Accessibility

It is important for phones to be accessible to as wide a range of users as possible, including those with visual or physical and motor issues. In Android this is done through the Accessibility settings. To use these:

1. Tap on the Settings app
2. Tap on the Accessibility button
3. The main categories are listed at the top of the window. These are Vision, Hearing, and Dexterity and interaction. Tap on one to view the full range of settings within it

Vision settings

To turn off Voice Assistant, tap on the Voice Assistant button once in the second Step 1 and then double-tap on it to turn it off.

The Vision section has a Font size option (accessed from the Screen zoom and font link) where the font size can be increased, or decreased, for compatible apps, display and system settings.

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2. Tap on the **Settings** button at the top of the Voice Assistant window to apply options for how it functions.

3. The active items are highlighted by a blue outline. Tap on an item to hear an audio description.

4. Tap on **Magnification gestures** in the Vision section to access the setting for zooming on the screen by triple-tapping on it.

5. Drag this button **On** and triple-tap on the screen to zoom in on what is being viewed.

Experiment with the Accessibility settings to become familiar with the functionality of each one.
Hearing settings
To use some of the Hearing settings:

1. Tap on the **Hearing** option in Step 3 on page 48

2. Tap on the **Flash notification** option to enable the screen to flash for notifications and calls

3. Tap on the **Turn off all sounds** option to mute sounds for everything

4. Tap on the **Google subtitles CC** (Closed Captions) button

5. Drag the **Google subtitles** button to **On** to display subtitles in compatible apps – e.g. for movies or TV shows. Select the options for how the subtitles are displayed

Only some apps support subtitles, so even if they are turned on they may not appear. Check in an app's specifications in the Play Store to see if it supports subtitles.
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6. Below the **Left/right sound balance** heading drag the slider to the required side to adjust the sound balance when using earphones.

![Left/right sound balance](image)

7. Tap on the **Mono audio** checkbox to use mono if using one earphone.

**Dexterity and interaction settings**
To use some of the Dexterity and interaction settings:

1. Tap on the **Dexterity and interaction** option in Step 3 on page 48.

2. Tap on the **Assistant menu** option to create quick access to items.

3. Tap on the **Tap and hold delay** option to specify a time period before a key becomes active after pressing and holding it.

4. Tap on the **Interaction control** option to specify areas of the screen that can be inactive to touch.

Regardless of the sound balance, keep the overall volume on your phone to a reasonable and comfortable level; if it is too loud it may cause long-term damage, particularly when using earphones.

The options in Steps 3 and 4 are located further down the Dexterity and interaction page.