

THE BASICS OF ZOOMTEXT

Welcome to Ai Squared, the makers of ZoomText®, the world's leading screen magnification and screen reading software.

ZoomText is a powerful computer access solution that was originally designed for the visually-impaired. The software consists of two adaptive technologies—screen magnification and screen reading. ZoomText allows you to see and hear everything on your computer screen, providing complete access to applications, documents, email, and the Internet.

ZoomText is available in two product versions:

Magnifier – a stand-alone screen magnifier

Magnifier/Reader – a combination magnifier and screen reader

Both versions of ZoomText are designed for users of all ages and skill levels, for those with visual impairments as well as those without. With a precise mix of power and simplicity, ZoomText provides total independence at home, school, and in the workplace.

ZoomText is a software program that you can install on your personal or work computer. ZoomText software magnifies and reads any information on your computer screen. The magnification features allow you to customize your view settings—you can choose a little magnification, like 2x magnification (just like 2x reading glasses you can buy at the pharmacy), or a lot of magnification, up to 36x for those of you who really need to zoom in.

ZoomText's built-in reading features allow you to sit back and relax—and let the realistic voices built into ZoomText read any text that is on your computer screen to you.

Are you an editor or a writer? ZoomText's reading features can provide you with that audible examination that allows you to locate and find awkward sentences or grammatical errors.

Are you someone who works on a computer 9 – 5:00 and find that your eyes get tired as they day goes on? You can rest your eyes while ZoomText reads you those last assignments of the day.

The ZoomText reading features are adjustable to your own personal preferences, and can help rest your eyes—keeping you free from stress headaches or blurred vision due to staring at a computer screen for 8 hours a day.

There are several specific ZoomText products available—your sales representative can help you decide which product is right for you. Each product in the ZoomText family is geared towards a slightly different group of people or a different focus. The product list included under the “Frequently Asked Questions” heading below should help to explain what those differences are, and which of the products might be the best product for you.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS ZOOMTEXT?

ZoomText is a software program that allows individuals to use their computer more effectively. ZoomText provides the option to enlarge the images or text on your computer screen, as well as choose to have the text on your screen read to you. These magnification and screen-reader tools can be used together or separately, or not until you are ready—it all depends on your personal preferences.

WHY SHOULD YOU CONSIDER USING ZOOMTEXT?

ZoomText is a computer software program that has many different uses depending on your personal preferences, job, eyesight, and a myriad of other factors. ZoomText allows anyone using a computer to increase or decrease magnification to their own personal preferences. ZoomText also allows you to select and highlight text to be read aloud to you in the privacy of your home or office, or through headphones at any time.

WHAT IS ZOOMTEXT USB?

ZoomText USB offers the same software, only it is located on a portable USB flash drive instead of on the typical installation disk. You can take ZoomText USB with you everywhere you go since the flash drive itself serves as the required activation—the USB flash drive allows you more portability, and therefore accessibility.

WHAT IS THE LARGE-PRINT KEYBOARD? WHY SHOULD YOU USE IT?

The ZoomText Large-Print Keyboard is the perfect solution for anyone that has a hard time seeing the lettering on their keyboard. The new keyboard provides large, high-contrast lettering that's easy to see, even in low-light conditions.

The ZoomText Large-Print Keyboard also includes 18 programmable feature keys, allowing you to access your favorite ZoomText, internet, and multimedia commands with the touch of a button. Used with ZoomText Magnifier or ZoomText Magnifier/Reader, your low-vision computer workstation is complete.

WHAT IS ZOOMTEXT SCRIPTING?

ZoomText Scripting allows a script writer to create scripts that improve workflow and efficiency for the ZoomText user. Scripting makes it possible to customize the behavior of ZoomText and other applications, providing enhanced magnification and screen reading functionality, and automation of routine tasks. With the power of ZoomText Scripting, users can experience greater productivity and success, especially in workplace environments that require keyboard repetition or routines. (Note: ZoomText Scripting is not your typical out-of-the-box software product—you will need an experienced script writer to write your custom scripts.)

WHAT IS ZOOMTEXT EXPRESS?

ZoomText Express is a product that provides you with a little boost of magnification to help with using any computer. ZoomText Express was designed to be used by anyone—people who have some form of visual impairment as well as those who don't. ZoomText Express was designed specifically with the everyday user in mind. The user-friendly interface allows you to customize your background to choose your own personal, optimal contrast, choose your own magnification setting, and use colorful, easy-to-find cursors that help you keep your place on a page.

MY EYES GET TIRED AT THE END OF THE DAY—HOW CAN ZOOMTEXT HELP ME?

Today's workplace requires that employees spend a significant part of their day on a computer, so it is no surprise that your eyes get tired. Using ZoomText software can help keep your eyes from getting tired by increasing the magnification of any text or images on your computer screen, or by having all of the information on your screen read to you.

I GET HEADACHES FROM USING MY COMPUTER AT WORK. WILL ZOOMTEXT HELP?

Headaches are a common side effect of using a computer all day every day. Straining your eyes for eight or more hours per day can result in many side effects, including Computer Vision Syndrome (CVS). CVS is a common health problem that affects nearly 90% of people who work at a computer on a regular basis. ZoomText allows you to focus on your work without straining to see it. With a magnified image you can view the screen from a comfortable distance at optimal magnification, decreasing eyestrain, irritation, and fatigue.

DO I NEED A SPECIAL MONITOR OR TWO MONITORS TO USE THIS SOFTWARE?

No. ZoomText does not require a special monitor, or even two monitors. ZoomText has a built-in feature that allows you to use two, side-by-side monitors if that setup is what you prefer to use. ZoomText works just as effectively on a standard, single-monitor computer setup.

HOW MANY MAGNIFICATION OPTIONS ARE THERE?

ZoomText provides a wide range of magnification levels, allowing you to enlarge the view according to your needs. Magnification levels include: 1x to 8x in increments of 1; 10x to 16x in increments of 2; 20x to 36x in increments of 4; and fractional powers of 1.25x, 1.5x, 1.75x, and 2.5x.

HOW DOES THIS SOFTWARE READ TO ME?

If you decide to use the built-in reader tools, ZoomText software will read any text to you that you choose. Depending on what you want to hear, you can listen to an entire document, a paragraph, a single line, a single word, an email—ZoomText has the capability to read to you what you want to hear.

WHAT IS AI SQUARED?

Ai Squared is the company that develops and manufactures ZoomText. Ai Squared is headquartered in Manchester, Vermont, and has been a worldwide leader in computer access solutions for over 20 years. Ai Squared's screen magnification and screen reading products dramatically improve a computer's usability and friendliness for all users, raising their level of productivity, satisfaction, and independence. The family of Ai Squared products – ZoomText, ZoomText USB, ZoomText Scripting Edition, the ZoomText Large-Print Keyboard, and ZoomText Express – is distributed through an international network of dealers. For more information, please visit Ai Squared online at www.aisquared.com.