

Text to Voice Options

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Listening to written content can be a great way to stay informed while multitasking. Whether it's a webpage, article, or email (like <u>Hospice & Palliative Care Today</u>), the following tools can convert text to speech on Chrome, iPhones, and Android devices.

1. Chrome Web Browser (Desktop or Laptop)

Chrome now includes a built-in "Read Aloud" feature for webpages. It highlights text as it reads, making it ideal for articles, news stories, and PDFs. To use:

- a. Right-click on a webpage and select "Open in Reading Mode."
- b. The page opens in a side panel with playback controls.
- c. Highlight the text you'd like read aloud and click Play.
- d. Use the toolbar to adjust voice, speed, and highlighting style.

2. iPhone: Reading Emails and On-Screen Text

- a. Built-in Accessibility (Speak Screen" / "Speak Selection)
 - i. Go to Settings → Accessibility → Spoken Content.
 - ii. Turn on Speak Screen (swipe down with two fingers to read the full screen).
 - iii. Turn on Speak Selection (highlight text, then tap "Speak").
 - iv. Optional: enable Speech Controller for easy access and adjust voice, speed, and highlighting.
 - v. Works in most apps, including Apple Mail.

b. Siri Reading Commands

- i. You can ask Siri to read your emails:
 - 1. "Hey Siri, read my emails."
 - 2. "Hey Siri, read my last email."

Note: Siri typically reads senders and subject lines, not full email text. Works best with the Apple Mail app.

c. Outlook "Play My Emails"

- i. If you use Outlook, enable **Play My Emails** for hands-free listening.
 - 1. Uses Cortana voice assistant to read messages aloud.
 - 2. Allows voice commands to skip, delete, or flag emails.
 - 3. Availability varies by language and region.

3. Android Phones: Reading Emails and Text

- a. Accessibility: "Select to Speak"
 - i. Go to Settings → Accessibility → Select to Speak.
 - ii. Turn on the shortcut to activate the feature when needed.
 - iii. Open an email (in Gmail or another app) and tap text to have it read aloud.
 - iv. Optionally, enable Read in background so it continues reading as you switch apps.
- b. "Reading Mode" App

Some Android phones support or can install a Reading Mode app:

- i. Download *Reading Mode* from Google Play (or use your phone's built-in "Reader Mode").
- ii. Enable the shortcut in Accessibility Settings.
- iii. Open an email, activate Reading Mode, and press Play.
- iv. Works best with plain text emails (not heavy formatting or images).

4. Third-party Apps: "Speaking Email" etc.

If built-in features don't meet your needs, try apps designed specifically for email narration:

- a. <u>Speaking Email</u> (iOS & Android): Reads messages clearly, removes clutter (like signatures or disclaimers), and supports hands-free controls (reply, delete, flag).
- b. <u>@Voice Aloud Reader</u> (Android): Reads highlighted or selected text from apps and webpages.