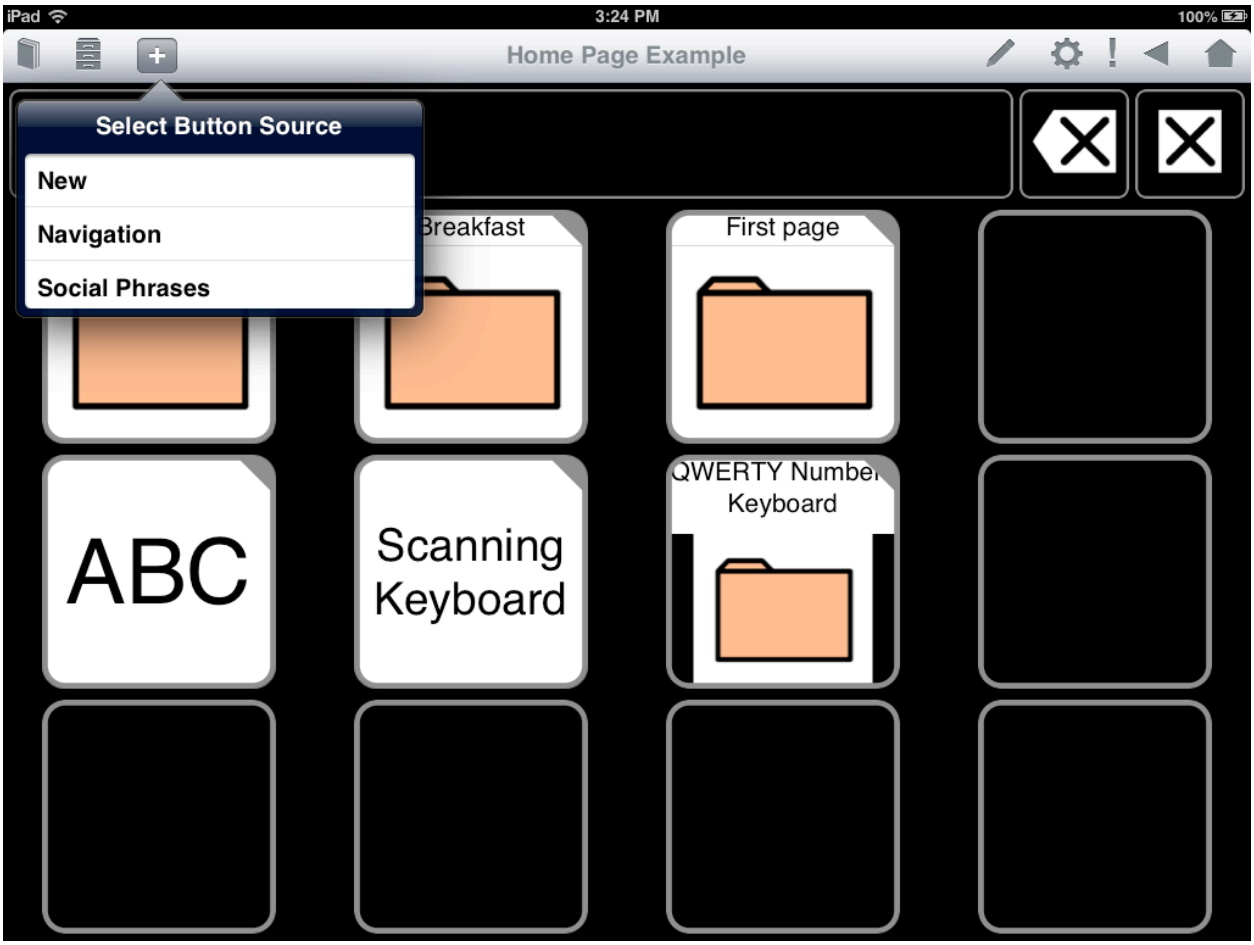
You can add a button to a page under several conditions

1.The page has blank buttons. If there are no blank buttons, the add button icon will be grayed out.

2.The page has a dynamic grid dimension and has less than 56 (7x8) buttons on it. If there are 56 buttons on a page the add button icon will be grayed out.

3.The page's Modifiable switch is set to on. If this switch is set off, the add button icon on the toolbar will be grayed out.

Tap the add button button (the "+" button on the toolbar) to bring up the button source list.



There will be three selections in the button source list

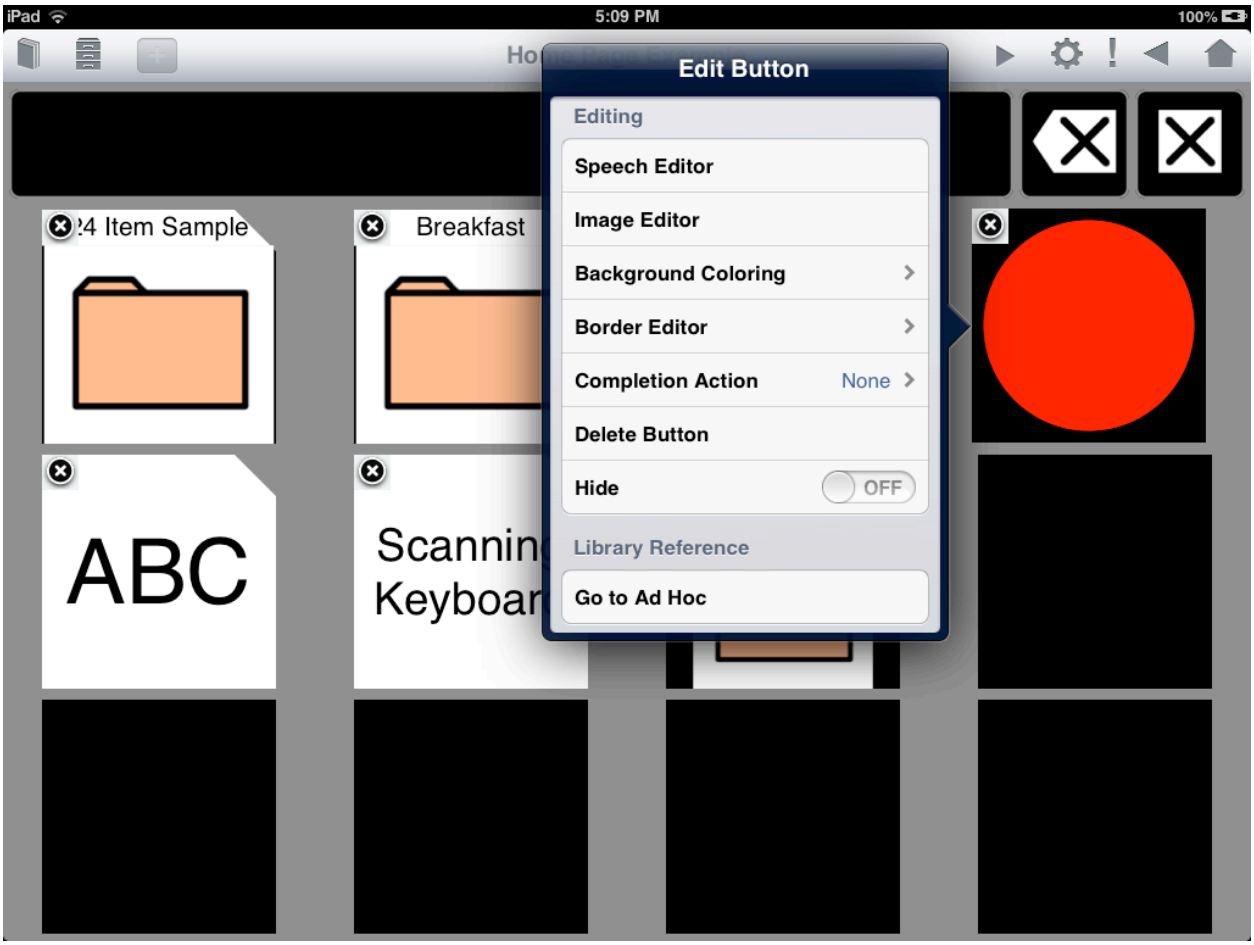
1.The “New” option adds a button at the first available blank button or at the end of a page that has the dynamic page grid. The editor list will appear for the button and the page will be set to edit mode.

2.The “Navigation” option brings up the button picker with the navigation library buttons. Swipe left or right on the button picker to view all buttons in the library. Drag a button from the button picker onto a blank button for a static grid page or onto an existing button for a dynamic grid page.

This option is the key to adding page links and a home or back button to your page. In TapSpeak Choice, you don’t change a button to be a page link. All page link buttons are managed by the app for you so all you have to do after you add a page is drag and drop its page link button onto a page to get a link to that page.

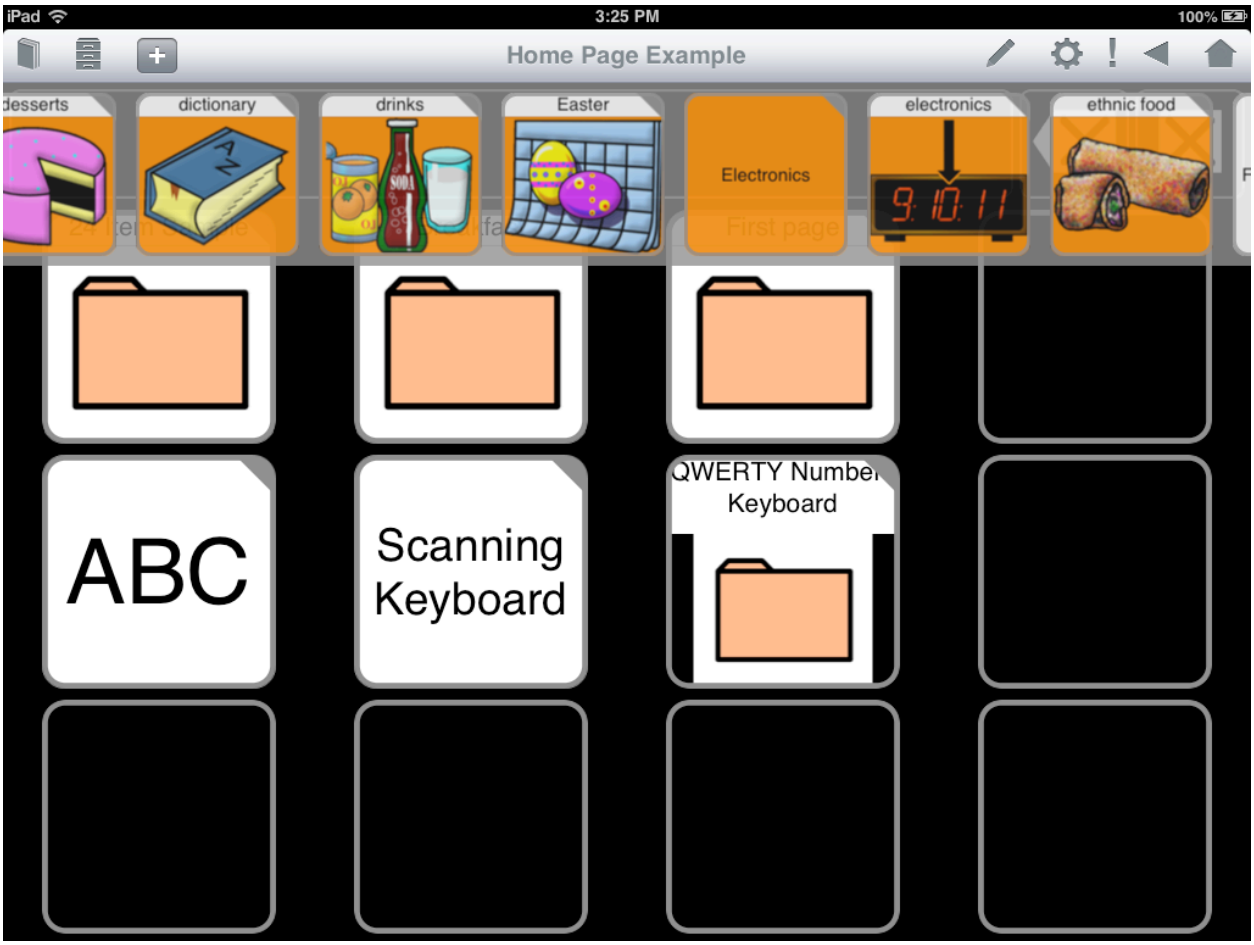
3.The last option will show the name of the last library that you viewed. Tapping it will bring up the button picker with that library’s buttons. Swipe left or right on the button picker to view all buttons in the library. Drag a button from the button picker onto a blank button for a static grid page or onto an existing button for a dynamic grid page.

Here’s what TapSpeak Choice looks like after adding a new button:



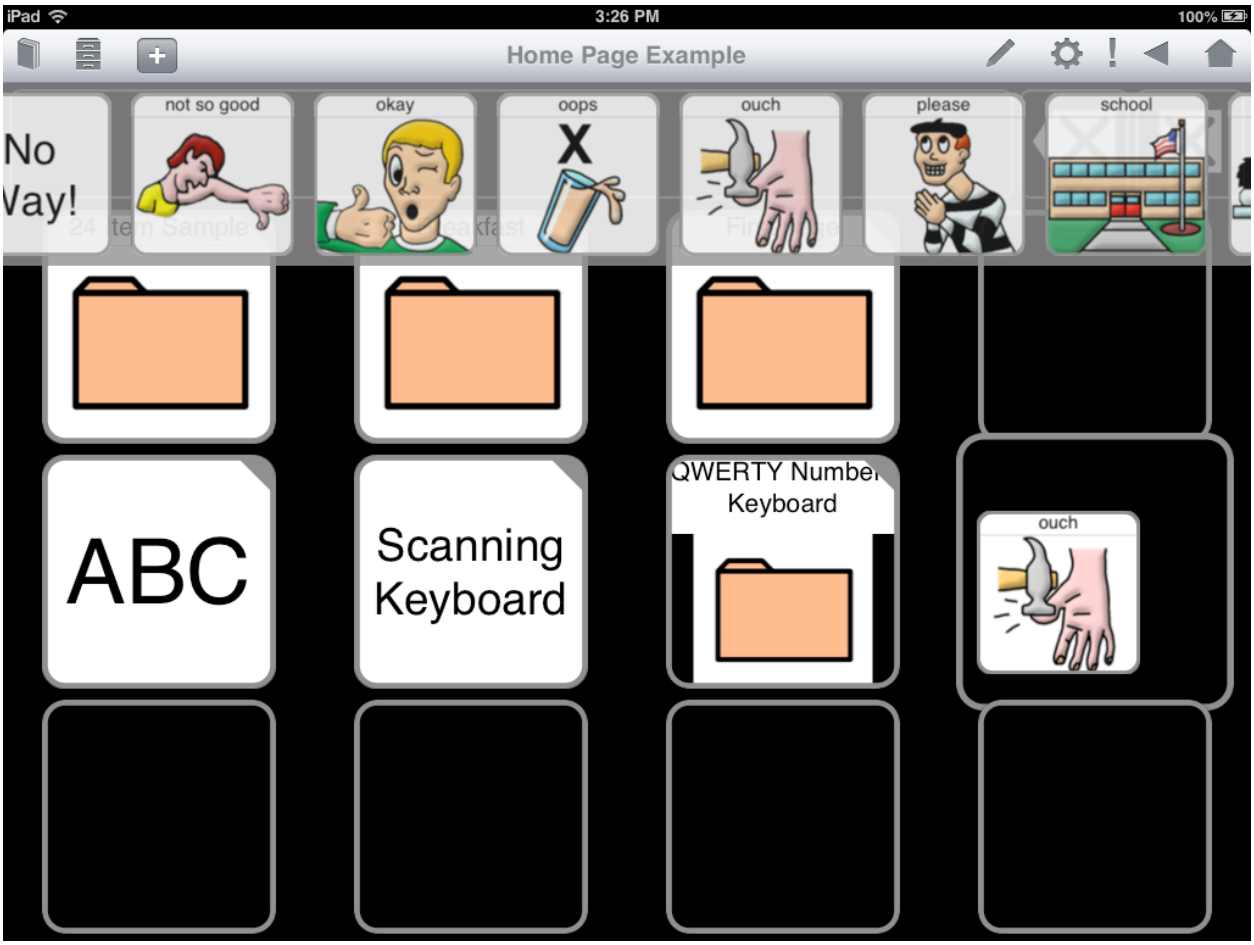
Navigation

Here's what TapSpeak Choice looks like after tapping the "Navigation" option. You can see that there are a number of page link buttons shown on in the button picker.



Library

Here's what TapSpeak Choice looks like after tapping the last entry. The button labelled "ouch" is being dragged from the button picker to the last button in the middle row. If your finger were lifted from the iPad at this point, the "ouch" button would be added to this position.


iPad
3:26 PM
100%
Home Page Example
No Way!
not so good
okay
oops
ouch
please
school
ABC
Scanning Keyboard
QWERTY Number Keyboard
ouch

Editing a Button

One of TapSpeak Choice's strengths is its flexibility to meet a myriad of needs. Button editing options bear this out with the number of ways you can change a button's appearance and function.

You can edit a button on either the page view and the library view. You can do more things from the library view.

Some of the page view editor options override button settings made on the library view. The are:

•Completion Action

•Button Background Color

•Button Border Color

We'll first go through the editors available on the page view and then we'll go through the editors available from the library view.

Page View Button Editor Options

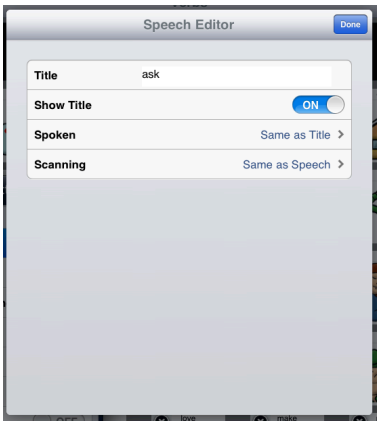
Here are the options from the page view. They cover the most frequently used button options.

Speech Editor

The speech editor lets you set text-to-speech message or lets you set the button's recorded message. You can have a spoken message separate from the scanning message or they can be the same.

For those who want to use private preview with scanning, you must use recorded messages. We currently don't have the ability to send text-to-speech output to either the left or right-hand stereo output jack.

On the main speech editor screen you can edit a button's title and set whether you want a title on the button. You can also access the editors for the spoken and scanning messages.



The Spoken line lets you set the spoken message. The spoken message is the message you hear when you tap a button on the page. It's also used in the message window as part of the phrase that's spoken when you tap the message window.

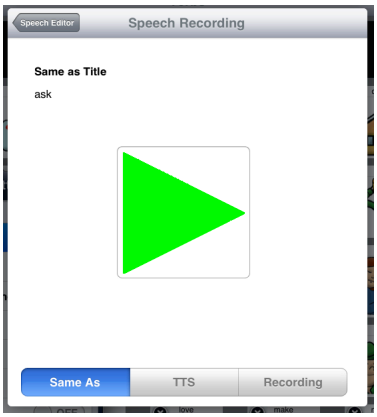
The Scanning like lets you set the message spoken as a scanning prompt. In the scanning settings, set the Auditory Prompt switch to On to use the scanning message. The scanning message is spoken as you scan through buttons on a page as a way to give an hint to the user as to which button they're scanning through.

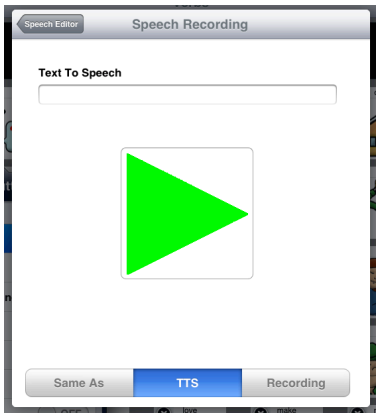
There are three ways to edit a message: Same As, TTS, and Recording.

Same As, for the spoken message, means that the message is the same as the button title. It will be spoken as text-to-speech. For scanning messages, Same As means that the scanning message is the same as the spoken message.

TTS means that the text-to-speech string spoken is different from the button title. You can use this setting to enter a longer message than on the title, or adjust the pronunciation of the text-to-speech engine, for example.

Recording means that a recording will be used for the message. You can record messages to provide familiar voices, match accents, dialects, or many other purposes. Record a message by tapping and holding the red record button. Release the button when you're finished recording. When you're speaking during a recording, try to keep the level meter about two-thirds full. Avoid staying in the red, but make sure the meter moves to the right a good bit as you're recording. Review a recording by tapping the play button.





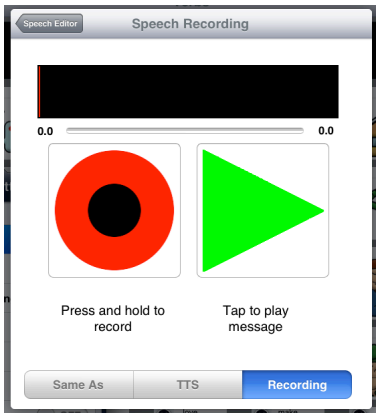


Image Editor

The image editor lets you set a button's image to a symbol, photo, text, or a shape.

In the image editor you select the image type using the segment picker at the bottom of the view. The are four image types:

•Pixon/PCS - We offer the Pixon symbol library to our customers and the PCS symbol library to pre-version 4.0 customers. If you ever need to get back access to your PCS symbol library please contact help@tapspeak.com.

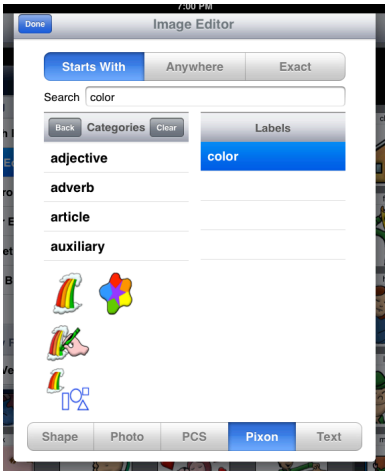
•Photo - You can use any photo in your iPad's photo library as an image for a button.

•Text - You can use any text string for use as a button's image.

•Shape - The shapes in TapSpeak Choice are the same as in TapSpeak Button and TapSpeak Sequence in order to maintain consistency with any symbols used in other exercises.

Symbols

When you tap on the Pixon or PCS segments at the bottom of the view, you'll see a search/selection view.



You can search for symbols by typing in a search string, browsing categories, or a combination of the two. Any time that you see the symbol you want in the symbol list, tap it to select it. When you select a symbol, the image on the button will change and

you'll see a list of one or more labels for that button. Either accept the default label or select an alternate label from the label list. You can always change a button's label using the Speech Editor.

To search using a search string, select the search type and enter a search string. It may take a few moments for the search to complete. The "Starts With" search type will return all symbols whose labels start with the search string. The "Anywhere" search type will return any symbol where the search string is in the label. Finally, the "Exact" search type only returns symbols whose labels are an exact match with the search string.

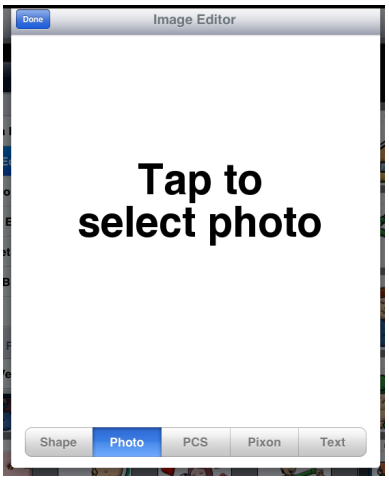
The category list lets you browse symbol categories or restrict the text string search to the categories you select. There are categories and category folders in the category list. Category folders have an indicator while categories don't.

When you select a category, a checkmark is added to the right of the category name which indicates that that category is selected and can be used to restrict text string searches. You can select multiple categories to restrict text string searches. To unselect a category, tap it again and the checkmark will go away. You'll see the symbols in that category below the category list when you select a category.

When you select a category folder, you'll see a list of categories for that folder. Category folders are not used to restrict text string searches.

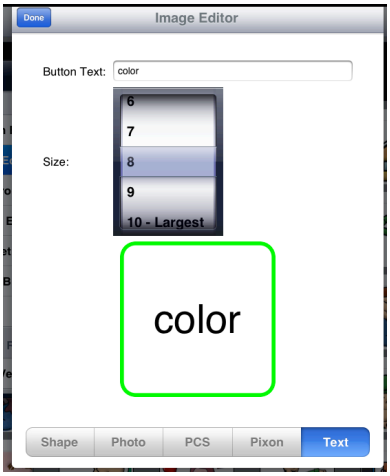
Photo

You can use any photo in your iPad's photo library for use as a button image. Tap the Photo segment at the bottom of the image editor view. Tap the middle of the view to bring up the photo library image picker. You can scroll through your albums, select an album, and then select an image from an album. When you select an image, you'll see it on the view.



Text

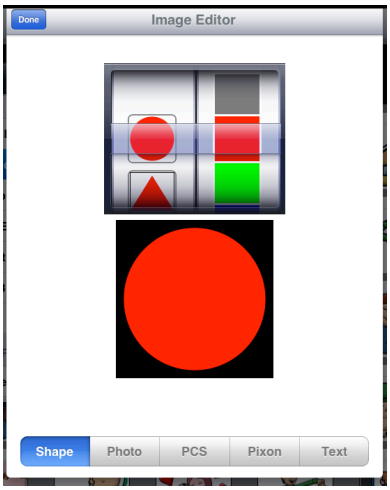
You can use any text you like as the on a button and you can set the text font size.



The text image editor shows you a preview of how the text you enter will look like. Type in the text in the Button Text field. Select the text size using the size picker. The button preview will update to show what the size change will look like. Larger numbers in the size picker make the text font larger and smaller numbers make it smaller. The size numbers are relative settings and not an exact font size as a button, and the text, will resize according to the page grid dimensions.

Shape

The shape image editor is the same as the one in TapSpeak Button and TapSpeak Sequence. Bring it up by tapping the Shape segment.



Use the pickers to scroll through the image shapes and colors. As you select a shape or color, the button's image will update to match the settings you selected.

Background Color

Button background colors are set by selecting a color from the system color list. The system color list can be a list of parts of speech and the color associated with that part of speech, or you can use any coloring system you want. We'll show the default coloring system here.

Button background colors made on a page override the background color setting made from the library view. You can return to the library setting by selecting the Default coloring.

Enter the background color list by tapping the Background Coloring row in the editor list. There are three sections. The first section shows you the active coloring system. The second section lets you select the default background color for that button from its library setting. The third section is the list of the current coloring system's parts of speech and associated color. Select either the default color or a color from the list. Remember, a color setting made from the page view overrides the library setting.

Border Color

Border colors work the same as the background color please refer to Border Color for instructions.

Completion Action

Completion actions are navigation actions that occur after a button is tapped. With a completion action, you can go to the home page, back a page, or go to any page in your setup.

Completion action settings made in the page view override completion action settings made in the library view. You can return to the library setting by tapping the Default line.

Enter the completion action editor by tapping Completion Action on the editor list. The completion action row will show if the completion action is unset (None), set to a page, home, or back.

The first section is the default completion action. If this is checked, the library completion action is checked. If it's checked, the library completion action is indicated by the checked row in completion action section and the page section.

The completion action section lets you set the type of completion action. For the none, home, and back selection you won't be able to select a page from the page section. With the page selection, you must select a page to navigate to after a button is selected.

The page section lists all your page folders with the pages listed under their folders. Scroll up and down to find and select the page to navigate to after the button is selected.

Delete Button

The delete button does just that. It deletes a button from the page. It does the same thing as the delete badge on the button. On static grid pages, the button will be replaced with a blank button. On dynamic grid pages, buttons will be reflowed to fill the deleted button's position.

Hide

The hide function hides a button from view. It's especially useful for setting up a page for learning new vocabulary. The "hide" leaves behind a very opaque view of the button so that it's visible to a therapist or parent. This gives you a cue about which buttons are on a page without distracting the user.

When a button is hidden it does not respond to taps nor will it be scanned. If scanning is active it's treated as a blank button and will be skipped over.

Example of a hidden button:

Library Reference

The library reference line shows the button's library. All buttons in TapSpeak Choice are defined in libraries even if you use the "New" option when adding a button. "New" buttons are added to a special library called the "Ad Hoc" library. You can tap this line to go to the button's library and view or edit it there. There are more options for button editing in the library view than in the page view.

Settings

The settings button on the page view gives you access to some powerful features in TapSpeak Choice.You can adjust the **accessibility** settings to accommodate a wide range of motor skill issues like high/low muscle tone, tremors, stimming, etc. The **scan settings** let you set up scanning for virtually any scanning need. Set up **voices** to match the user's language, voice and personality. With the **message window** settings, you can configure the app to operate like a communication board or with the message window on and text display on, it functions as a full-feature speech generating AAC device. **Button settings** let you configure button zooming/pop, border width, etc. to accommodate vision disabilities or draw focus to selected buttons. Finally the **play lock** feature locks out editing and configuration features so that inadvertent changes can't be made.

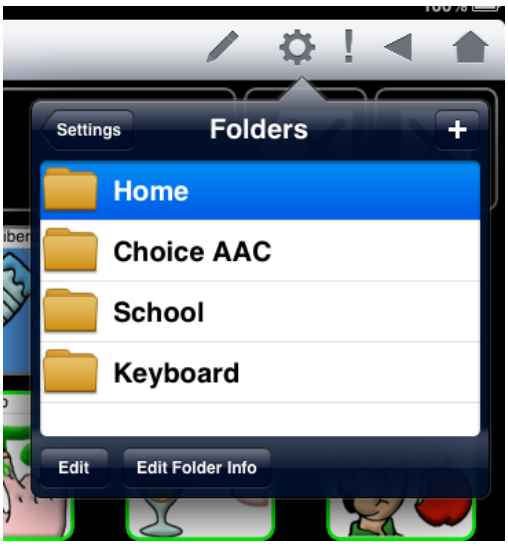
The settings menu:

Board Folders

Folders are used to organize pages to make them easier to work with. For instance, you can have folders for boards organized by location (school, home), ability level for a shared setup, or by activity type.

Folders are not meant to correlate to a page navigation system. Page navigation is completely independent of the folder organization. Folder organization can't be used as a part of page navigation. It's ok if you make the folder organization the same as your page navigation, but it's not necessary.

Also, folders are only one level deep. We've done this to make things less complicated for you and make it less likely that a page will get lost in a deep folder hierarchy.



The Edit button lets you rearrange and delete folders. You can only delete folders with no pages in them. In the page list, you can delete pages in a folder or move a page to another folder.

Edit Board Info lets you edit a folder's title.

Scan Settings

TapSpeak Choice has the most comprehensive scan settings of any app and it's better than many full-feature AAC devices. You can use the iPad as a switch or you can use one or two external switches via most popular Bluetooth switch interfaces.

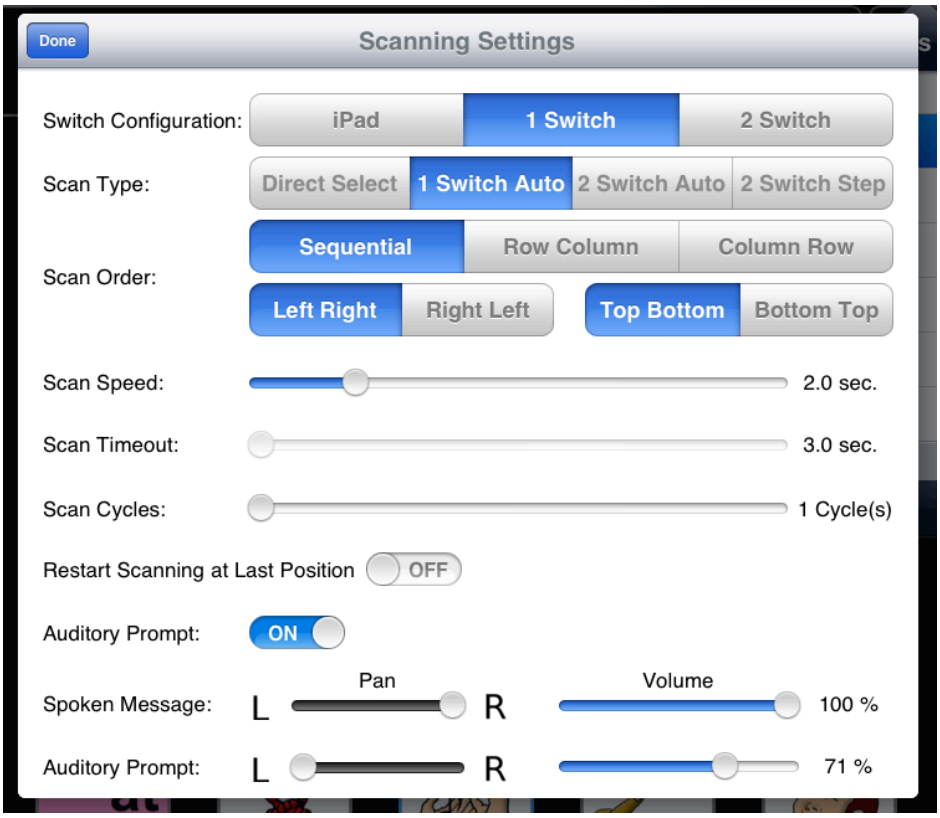
You can scan buttons in sequential order, row/column, or step scanning. You can set scan directions, scan speed, scan cycles and auditory prompt parameters

Please note that in version 5, the button pop amount and duration sliders were moved to the new Button Settings screen under Settings.

In addition to the scan settings on this screen, there's two other places where you can manage scanning attributes. If you use audio prompts, you can set a separate message from the spoken message. You do this using the speech editor which you can access from the button editor menus. You can also set a different audio prompt voice from the speaking voice using the Voice configuration menu. You can access this from the page view under the settings (the gear) icon.

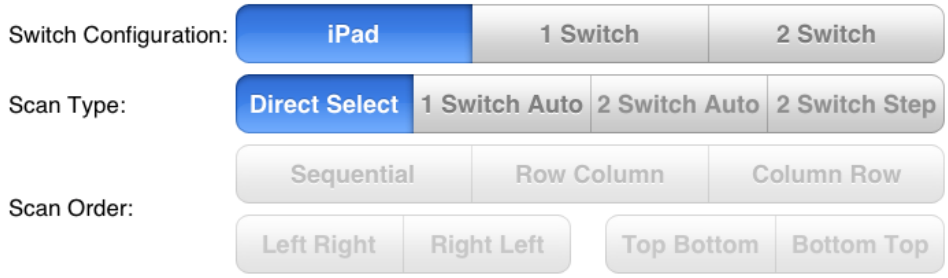
Scan Settings Sections

There are three sections to scan settings. The top section sets scanning physical attributes such as switch type and number, scan style, and scan directions. The middle section sets scan dynamics such as rate, cycles, and restart position. The bottom section sets scan audio prompting.



Direct Select

The simplest scan settings configuration is for direct select, the default access method. In direct select mode, all our accessibility modes (tap/touch/release/average) are available. With any other scan setting, the accessibility modes are not active. Set direct access mode by selecting “iPad” for the switch configuration and “Direct Select” as the scan type. Direct Select is not available for the 1 Switch or 2 Switch switch configurations.



With the iPad switch configuration you can use the 1 Switch Auto scan type and any of the 1 Switch Auto scan orders. The iPad surface functions as a switch in this configuration. A switch actuate is detected when a finger, or any part(s) of a hand, make contact with the iPad.

One-Switch Scanning

The 1 Switch switch configuration lets you use only the 1 Switch Auto scan type and lets you use any of the scan order settings. This switch configuration uses an external switch connected to a Bluetooth switch interface.

All auto-scan and step-scan types let you use any scan order. Sequential scanning scans buttons one-by-one using the left/right and top/bottom order you select. Row-column scanning scans rows until you select a row and then scans the selected row until a button (column) is selected. Column-row scanning scans columns until a column is selected and then scans the selected column until a button (row) is selected.

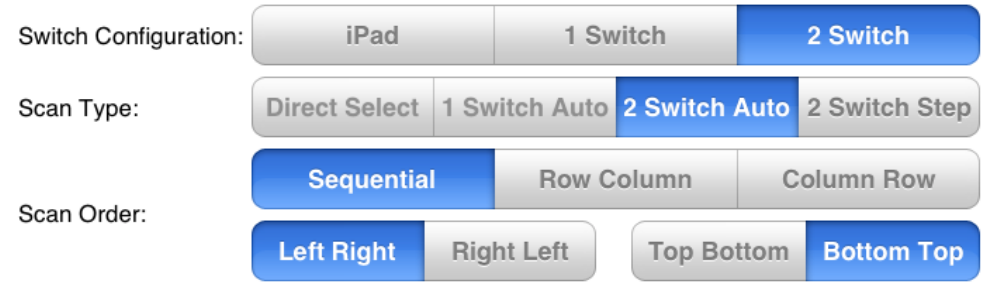
Sequential, row-column, and column-row scan orders use the left/right and top/bottom order selections. For example, column-row, left-right, bottom-top scans columns from left to right, and then buttons (rows) from bottom to top.

Two-Switch Scanning

The 2 Switch switch configuration lets you use 2 Switch Auto and 2 Switch Step scan type and lets you use any of the scan order settings. This switch configuration uses two external switches connected to a Bluetooth switch interface.

Two-switch scanning functions just like one-switch scanning except for that one switch, the scan switch, starts scanning and the other switch, the select switch, selects a row/column/button.

Step-scanning differs from auto-scanning in that the scan switch is activated for each scan navigation. Where auto-scan automatically scans through a row of buttons, with step-scan you must tap the switch each time you want to advance to the next button. The select switch does just that; it activates a button or selects a row/column for row column scanning.



Scan Dynamics

The scan dynamics settings configure timings, cycles, and restart.

Scan speed is used for auto-scanning scan types. Scan speeds sets at what rate buttons are scanned. If the scan speed is set to two seconds, a button is advanced every two seconds. You can match button pop to the scan speed using the Button Settings menu under the page view settings. Scan speed is not used for step-scanning

Scan timeout is only used for step-scanning. With every step switch activation, the the scan timeout timer is started. If the timeout timer expires before another switch activation is made, scanning is reset. The purpose for this timer is to:

- give the user a way to restart scanning if an intended select is missed
- reset scanning due to inactivity

Scan Cycles is used to let the user scan through a page/row/column multiple times in order to correctly select an item. For example, someone may want to hear all the selections on a row to know which item to select. You can set this to 1-5 cycles or continuous cycles. The continuous setting will not automatically terminate or reset; a selection must be made to reset scanning.

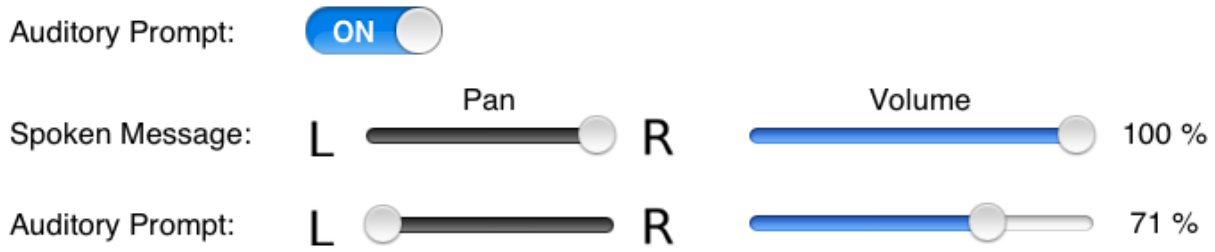
Restart Scanning at Last Position allows a user to continue scanning at the last selection point. This is useful for pages designed for efficient use with a semantic button ordering on a page. For example, a page can be set up with sets of nouns, verbs, and objects. After a user selects a noun, he can quickly proceed to a verb without restarting scanning from the top of the page and going through the nouns to get to the verbs.

Auditory/Scanning Prompt
This section manages the system-wide audio/scanning prompt settings. You can separately configure the scanning text-to-speech voice and button scanning messages. Turn on auditory prompts with the auditory prompt switch. If this switch is off, no message is announced as you scan through buttons.

The pan and volume settings are intended to be used for private auditory prompts. Private auditory prompts provide a user listening via an earphone of other private speaker, the scanning audio prompt message so that the person they're speaking to doesn't have to hear the prompts. Private audio prompts make for a better conversational experience since the listener isn't cluttered with the scanning prompts.

Private audio prompts at this time only work with recorded messages. When our text-to-speech provider offers stereo voices on iOS, these settings will apply to them. Set the spoken message and auditory messages to opposite stereo channels by dragging the sliders all the way to the left or right. You can mix a bit of the spoken message into the

prompt earphone by leaving the slider between the middle and the end of the scale. The volume setting only reduces volume; whatever volume the iPad is set to it can't raise the volume beyond that. It might be useful to reduce auditory prompt volume if the overall system volume is very high in order to make listening to audio prompts more comfortable.

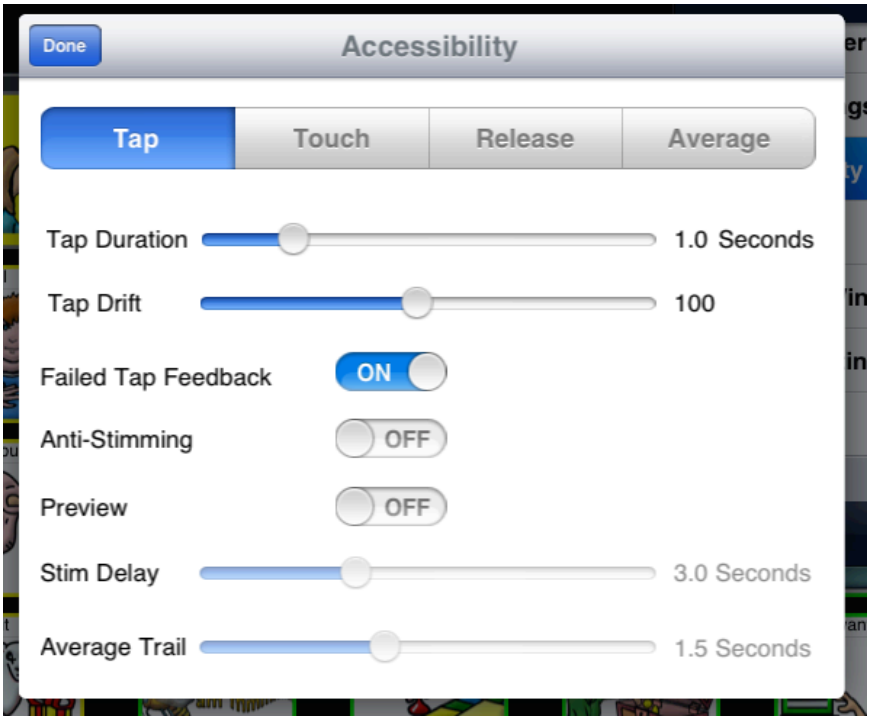


Accessibility

No other AAC app or device has the range of accessibility options that TapSpeak Choice has. In addition to the wide range of scanning options, we offer a variety of methods for accessing buttons with one or more fingers are parts of the hand.

Tap Mode

The first accessibility mode is the Tap mode. With the tap mode you must touch the iPad surface and release the touch to register a tap. The Tap mode works with one finger. The Tap Duration and Tap Drift sliders can be used to train motor control to be finer and finer grained. You should set the Failed Tap Feedback on when using the motor control training feature. If a finger stays on the surface longer than the tap duration or moves more than the tap drift setting, the failed tap feedback will sound and the tap will not register.



Use the duration and drift sliders to encourage finer grained motor control by first setting the sliders far to the right. This will allow a long and drifting type touch to still register a tap. As the user gains greater motor control, move both sliders to the left. As the user gains greater control over their movements, they get greater positive feedback from successful touches but still get negative feedback with a “bloop” sound if their touch exceeds the duration and drift sliders.

For more “typical” usage, If you find that touches are not registering or making the bloop sounds, make sure the duration and drift sliders are at least at mid-scale. Sometimes the sliders will get set all the way to the left, which can make successful touches challenging even for “typical” users.

Preview Mode

All access modes can use the Preview mode which announces a button before you select it. For Touch and Tap modes, the first touch on any button announces it, and a second touch selects the button. For touch release and touch average modes, buttons are announced as you drag your finger(s) across the iPad surface. When you lift your hand, the last-announced button is selected.

Preview mode works great for visually impaired users. The preview announcements act as auditor prompts and an help a visually impaired user learn buttons on a page without actually selecting a button.

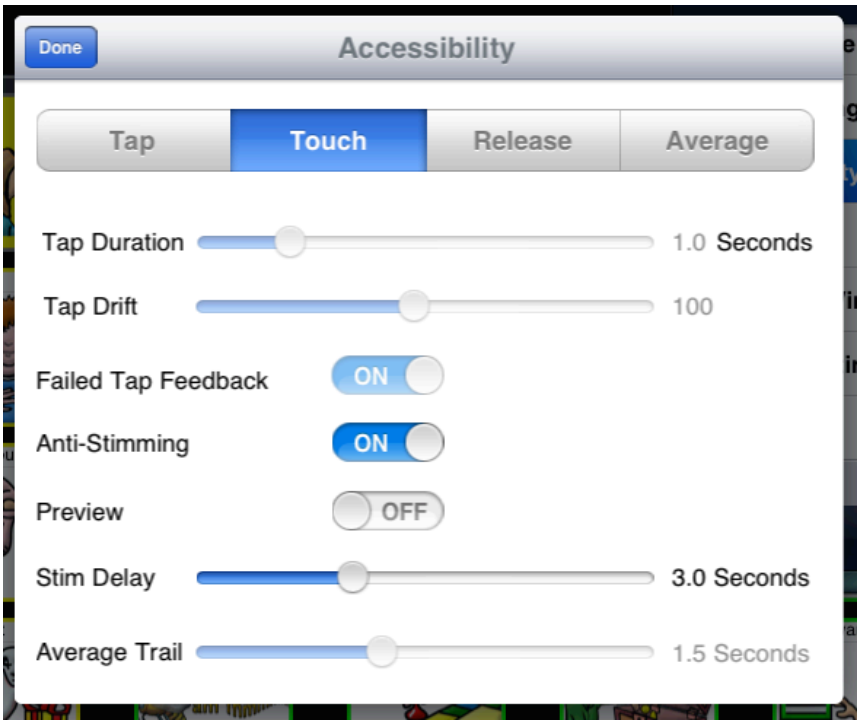
Activate the Preview mode by turning on the Preview switch.

Anti-Stimming

All access modes can use the anti-stimming mode. Stimming touches are self-stimulatory behavior such as repeated tapping on the iPad surface. Anti-stimming works with all access modes. It works with the Stim Delay slider. The stim delay slider lets you set the length of time that stimming touches are rejected until the next touch is accepted.

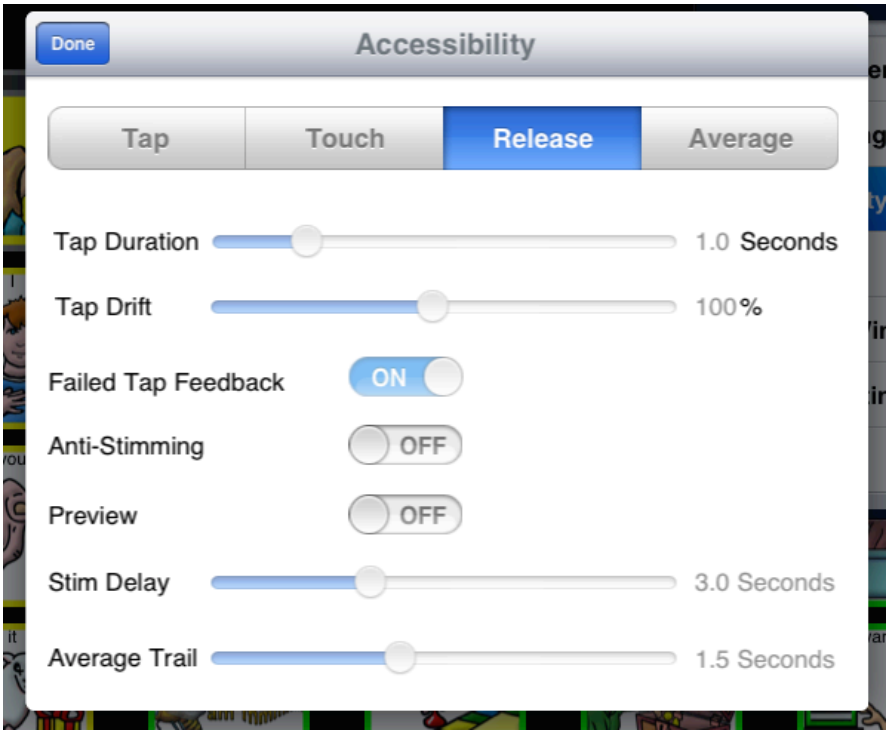
Touch Mode

The Touch mode only requires the user to make contact with the surface for a touch to register. The contact point (finger/palm) doesn't need to be lifted to register the touch unlike with Tap mode.



Touch Release Mode

Touch Release mode lets you drag one or more fingers across the iPad's surface until you find the button you want, lift your hand, and the button is selected. There is no time limit to how long your hand can be on the iPad surface. If you release your touch between buttons, no button will be selected.



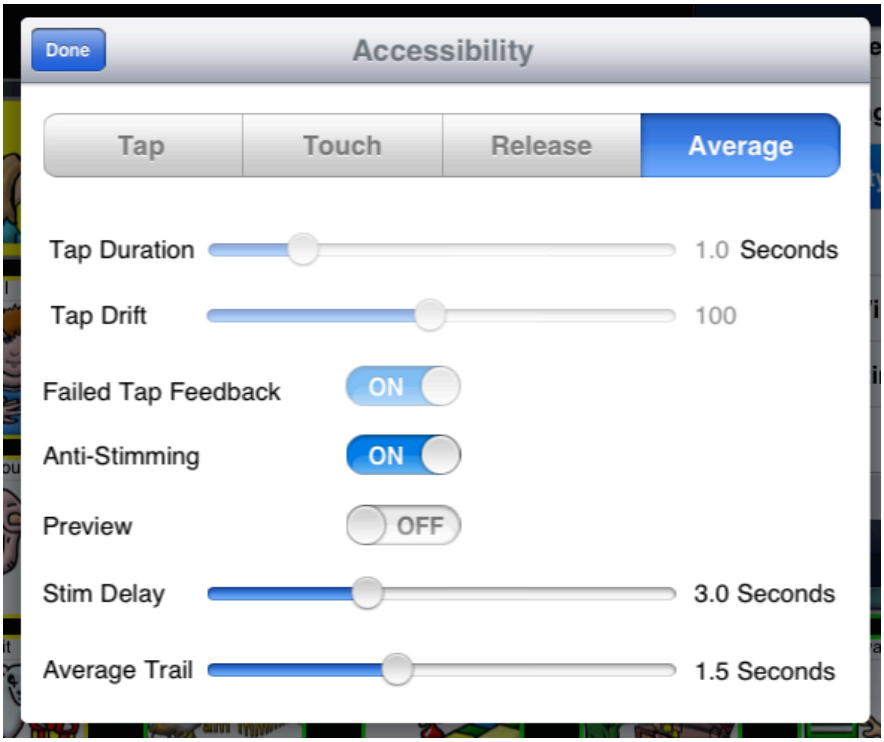
Touch Average

Touch average mode allows you to select a button without your hand touching the button. It's the most flexible mode we offer in that it will accommodate a wide range of hand/finger movements. Combined with the Preview mode, almost any motor skill can be accommodated.

Use touch average mode much like touch release mode. Instead of just lifting your touch on a button, you drag your touch around, through, or close to a button and select the button when you release. You don't have to be on the button unlike touch release mode.

Touch average uses the Average Trail slider setting. The "trail" is the path the hand takes across the iPad's surface and includes any part or parts of the hand that touches the iPad. The average trail setting limits the length of the trail. The trail length is limited so that as the hand gets closer to a button, touches farther away from the button are ignored and a more accurate touch average calculation is made.

If you find that that you're not selecting the button you want, try changing the average trail setting to better suit your dragging motions.

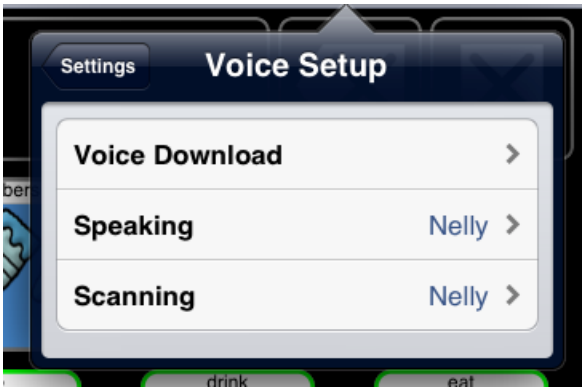


Voices

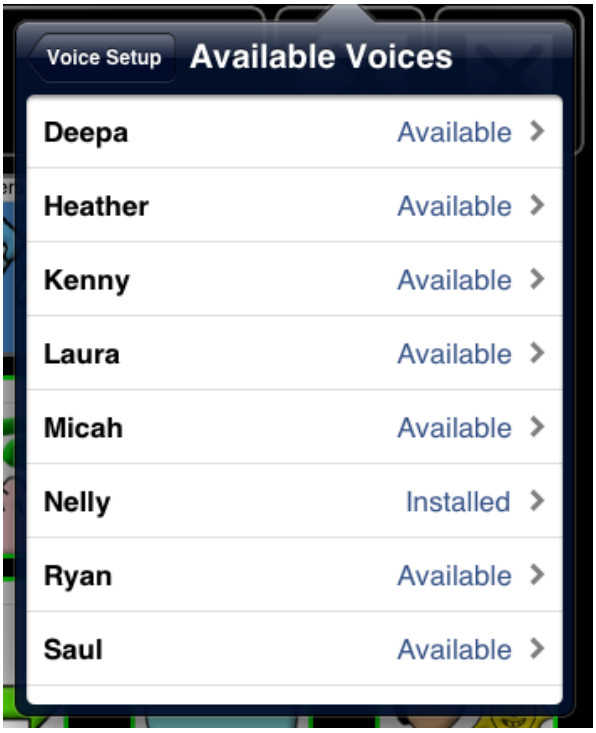
TapSpeak Choice features text-to-speech (TTS) voices from Acapela. We support 40 languages and 88 voices for those languages. See Voice List and Language Set for more information on the languages and voices we offer.

You get to the voice settings from the app's settings menu under the gear icon on the page view toolbar. You'll see three items.

- **Voice Download** - Lets you install/reinstall voices for use as a speaking or scanning voice
- **Speaking** - Set up the voice to use when you select buttons and when you speak from the message window. Set speaking rate, volume, and pitch.
- **Scanning** - Same as Speaking except for the scanning voice. The scanning voice is used for auditory prompts when scanning.

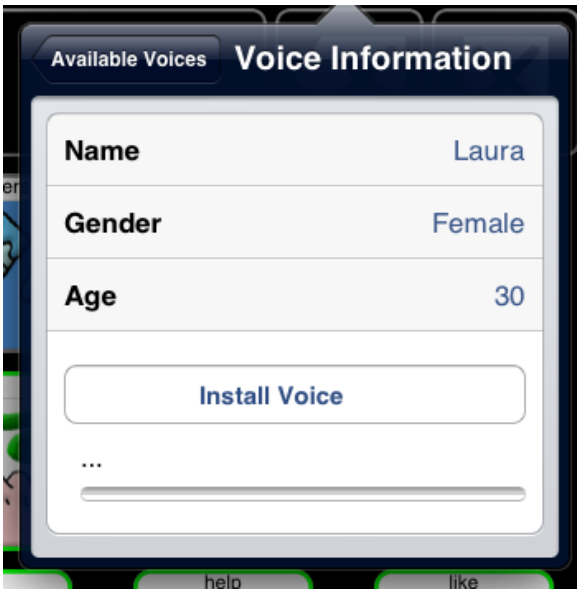


Under Voice Download is the list of available voices for your language. The number of voices you see will vary according to the language you're using. The right-hand side of the voice list shows which voices you have installed and which are available to be downloaded and installed.



Select a voice to show the Voice Information view. This will give you some information about the voice. Tap the Install Voice button to start the voice download and installation process. A status line and progress bar gives you feedback on the progress of the voice installation.

Voice downloads are from 50MB to 150MB depending on the voice.



After the voice has been downloaded and installed you'll get a confirmation alert. You can now select and set up the voice as a speaking or a scanning voice.

Go back to the Voice Setup table and you'll see the Speaking and Scanning selections. The Speaking voice selection lets you set up the speaking voice and the Scanning voice lets you set up the voice for auditory prompts while scanning. Use of auditory prompts while scanning is optional.

The speaking and scanning voice setup tables are identical. Either voice gives you the same configuration options.

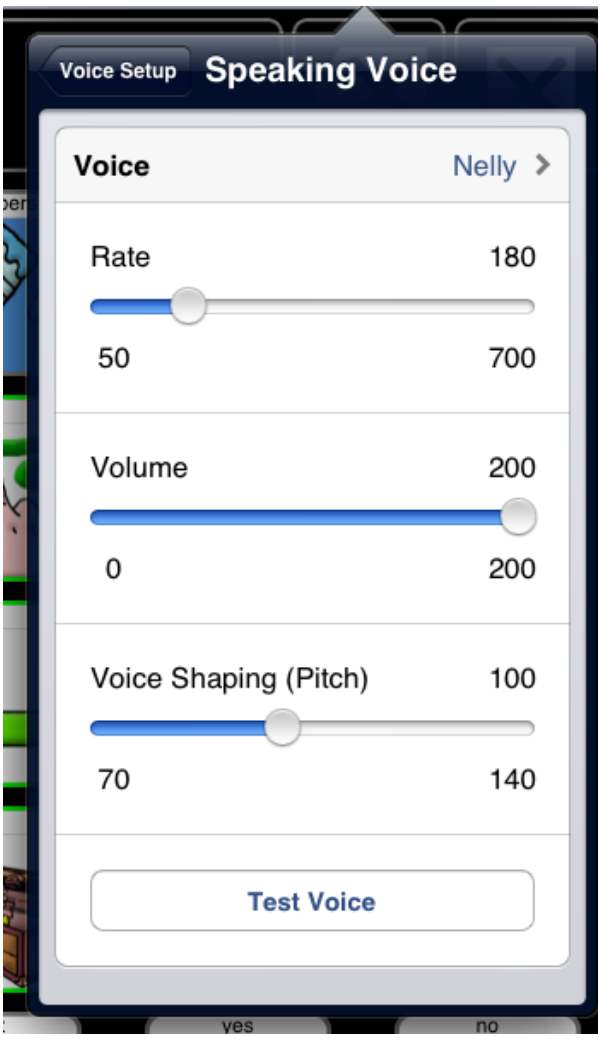
The first row of the voice setup table lets you select the voice you want to use. Tap it and you'll see a list of voices that have been downloaded and installed. The currently installed voice will have a checkmark next to it. Tap another voice to select it.

You can modify three parameters for a voice

Rate - The default is 180 words per minute. The range is from 50 to 700.

Volume - The default is 100. The range is from 0 to 200. 2

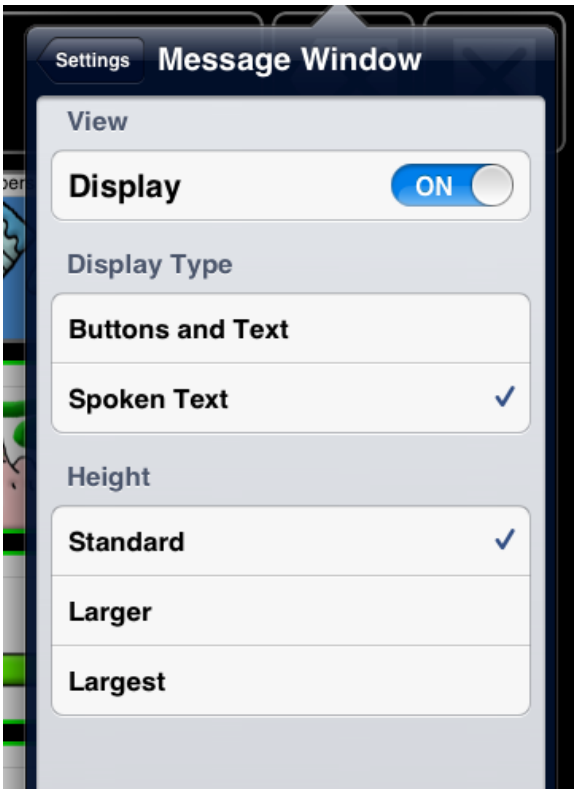
Pitch - The default is 100. The range is from 70 to 140. The pitch setting can be used change the perceived age of the speaker.



Message Window

The message window is an optional part of the TapSpeak Choice screen that lets you build and speak phrases and sentences. It's composed of a message button, the backspace button, and the clear button. The message window is scannable just like the buttons on a page are scannable.

The message window is configured through the app's settings under the gear icon. Scroll down to Message Window and tap it to see the message window configuration table.



The View section has one item, the Display switch. Turn it on to display the message window and turn it off to remove the message window from the screen. With the message window off, the page buttons are re-flowed to take up the space used by the message window.

The Display Type section lets you select whether you want to see buttons or the spoken text in the message window. With it set to Buttons and Text, you see buttons as they are on the page. With it set to Spoken Text, you see the button's spoken text in the message window.

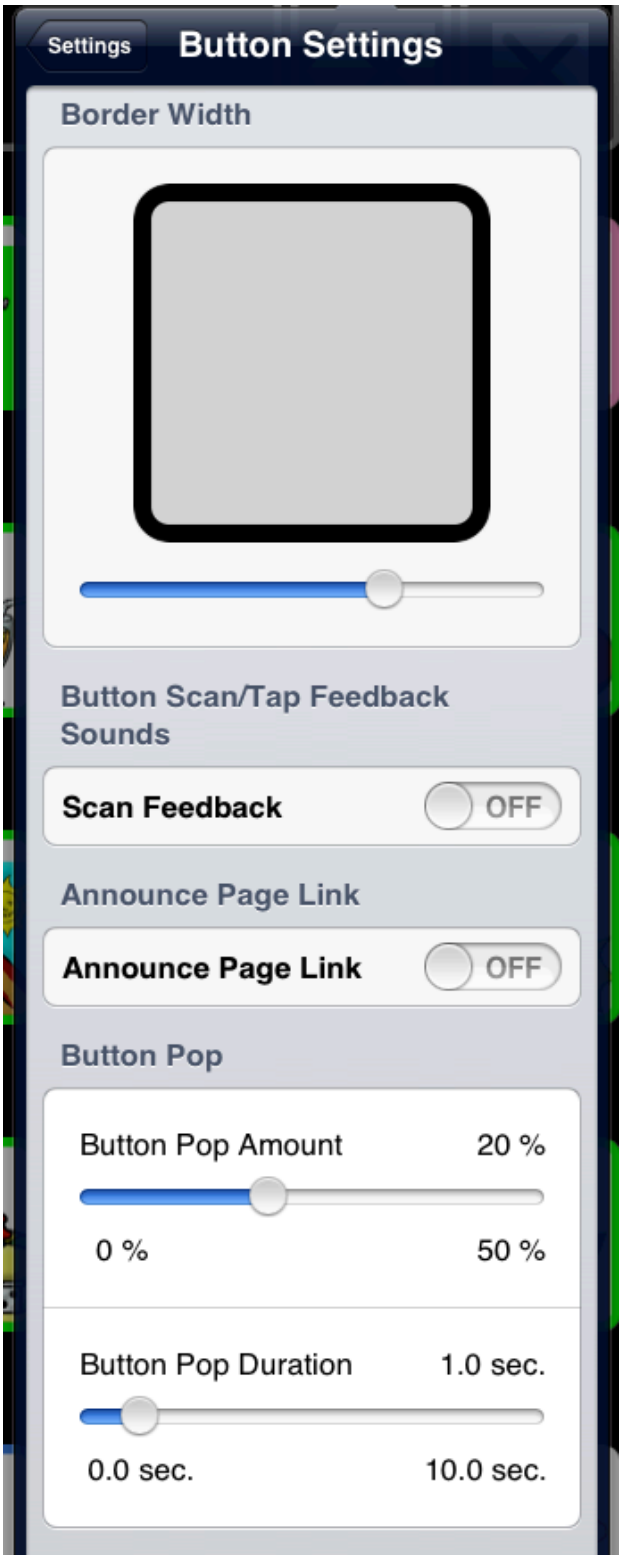
When you're using a keyboard, you'll always see text as you type on the keyboard. If you're using Buttons and Text, when you tap a button, the button will appear in the message window alongside the spoken text.

The Height section configures the message window height. The message window width is always the width of the iPad screen. The Larger setting is 1.5 times the height of the Standard setting and the Largest setting is two times the height of the Standard setting.

Button Settings

Buttons have global and individual settings. The individual settings includes the image, spoken/scanning text, border/background color, completion action, etc. Global settings include border width, scan/tap feedback, page link announcement, and pop amount/duration. This section describes the global settings. Individual settings can be accessed via the button editors.

You get to the button settings from the app's settings by tapping on the gear icon.



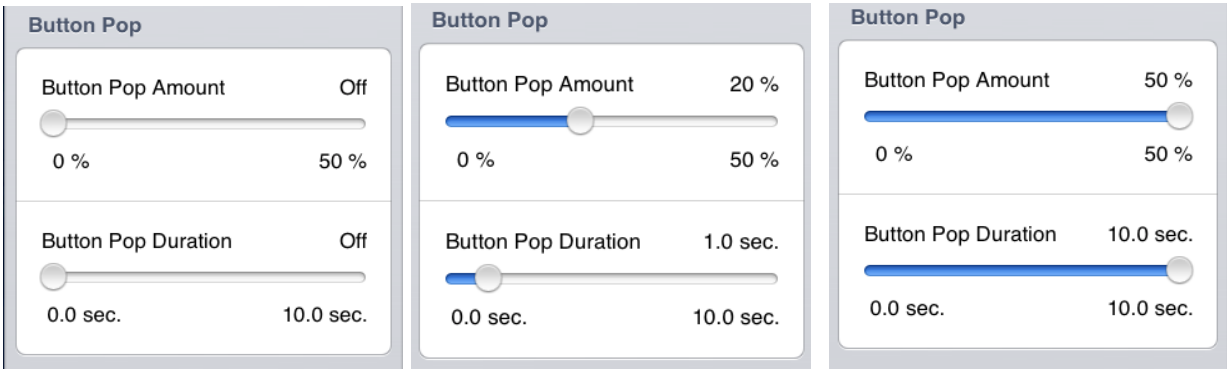
The first section lets you set the button **Border Width**. As you drag the slider left and right you'll see the sample button's border change its width to match the slider's setting.

When you've found the width you want and dismiss the settings popover, the page will redraw to reflect the new border width.

Scan Feedback provides you with an aural feedback when a button is tapped or scanned. This is different from the scanning auditory feedback where you are prompted with the button's scanning message during scanning.

Announce Page Link will let you turn on/off page link announcements. If you want the added aural feedback for page links, just turn off this switch.

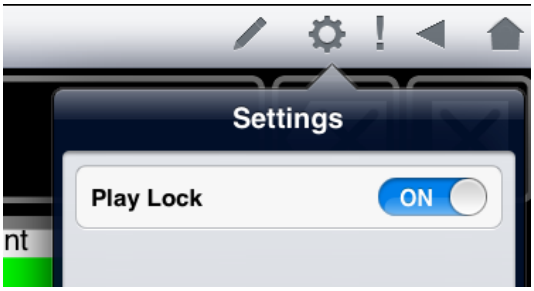
The **Button Pop** settings let you adjust the amount of the "pop" and the duration of the pop. The button pop is the same as a "zoom" that you may see on other systems. It expands the button image and text temporarily. You can even turn off the pop by moving the sliders all the way to the left.



Use the button pop along with the "preview" accessibility mode to make buttons easier to see. Larger pop values make the button easier to see in preview mode and then the user can select the button if it's the one they want.

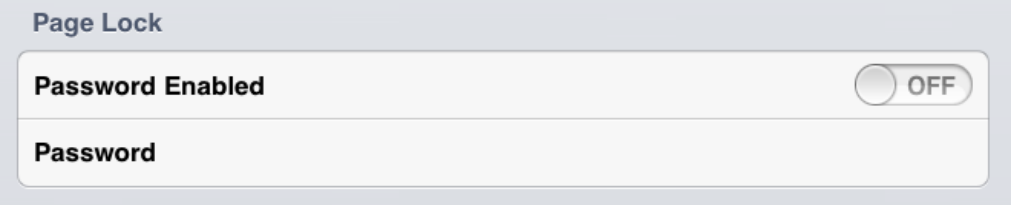
Play Lock

Play lock disables editing and most other controls so that users can't inadvertently change anything. If you want to lock down the system so that there's no chance of changing it use this switch. You can also password-protect the play lock setting so that even if a user finds the switch, they'll need a password to turn it on.



You get to the play lock switch from the app settings under the gear icon. Tap the play lock switch to turn on play lock. The only toolbar buttons that work now are the page list and home/back navigation buttons.

The password settings are accessible from the iPad's Settings app. Start the Settings app and scroll down to the app section and then down to TS Choice.



In the Play Lock section, there is a switch to enable the password protection and a field to enter the password. If you ever forget the password, you can just retype a password to reset it.

About

All About functions are available under the “!” icon in the toolbar.

Get Choice AAC

Our Choice AAC speech-production page set can be purchased via an In App Purchase. This screen shows you the Choice AAC description document and lets you start the In App Purchase process. You can print or email the Choice AAC description document.

The Choice AAC™ page set provides augmented communicators with a robust set of essential core vocabulary. These words equip people to communicate effectively, whether at a single or multi-word developmental level. Core vocabulary is the high-frequency vocabulary that is inherent in all conversations. It is what enables augmented communicators to go beyond requesting objects and activities to communicating for a broader range of functions such as asking questions, directing others, commenting, negating, etc. This page set incorporates Pixons®, a powerful symbol system for representing core vocabulary.

Restore Choice AAC

Use this screen to re-enable Choice AAC on a new iPad or restore it to your iPad if you’ve reinstalled the app. You can also use this screen to overwrite your current Choice AAC page set if you want to restore it to the default configuration

Acknowledgements

The acknowledgements screen shows legal and copyright information.

Introduction

The Introduction gives you a basic introduction on how to use TapSpeak Choice and goes over the new features in the latest version of TapSpeak Choice. You can email or print the document from this screen.

TapSpeak Website

This item takes you to the TapSpeak website in a new Safari window.

YouTube Channel

We have many YouTube videos on how to use TapSpeak apps on our YouTube channel. We’re constantly adding new videos to help you learn all the features of TapSpeak Choice.

Help Site

Our help site lets you create help tickets and browse our help topics. While we have some help topics on our web site, this has more details and how-to’s. You can track your help ticket(s) here. You’ll be directed to a new Safari window when you tap this item.

Submit Help Ticket

This item opens a new help ticket on our help site in a new Safari window.

Register
You can subscribe to our newsletter with this item.

Refresh Keyboards
If you ever need to restore your system keyboards to their original state, this function will do that. Tap this item and in a few seconds your keyboards will be restored. You'll get an alert when the restore is completed.

Backup Your Data!

It is very important that you back up your data!

I'll say it again.

It is very important that you back up your data!

You've spent a long time setting up Choice to be exactly what you need. iPads, while quite reliable, can be accidentally wiped clean, setups overwritten or deleted, lost, or stolen. Without a good backup you'll have to redo your work and try to remember what you did. We don't want you to ever have to go through that.

TapSpeak Choice gives you the option of backing up to Dropbox or to iTunes File Sharing. We recommend using Dropbox as it gives you a safe, portable, and permanent way to save your backup files.

This table compares the different backup destinations

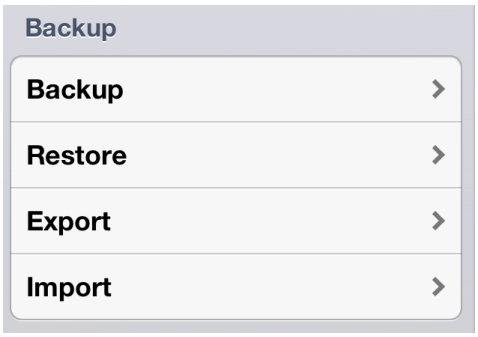
	Dropbox	iTunes File Sharing	iCloud
Supported	Yes	Yes	No
Cost	Free for 2GB-18GB	Free	Free up to 5GB
Access Methods	Web, App, Plug-in	Computer only	Only through the app that created the data. No external access
Cloud access	Yes	No	Yes
Supports other applications	Yes	No	No
Keep file versions	Yes	No	No

Please Note: The Export/Import feature is the same as the pre-version 5.0 backup/ restore. If you need to restore a version 4.0 or earlier backup file, use the Import feature.

Backup

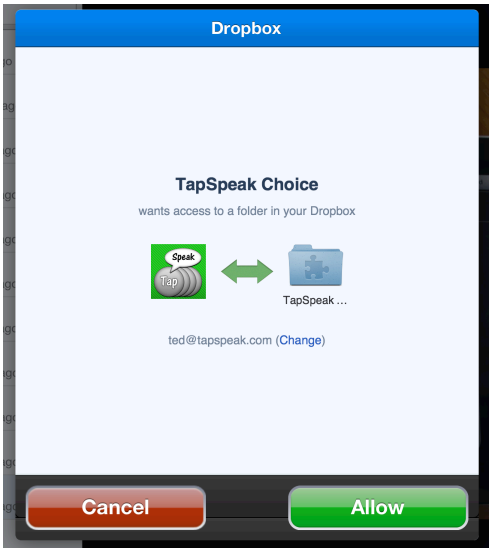
You can set up Dropbox via the Dropbox website or via the Dropbox app on your iPad.

Get to the backup function from the About menu.

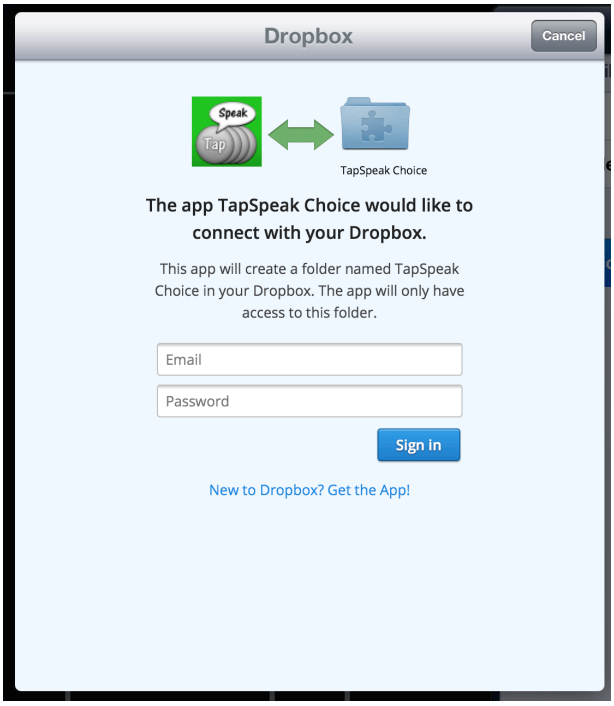


Tap Backup to start. The first time you back up Choice, you'll need to link your Dropbox Account.

Tap Link Account. If you have the Dropbox app installed you'll be directed to the Dropbox app to link your account to TapSpeak Choice. Tap Allow to allow TapSpeak Choice to access your Dropbox account. A TapSpeak folder will be added to your Dropbox account and all backup files will be stored in the Apps/TapSpeak folder.



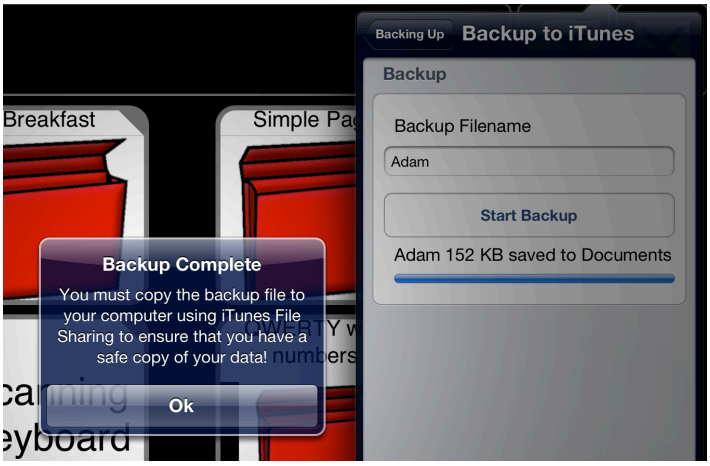
If you don't have the Dropbox app installed, you'll see a screen similar to this. Follow the prompts on the Dropbox screen to link TapSpeak Choice to your Dropbox account.



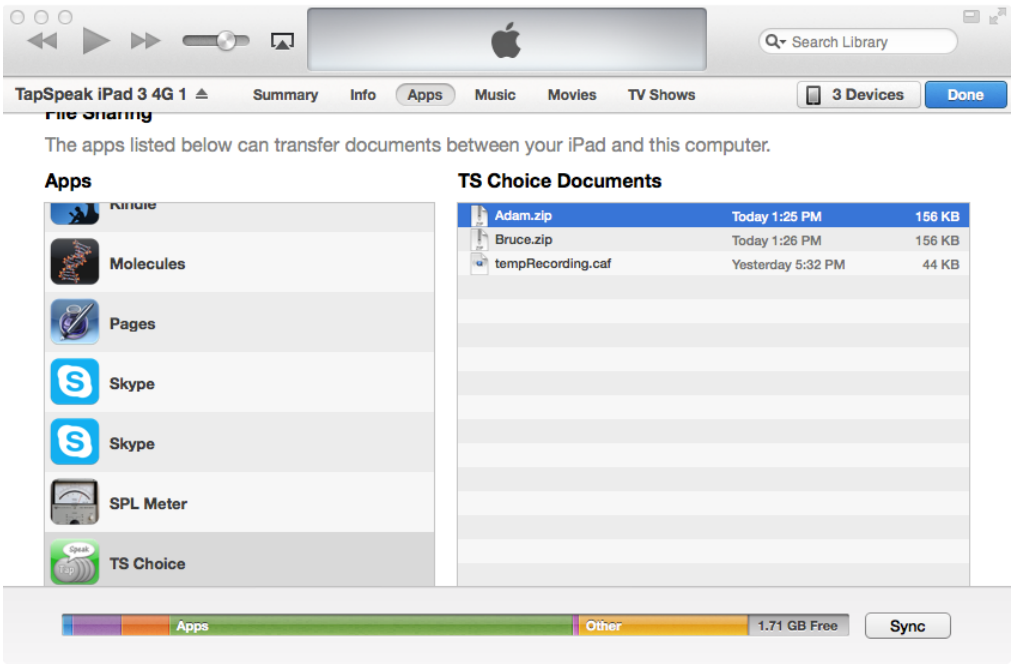
Now, enter a backup file name and tap Start Backup to begin your backup.

You'll see a series of messages as you're backing up your setup.

if you backed up using iTunes File Sharing, you'll see an alert telling you to copy your backup file from iTunes File Sharing to your computer.



If you backed up to iTunes File Sharing, you need to copy your backup file from your iPad to your computer. Make sure your iPad is connected to your Computer and start iTunes. Make sure you're viewing your Library (upper-right corner) and select your iPad (just to the left of the Library/iTunes Store button). Tap The Apps tap at the top, scroll down to the File Sharing section and then tap TS Choice in the File Sharing section. In the TS Choice Documents section you see a list of your backup files; they'll have a "xml" file extension. Drag and drop your backup file(s) to you computer to make sure you have a safe copy of your data. To be extra safe, copy your backup file to a USB drive, memory stick, etc., as a secondary backup location.

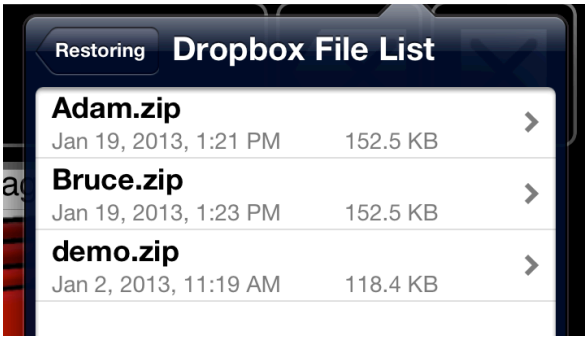


Restore

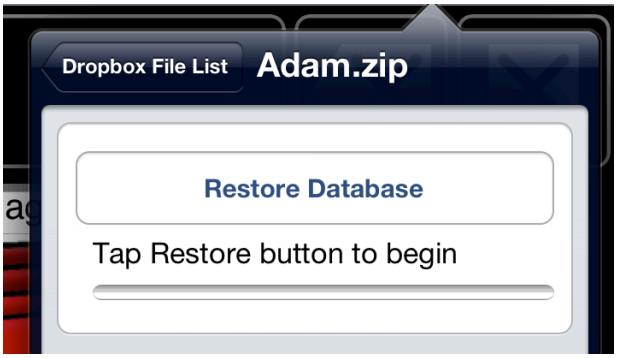
Restoring your database from a backup completely replaces your existing database with the contents of your backup file. If you are in any way unsure about replacing your current database, back it up before performing a restore.

Start a restore the same way as starting a backup. Tap the "!" icon in the tool bar, and tap Restore. At the next screen, select your restore file source - Dropbox or iTunes File Sharing. You have the option to link/unlink your Dropbox account here.

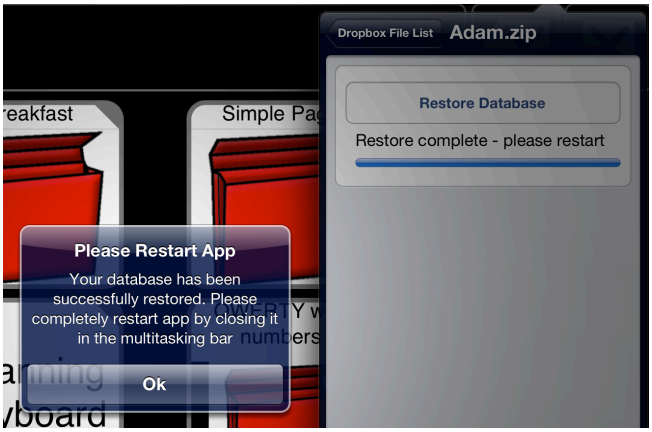
Once you've selected your restore file source, select a backup file to restore. You'll see a list of file names, date they were backed up, and the backup file size. Select a file to proceed to the next step.



After you've selected a backup file to restore, tap the Restore Database button to restore your database. You'll see a series of messages as the backup file is restored.



After your database is restored, you need to completely stop TapSpeak Choice via the multitasking bar and then restart the app. To completely restart the app, first close the app by tapping the home button. Next, double-tap the iPad's home button to bring up the multitasking bar. Long-press the TS Choice icon until it wiggles and shows the red minus sign badge. Tap the red minus sign badge to completely close the app. Tap the home button to dismiss the multitasking bar. Now restart the app and you'll see your restored database.



Export

The Export feature is the same as the pre-version 4.0 backup function. Export works the same as Backup so follow the Backup instructions to do an export. Export produces an XML file which can be edited and Imported. Documentation on the XML schema and

editing topics is beyond the scope of this document. Please contact help@tapspeak.com for more help on using exported XML files.

Import

The Import feature is the same as the pre-version 4.0 backup function. Export works the same as Backup so follow the Backup instructions to do an export. Export produces an XML file which can be edited and Imported. Documentation on the XML schema and editing topics is beyond the scope of this document. Please contact help@tapspeak.com for more help on using exported XML files.

Library View

The library view shows you libraries that you have set up to organize commonly-used buttons. Library use is optional, but if you find yourself creating lots of pages for specific circumstances, they are very helpful. It's helpful in editing in that you can make a change to a button in a library and all pages that use that button will immediately reflect that change. You don't have to go to each page to make that change. Also, there are more button features available for editing in the library view than in the page view.

Buttons created in a library can be used on any page. Pages consist of references to buttons stored in libraries. So, if you make a change to a button in a library, all buttons reflect that change.

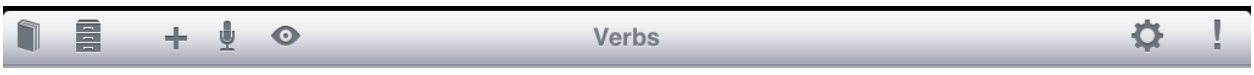
You can organize libraries any way you wish, but two organization styles are common:

Organize by Category - Create libraries for actions, nouns, locations, etc. Create a library for family members, school supplies, verbs, medical need phrases.

Organize by Page - Create libraries for which you want to create pages. If you have more buttons for library than you can fit on a single page, it's easy to create multiple pages but manage all the buttons in a single library.

If you add buttons to a page using the "New" option, buttons go to a special library called "Ad Hoc". You don't have to edit buttons in the Ad Hoc library but you can.

Toolbar



The library toolbar buttons from left to right are:

- Page/User list

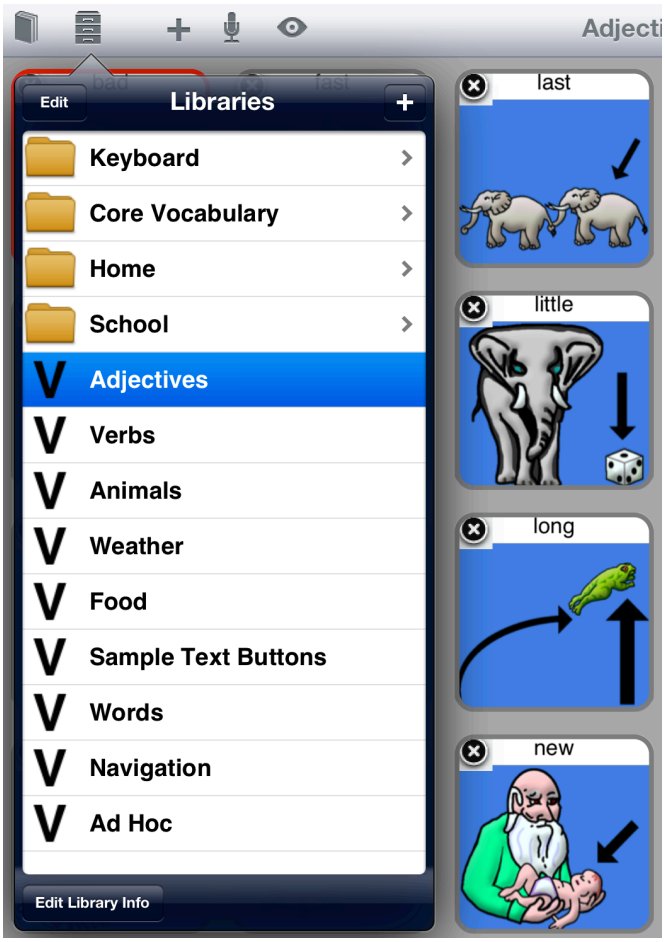
- Library list
- Add button
- Speech editor (deprecated - use editor list from a button long-tap)
- Image editor (deprecated - use editor list from a button long-tap)
- Settings
- About

Page/User List

Tapping this button in the library view takes you to the page view. See Page/User List

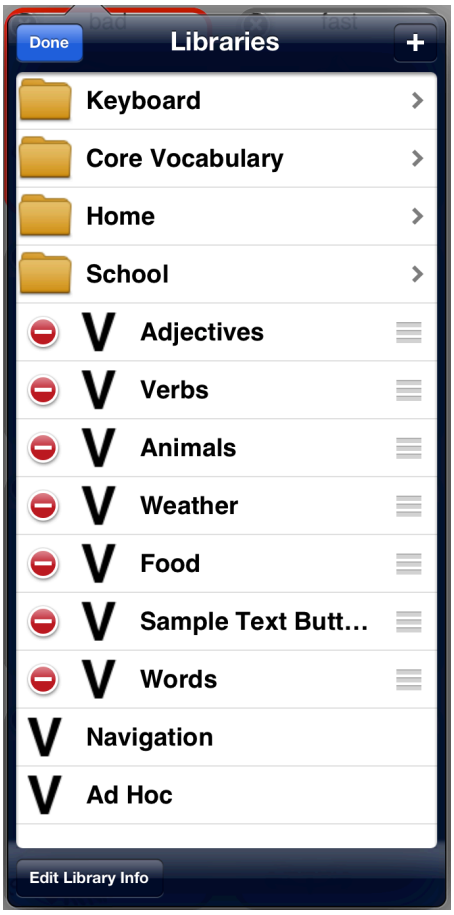
Library List

While in the library view, tapping the library list button brings up the library list. In the library list you can create, edit, and delete libraries. You can also access library folders.



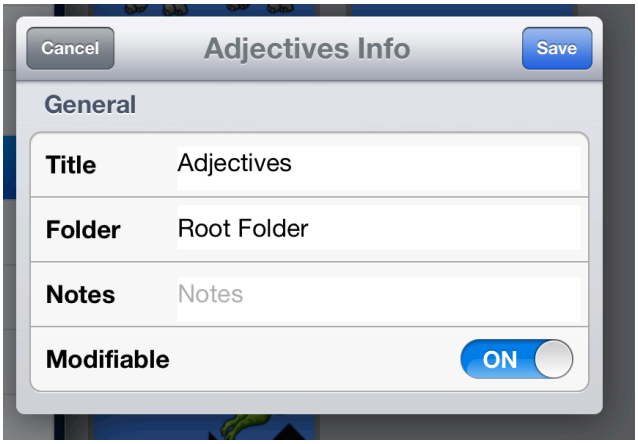
Select any library in the library list to bring up the library for editing. Tap a folder row to show the libraries in that folder.

The **Edit** button enables you to delete and rearrange libraries. Note that some libraries cannot be deleted. For example, the Navigation and Ad Hoc libraries cannot be deleted. Even when you tap the Edit button, you cannot delete these libraries. Tapping the Done button exits the edit mode.



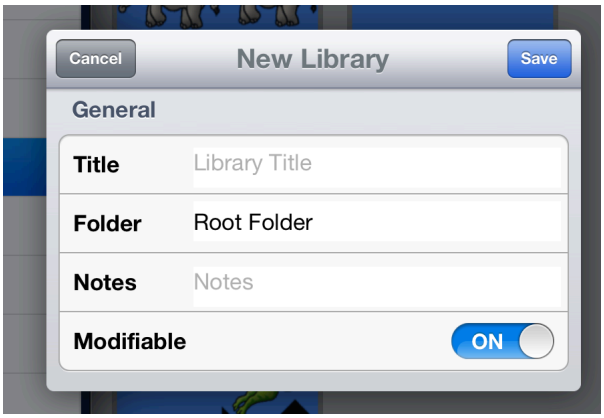
If you have enabled editing of the message window buttons in your iPad's Settings app, you'll also see the Message Window and Page Windows libraries. These libraries cannot be deleted.

The **Edit Library Info** button lets you edit information about the library. Highlight the library you want to edit and tap the Edit Library Info button.



You can edit the library title, select a different folder for the library, enter some notes about the library and set the library to be read-only or modifiable. The Notes field isn't used anywhere else in the app. It's there for you to provide some information about the library you created. The Modifiable switch disables all editing functions for the library to prevent it from being inadvertently changed.

Tapping the "+" button in the library list creates a new library.



You must enter a title for the library to save the library. Tap the Cancel button to cancel adding the library.

"+" Button

The "+" button adds a new button to the library. It will be placed at the upper left-hand corner of the button area. Long-press the button to bring up the editor list so you can begin editing it.

Microphone Button

The microphone button was the original way of accessing the speech editor for a button. This has now been deprecated in favor of using the editor list. See Speech Editor for more information on using the speech editor.

Eye Button

The eye button was the orignial way of accessing the image editor for a button. This has now been deprecated in favor of using the editor list. See Image Editor for more information on using the image editor.

Settings

The gear icon accessing the library settings menu. You can edit library folders and coloring systems in the library settings.

Library folder editing is the same as editing page folders. See Board Folders for more information.

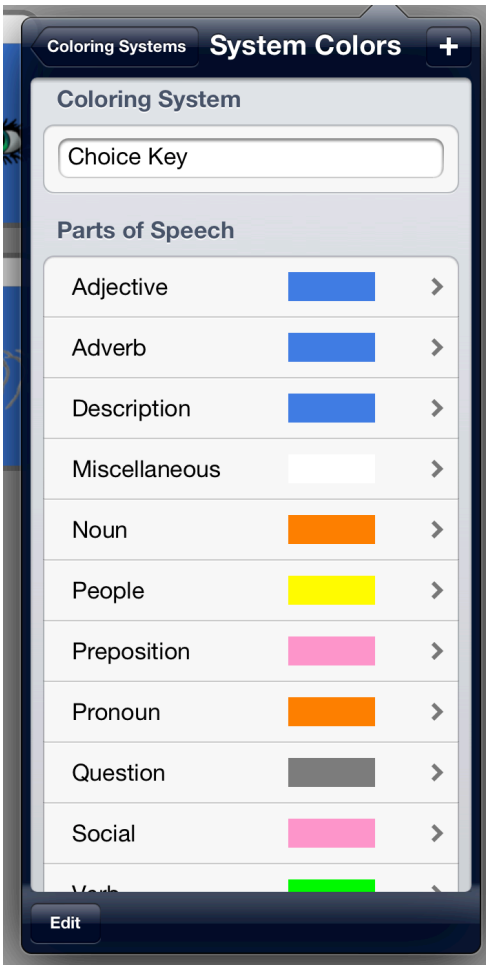
Background Coloring Systems are described below.

Coloring Systems

The background coloring systems are used for both button background and border colors. TapSpeak Choice comes by default with a coloring system we call Choice Key. You can set up any number of coloring systems configured in the app.

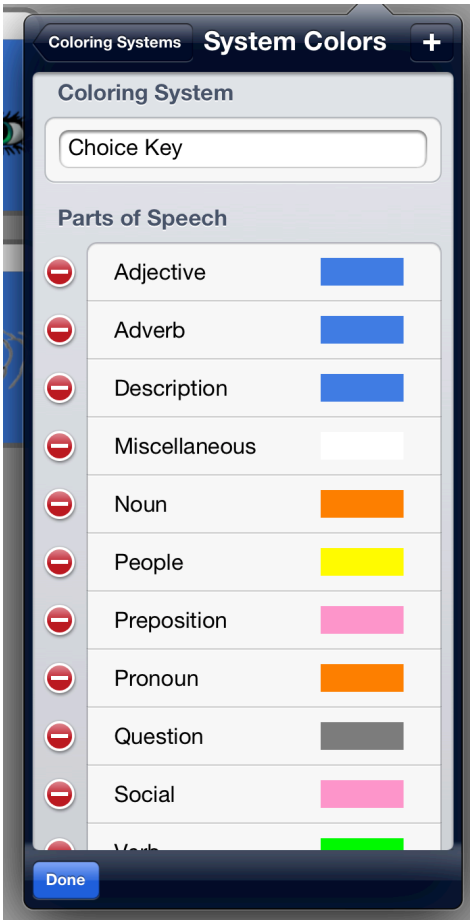
Tap the Default Coloring System row to select a default coloring system. Select one of the coloring system that you have created as the current, or default, coloring system.

Tap any of the coloring systems in the Coloring Systems section to edit the coloring system.

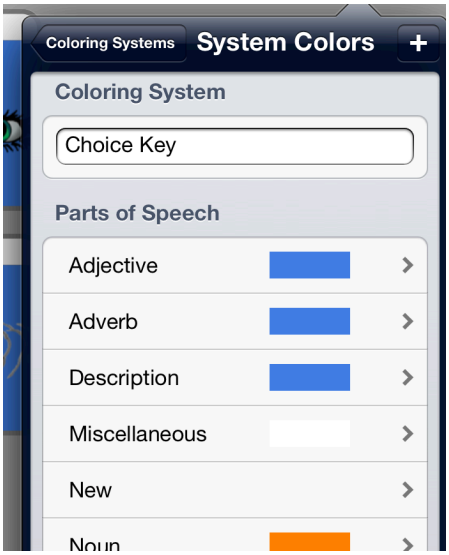


The coloring system table shows the coloring system name and a list of all the parts of speech and colors defined for the coloring system. Change the name of the coloring system by tapping the name filed and typing in a different name.

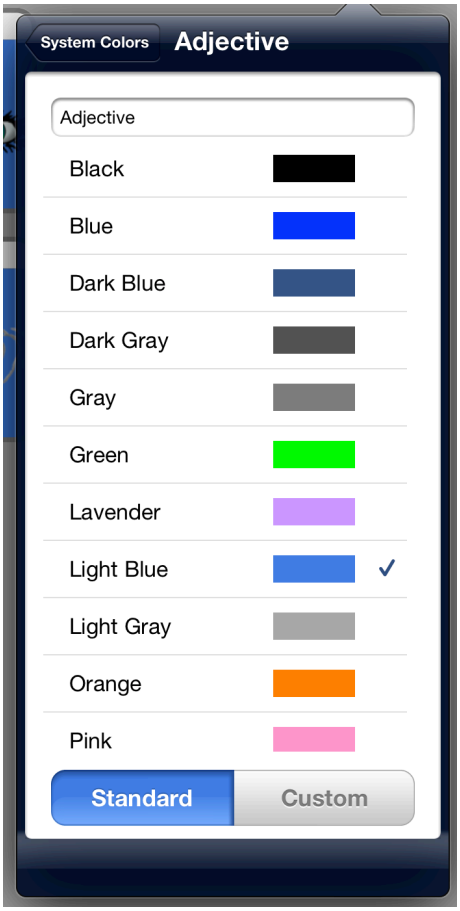
The Edit button lets you delete parts of speech rows. Parts of speech are always ordered alphabetically and the order cannot be changed unless you change the name of a part of speech.



Add a part of speech by tapping the “+” button. A part of speech is added with the name “New” and its color is left undefined.



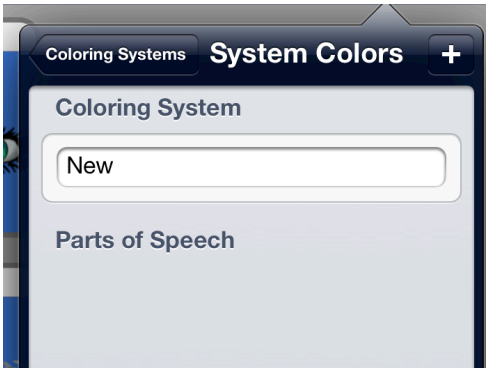
Edit a part of speech by tapping its row. You’ll see a text field where you can type in the part of speech name and select a color.



Only the standard system-defined color list is currently available. Just tap a color to select that color for the part of speech.

You can create your own coloring system. On the coloring system table, tap the “+” button in the upper-right corner. A new coloring system will be created with the title “New”. Tap that row to edit the coloring system.

Tap the “New” row to edit the coloring system. You’ll see a system colors list with no parts of speech. Tap the coloring system name field to type in a new name for the coloring system. Tap the “+” button to add new parts of speech and then tap the part of speech to edit the part of speech name and select the part of speech color.



About

The About button, the “!” icon, brings up the About menu. It’s identical to the About menu accessible from the page view. See About for more information.

Library Button Editing

You can edit buttons from both the page and library views. There are some editing functions available in just the library view, some common to both, and some editing functions in the page view override settings in the library. Additionally some library view editors are only available in the Navigation library.

Here's a table that lists these distinctions:

Editor Item	Page	Library	Page Override
Speech Editor	✓	✓	
Image Editor	✓	✓	
Background Color	✓	✓	✓
Border Color	✓	✓	✓
Completion Action	✓	✓	✓
Delete Button	✓	✓	
Word Type		✓	
Word Variations		✓	
Link to Message Window		✓- Navigation	
Reset Page Reference		✓- Navigation	
Copy Page LInk Button		✓- Navigation	

Page Override means that a button setting made on the page view doesn't change the setting in the library view. New buttons added to a page from a library aren't affected by a page setting. If a library setting is changed, the button with a page override doesn't see it.

In the library view, you'll see these button editor options:

Word Type

The Choice AAC page set has word types defined. The default page set does not. In a future version we'll have a way to create your own word types. Word types are used to provide morphology to words. For example with verbs, you can conjugate verbs and enter all conjugations. By default all words have no word type. Change word type by selecting a word type. Be aware that when you change a word type, any word variation you have entered for the previous word type will be deleted.

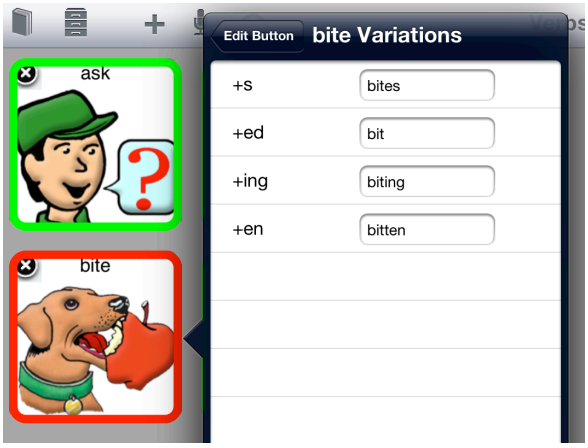
Word Variations

Word variations are used in conjunction with word types to provide word morphology. Currently this is only active in the Choice AAC page set. The word variation types are predefined for word types. When you change a button's word type, the set of word variations automatically change to match the new word type.

For example, with bite, the verb word variations are

Word variation type	Word variation
Present third person	bites

Word variation type	Word variation
Preterite	bit
Present participle	biting
Past participle	bitten



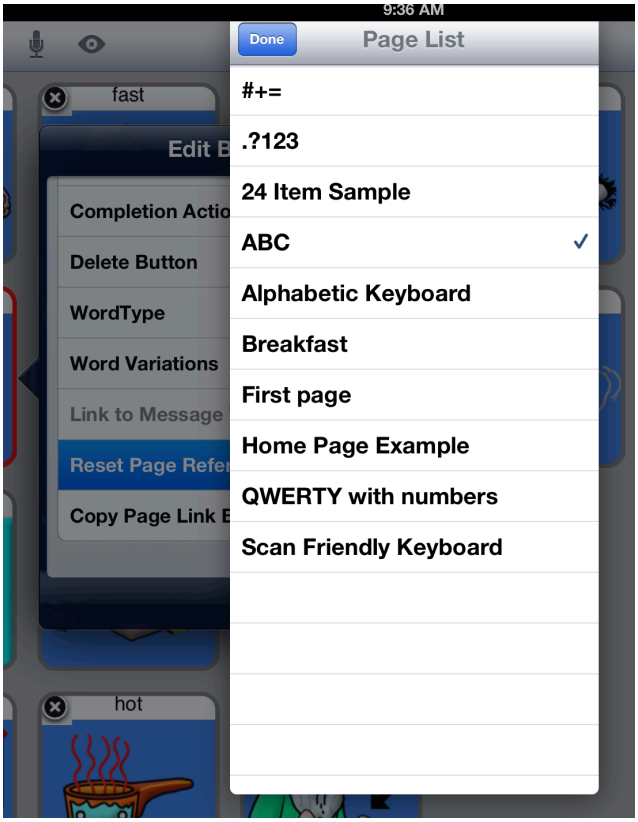
Link to Message Window

This option is only available for page link buttons (in the Navigation library). When this switch is set to On the page link button is copied to the message window. By default it is off and page links are not sent to the page window.

Sending page links to the message window is useful with some speech production page sets.

Reset Page Reference

This option is only available for page link buttons (in the Navigation library). If you ever need to reset a page link page reference you can do so with this option. Tap it to show a list of all pages in your page set. The current page reference (if any) is marked with a check. Change where the page link will take you by selecting another page reference.



Copy Page Link Button

This option is only available for page link buttons (in the Navigation library). This is useful for some page sets that have multiple pages that link to the same page but need a different image for that page link button on each page that it appears. Tap this option and it will copy the button with “Copy of” added to the button title.

You can edit a page link button copy just like any other button.

You can delete a page link copy. This is the ONLY case where you’ll see a delete badge on a page link button. When you’ve deleted all page link copies but one, the delete badge no longer shows on the page link button.

Concepts

Page Linking

TapSpeak Choice makes it easy for you to link pages. Whenever you add a page to your setup, a page link button is added to the Navigation library. To link from a page to another page, just add a page link button from the Navigation library to your page.

Here's the process:

1. Create the page you want to navigate to. You don't have to add buttons to it right away. Creating a page adds that page's page link button to the Navigation library.
2. Go to your source page, e.g., the home page.
3. Tap the "+" button in the toolbar and select Navigation
4. Scroll left/right until you see a page link button with the title of the destination page you created. Note that you can change the page link button's image, title, background color, etc.
5. Drag and drop the page link button onto your page.

That's it!

You don't have to ever create a page link button as in any other AAC app. It's all managed for you in TapSpeak Choice. If you delete a page, the page link button is removed, when you add a page, a page link button is created for you.

Scanning

Scan/Select Switch Definitions and Usage

Scanning uses the concept of a "scan" and a "select" switch. For one-switch scanning, the scan and select switch use the same switch but for two-switch scanning they are separate switches.

A "scan" switch activation initiates scanning. For auto-scanning modes, this starts advancing scanning through buttons (or rows/columns) using the scan speed setting's scan rate.

A "select" switch selects a button or a row/column.

When using a single switch, the switch is a combination scan and select switch. When scanning is inactive it's a scan switch, and while you're scanning it's a select switch. You can only use auto-scanning modes with a single switch. The iPad surface is a single switch.

Step scanning is a bit different. The scan switch advances scanning one element (button, row, or column). The select switch selects the element. There's a timeout on scanning where if scanning is idled for a long time without another scan or select, scanning will be reset.

Scanning With/Without Message Window

When you're using the message window with scanning, you'll first do a zone scan between the message window and the page area. The zone scan lets you choose wether you'll scan through the message window buttons (message window, clear,

backspace) or scan through the page's buttons. This increases efficiency by not having to scan through the message window buttons to get to the page buttons.

When you're not using the message window, there is no zone scan. You simply scan through the page's buttons.

Scan Rate Speed Enhancements
For higher scan rates, you can reduce or eliminate the button pop. Go to the Button Settings screen and reduce the button pop amount to 0%.

You can also speed up audio prompt speaking rate in the Voice setup. Go to the Voices setting screen and select Scanning. The default speaking rate is 180 words per minute. You can adjust that up to 700, but find some speaking rate that's a good fit for your scan rate. Use the "Test Voice" button to sample your voice settings.

How Do I Arrange Pages/Folders?

Pages can be arranged, generally, for speech production or communication boards. Speech production pages should be organized in a way that core vocabulary and higher-frequency words are the easiest to get to. Communication boards don't need to have such a focus on core vocabulary and thus can be arranged by situation, time of day, or categories of items/phrases.

TapSpeak Choice is great for beginning communicators that start with two buttons on up to several or more buttons on a board. These boards don't have such a need for organizations like speech production or communication board systems.

Pages can have parent/child relationships where one page has links to another page. This is different from the folders used in TapSpeak Choice. The folder feature is meant to be used just to have convenient places to organize pages so that you can find them when doing guided access or just to break up large collections of pages. There is no need for the folder organization to match the page parent/child relationships.

Choose a page organization that meets your needs. TapSpeak Choice is flexible enough to support any organization you choose.

TapSpeak Choice Settings App Settings

TapSpeak Choice has both settings in the app and settings in the iPad's Settings app. The settings in the Settings app should rarely need to be changed. Settings in the app are meant to be more easily accessible for more frequent changes.To get to the Settings app settings, open the Settings app, scroll down to the app settings and continue scrolling to TS Choice. Tap it and you'll see the settings on the right-hand side.

System Settings

This section currently only has one setting, the default text button text size. This settings sets the default size of text on a text button. A text button is an image type on a button's image editor. This is a value between 0 and 9 with 0 being the smallest text size and 9 being the largest. The 9 value is appropriate for a single letter on a button.

Play Lock

The Page Lock settings let you use a password with the page lock function. Turn on the switch to enable passwords and then enter a password. Now a password is required to exit play lock mode in the app. You can easily reset the password by typing over the existing password.

Windows Library

The modify switch, when set on, enabling editing of the message window buttons (message, backspace, clear) and the page window areas (message window and page area). You can change the prompt for these items for different languages and change the backspace and clear button images.

After you enable this option, you still need to set the library modifiable switch to on to edit the buttons. These libraries are by default read only.

The library names are “Message Window” for the message, backspace, and clear buttons and “Page Windows” for the page and message window areas.

Bluetooth Switch Support

The Swap Switches setting lets you swap the meaning of a switch interface’s switches. The scan switch becomes the select switch and the select switch becomes the scan switch. This is useful for configuring interfaces where switches are swapped and you don’t want to or can’t change the physical switch locations.

Keyboard

The Message Window Text Case setting lets you select how letter case is handled in the message window. You can have mixed case, upper case, or lower case. With mixed case, the first letter of every sentence is capitalized.

Dropbox

This section has been deprecated.

PCS

Before TapSpeak Choice 4.0, Dynavox/Mayer-Johnson PCS symbols were our standard symbols. If you need to re-enable PCS symbols, send us an email at help@tapspeak.com and we’ll send you instructions to do so.

Voice List and Language Settings

We offer Acapela high-quality text-to-speech voices with TapSpeak Choice. We support 40 languages and 88 voices for those languages. Following is a list of the languages and voices we offer.

The voices you see on the app's voice download list correspond to your iPad's language settings. You only see the voices for the language setting on your iPad. You can see the language options by launching the Settings app on your iPad, select General on the left-hand side, and scrolling down on the right to International. Under International is the Language setting. Select it to see the language list.

If you select a different language under Languages, the iPad will take a moment to reset. When it comes back, the iPad will be localized to the language setting. That means that apps set up to be localized (like the Settings app) will show prompts and labels in the selected language.

TapSpeak Choice uses the language setting to determine which voices to make available to you. Some voices use the Region setting under International. You'll see in the following list the languages that need a region setting to be selected.

- Arabic
  - Leila
  - Mehdi
  - Nizar
  - Salma
- Australian English
  - Tyler
- Flemish/Belgian Dutch (Language = Dutch, Region = Belgium)
  - Jeoren
  - Jeoren Happy
  - Jeoren Sad
  - Sofie
  - Zoe
- Brazilian
  - Marcia
- British English
  - Graham
  - Lucy
  - Nizareng
  - Peter

    - Peter Happy
    - Peter Sad
    - Queen Elizabeth
    - Rachel
- French Canadian (Language = French, Region = Canada)
    - Louise
- Catlan
    - Laia
- Czech
    - Eliska
- Danish
    - Mette
    - Rasmus
- Dutch
    - Daan
    - Femke
    - Jasmijn
    - Max
- Finland Swedish
    - Samuel
- Finnish
    - Sanna
- French
    - Alice
    - Antoine
    - Antoine From Afar
    - Antoine Happy
    - Antoine Sad
    - Antoine Up Close
    - Bruno
    - Clair
    - Julie
    - Margaux
    - Margaux Happy

    - Margaux Sad
- German
    - Andreas
    - Julia
    - Klaus
    - Sarah
- Gothenburg Swedish
    - Kal
- Greek
    - Dimitris
    - Dimitris Happy
    - Dimitris Sad
- Indian English
    - Deepa
- Italian
    - Chiara
    - Fabiana
    - Vittorio
- Japanese
    - Sakura
- Mandarin Chinese
    - Lulu
- Norwegian
    - Bente
    - Karl
    - Olav
- Polish
    - Ania
- Portuguese
    - Celia
- Russian
    - Alyona
- Scanian
    - Mia

- Spanish
  - Antonio
  - Ines
  - Maria
- Swedish
  - Elin
  - Emma
  - Erik
- Turkish
  - Ipek
- US English
  - Heather
  - Kenny
  - Laura
  - MIcah (Southern)
  - Nelly
  - Ryan
  - Saul (Urban)
  - Tracy
  - Will
  - Will Bad Guy
  - Will From Afar
  - Will Happy
  - Will Little Creature
  - Will Old Man
  - Will Sad
  - Will Up Close
- US Spanish (Language = Spanish, Region = United States)
  - Rosa