

# Text to Voice

- 'Speak Screen'

iPad & iPhone

iPaddlers

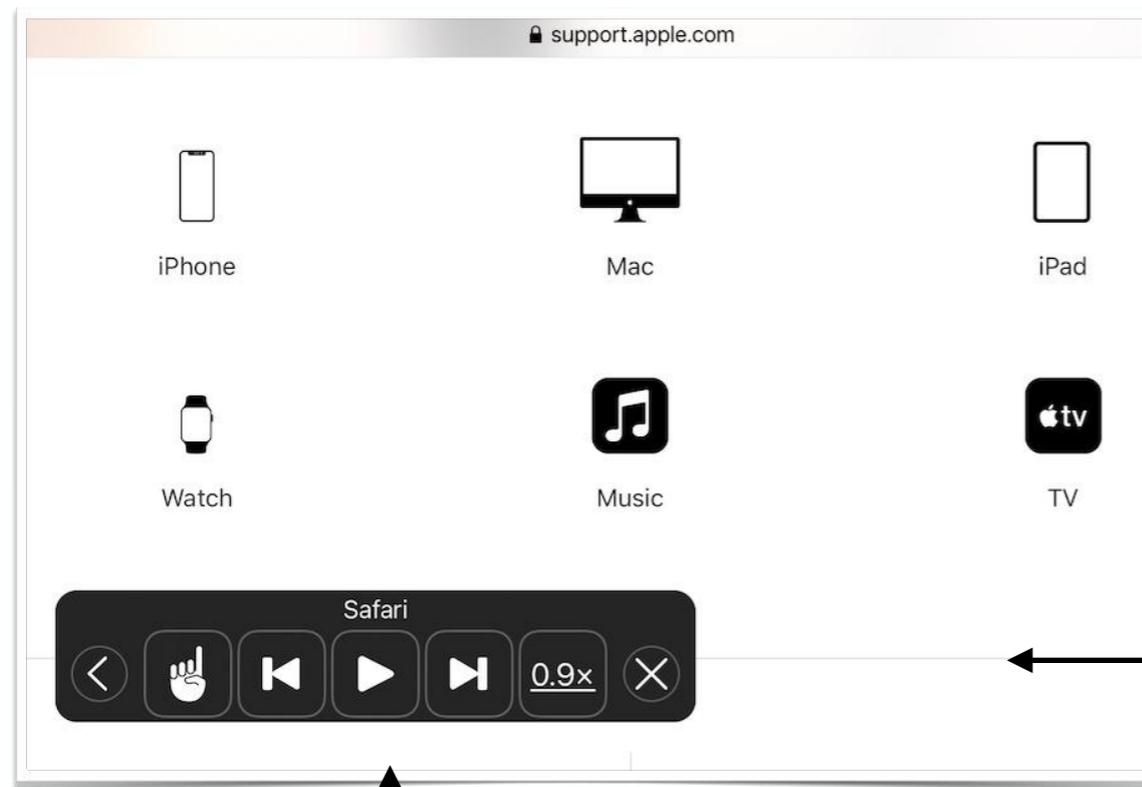
Designed for iPad with iPad OS 14 Relevant to other iOS devices also.

March 2021

## The iPad can convert text into its spoken language counterpart

The iPad can speak out selected text, or the entire text on a particular screen. This is really useful in certain situations, such as the need to rest one's eyes in low light conditions, or for people who are visually impaired. This is independent of **VoiceOver**, which if enabled provides voice feedback on whatever actions the user is performing with the iPad (*not covered in this tutorial*). Even with VoiceOver turned off, the iPad can still be used to **Speak Selection** and **Speak Screen** (as explained in the next slide). These functions can be enabled within **Settings**. The level of functionality available will depend upon which device you are using and the version of iPadOS or iOS that is running on the device. Older devices are limited in this regard.

iPadOS



Speech Controller  
being used in Safari

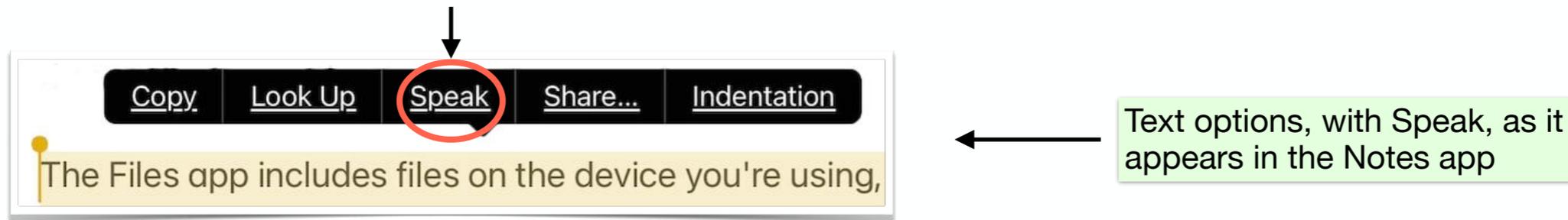
### The **Speech Controller**:

- Shows the name of the currently used app
- Has a hand symbol to activate 'Speak on Touch'
- Has a back arrow for minimising to 'idle view'
- Has an X to close the controller

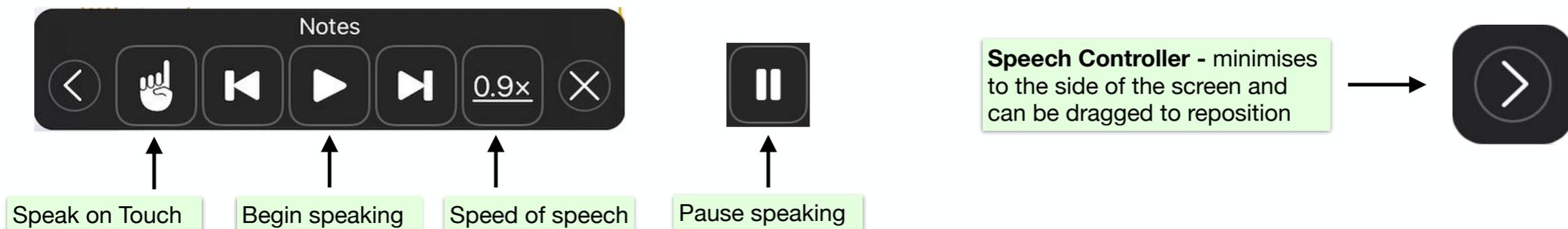
# Common Settings for Spoken Content on the iPad



- **Speak Selection** - A **Speak** option will appear when you select text
- Tap **Speak** - the selected text will be spoken (according to your set **Voices** options)



- **Speak Screen** - activated by swiping down from the top of the screen, with two fingers
- **Speech Controller Panel** - appears on the screen when activated
- **Speak Screen** - can also be activated by the **Siri** command 'Speak Screen!'

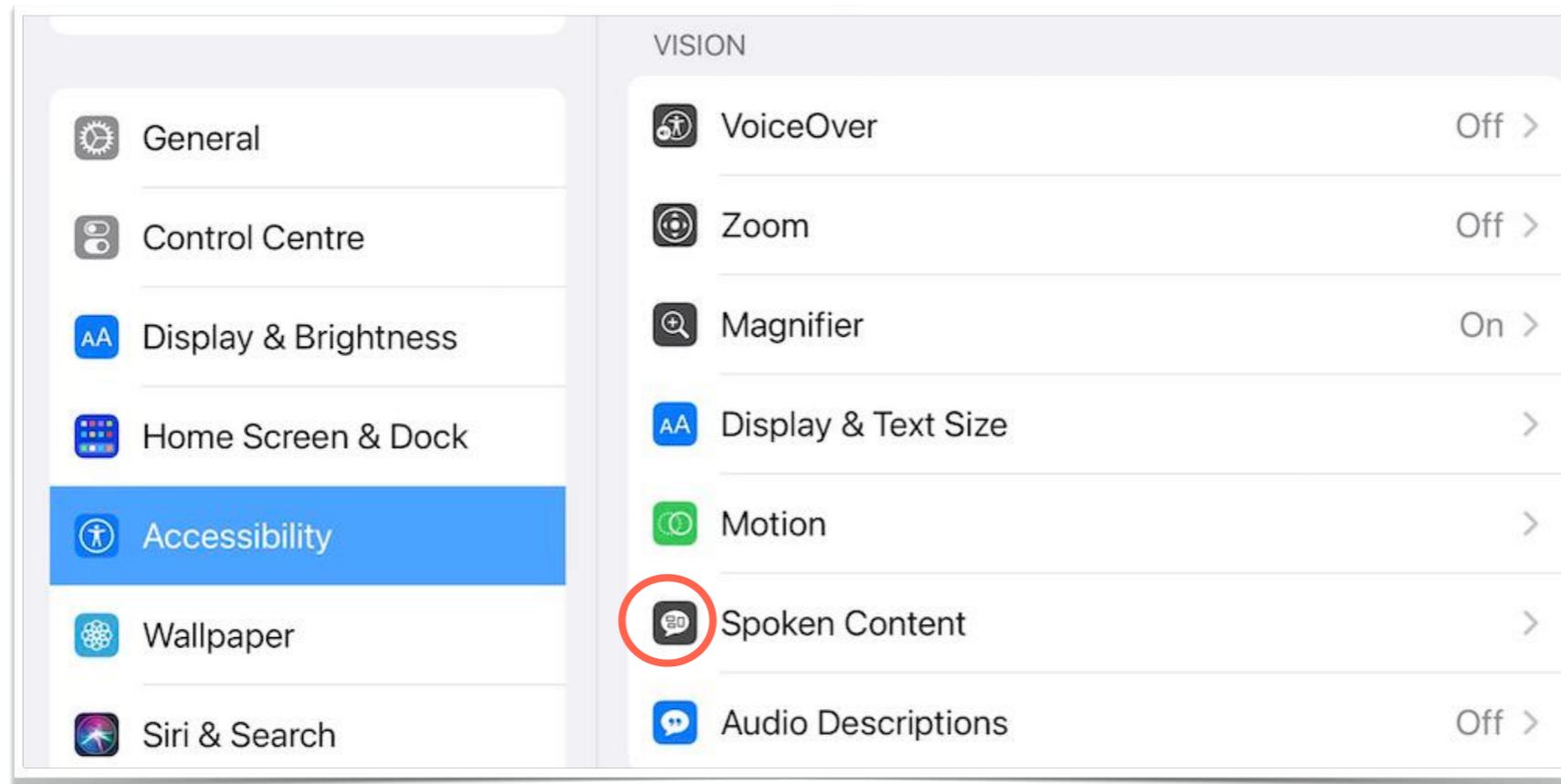


There are various options for configuring the Spoken Content Settings to cater for individual needs. Most of the options are outlined in the Apple iPad OS user guides, including the online guide at Apple Support:

<https://support.apple.com/en-gb/guide/ipad/ipad9a247097/ios>

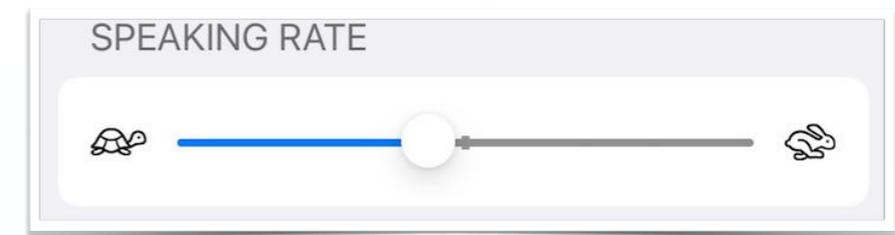
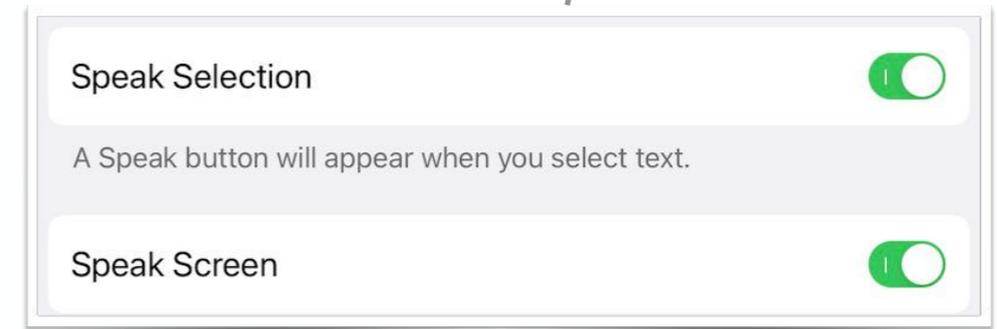


# Accessibility - Speak Screen



## Spoken Content Settings

- Under Settings, scroll down to **Accessibility** and tap to select
- From the options on the right, tap **Spoken Content**
- Under the spoken Content options, make sure **Speak Selection** and **Speak Screen** are on (showing green)
- Make sure you set **SPEAKING RATE** to a reasonable speed (the default is way *too* fast)
- Under **Voices**, you may be able to choose a voice and dialect.



# Speech Controller - Settings

iPadOS

If you like, the **Speech Controller** can be set to always show on the screen by turning on **Show Controller** under the **Speech Controller** Settings (toggle to green).

CONTROLLER ACTIONS are also adjustable, and a slider allows for changing the opacity of the controller whilst in idle mode.

Some of the controller functions seem to only work with newer iPads, an example being the finger icon to start Speak on Touch.

The screenshot shows the 'Speech Controller' settings page. At the top, there is a back arrow and the text 'Spoken Content' and 'Speech Controller'. Below this is a toggle switch for 'Show Controller', which is currently turned on (green). Underneath the toggle is a descriptive paragraph: 'The speech controller allows quick access to Speak Screen and Speak on Touch'. This is followed by two bullet points: '• Expand the controller and press play to start reading all content.' and '• Expand the controller and tap on the finger icon to start Speak on Touch. Then tap or drag anywhere on the screen to hear the content under your finger. Lift your finger to exit Speak on Touch.' Below this is a section titled 'CONTROLLER ACTIONS' with three rows: 'Long Press' with 'Read All Content >', 'Double-tap' with 'Speak on Touch >', and 'Idle Opacity' with '36% >'. At the bottom right of the settings card is a grey square icon with a white right-pointing chevron. Four callout boxes with arrows point to these elements: 'Speech Controller - ON' points to the toggle; 'Only seems to work with newer devices' points to the second bullet point; 'Set the visibility of the Idle icon' points to the 'Idle Opacity' setting; and 'Idle icon at 36% opacity' points to the chevron icon.

Annotations:

- Speech Controller - ON
- Only seems to work with newer devices
- Set the visibility of the Idle icon
- Idle icon at 36% opacity

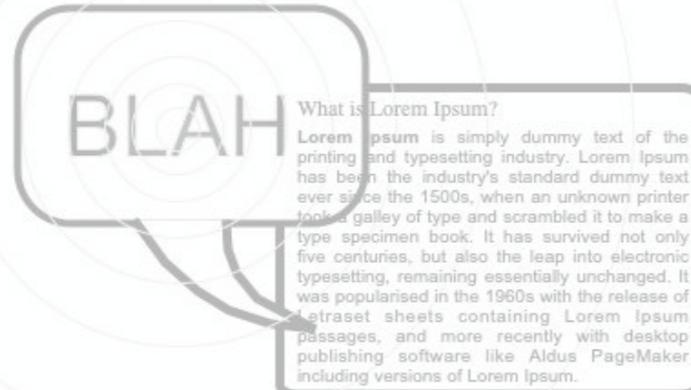
# Summary - Spoken Content Functionality

iPad / iPhone



## Accessibility

- **Spoken Content** - Apple's implementation of Text to Voice technology
- **Speak Selection** and **Speak Screen** - need to be enabled in **Settings** (under Accessibility)
- **Speak Selection** - provides a Speak option when text is selected
- **Speak Screen** - Swipe down from top of screen with two fingers to activate
- **Siri** - can be used to activate **Speak Screen** by using the spoken command 'Speak Screen'
- **Speech Controller** - a panel of controls that appears with **Speak Screen**
- **Speak Controller** - can be moved around the screen whilst in idle mode



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# Apple Logo - Evolution

1977 - 2020



1976 - 1977  
Depicts Isaac Newton  
under an apple tree



1977- 1998  
Originally designed to show  
the new color capability of  
Apple computer screens



1998 - present  
Coinciding with the iMac release.  
Simple and modern, with  
grayscale variations.