Accessibility

In all areas of computing it is important to give as many people access to the system as possible. This includes users with visual impairments and also people who have problems using the mouse and keyboard. In OS X this is achieved through the functions of the Accessibility System Preferences. To use these:

1. Click on this button in the System Preferences folder

2. Click on the Display button for options for changing the display colors, contrast and increasing the cursor size

3. Click on the Zoom button for options to zoom in on the screen

4. Click on the VoiceOver button to enable VoiceOver which provides a spoken description of what is on the screen

Don’t forget

Experiment with the VoiceOver function if only to see how it operates. This will give you a better idea of how visually impaired users access information on a computer.
Introducing Mountain Lion

5. Click on the Audio button to select an on-screen flash for alerts and how sound is played.

6. Click on the Keyboard button to access options for customizing the keyboard.

7. Click on the Mouse & Trackpad button to access options for customizing these devices.

8. Click on the Speakable Items button to select options for using spoken commands.

9. Click on this button to enable assistive technology such as screen readers.

Don’t forget

The Audio, Keyboard and Mouse & Trackpad accessibility options have links to additional options within their own System Preferences.