

Common iOS braille commands

(Updated 1/2017 for iOS 10)

When using a braille display with VoiceOver on your iPhone, iPad, or iPod touch, your braille display may support the following commands to help with navigation.

Navigation

VoiceOver action	Braille command (chord)
Move to previous item	Dot 1 + Space bar
Move to next item	Dot 4 + Space bar
Go to first element	Dot 1 + Dot 2 + Dot 3 + Space bar
Go to last element	Dot 4 + Dot 5 + Dot 6 + Space bar
Item chooser	Dot 2 + Dot 4 + Space Bar
Go to Status bar	Dot 2 + Dot 3 + Dot 4 + Space bar
Go to Notification Center	Dot 4 + Dot 6 + Space bar
Go to Control Center	Dot 2 + Dot 5 + Space bar
Escape current context	Dot 1 + Dot 2 + Space bar
Move to Left Split View App (iPad only)	Dot 3 + Dot 5 + Space bar
Move to Right Split View App (iPad only)	Dot 2 + Dot 6 + Space bar
Move to previous container (iPad only)	Dot 1 + Dot 7 + Space bar
Move to next container (iPad only)	Dot 4 + Dot 7 + Space bar

Scrolling

VoiceOver action	Braille command (chord)
Scroll left one page	Dot 2 + Dot 4 + Dot 6 + Space bar
Scroll right one page	Dot 1 + Dot 3 + Dot 5 + Space bar
Scroll up one page	Dot 3 + Dot 4 + Dot 5 + Dot 6 + Space bar
Scroll down one page	Dot 1 + Dot 4 + Dot 5 + Dot 6 + Space bar
Speak page number or rows being displayed	Dot 3 + Dot 4 + Space bar

Rotor

VoiceOver action	Braille command (chord)
Move to previous item using rotor setting	Dot 3 + Space bar
Move to next item using rotor setting	Dot 6 + Space bar
Select previous rotor setting	Dot 2 + Dot 3 + Space bar
Select next rotor setting	Dot 5 + Dot 6 + Space bar

Interaction

VoiceOver action	Braille command (chord)
Perform simple tap	Dot 3 + Dot 6 + Space bar
Activates the Home button	Dot 1 + Dot 2 + Dot 5 + Space bar
Activates the Volume Up button	Dot 3 + Dot 4 + Dot 5 + Space bar
Activates the Volume Down button	Dot 1 + Dot 2 + Dot 6 + Space bar
Activates the Eject key	Dot 1 + Dot 4 + Dot 6 + Space bar

3D Touch on selected item	Dot 3 + Dot 5 + Dot 6 + Space bar
Start VoiceOver Training	Dot 1 + Dot 3 + Space bar
Stop VoiceOver Training	Dot 1 + Dot 2 + Space bar

Reading

VoiceOver action	Braille command (chord)
Read page starting at selected item	Dot 1 + Dot 2 + Dot 3 + Dot 5 + Space bar
Read page starting at the top	Dot 2 + Dot 4 + Dot 5 + Dot 6 + Space bar

Editing

VoiceOver action	Braille command (chord)
Select all	Dot 2 + Dot 3 + Dot 5 + Dot 6 + Space bar
Select left	Dot 2 + Dot 3 + Dot 5 + Space bar
Select right	Dot 2 + Dot 5 + Dot 6 + Space bar
Tab	Dot 2 + Dot 3 + Dot 4 + Dot 5 + Space bar
Shift Tab	Dot 1 + Dot 2 + Dot 5 + Dot 6 + Space bar
Cut	Dot 1 + Dot 3 + Dot 4 + Dot 6 + Space bar
Copy	Dot 1 + Dot 4 + Space bar
Paste	Dot 1 + Dot 2 + Dot 3 + Dot 6 + Space bar
Activates the Delete key	Space bar or Dot 1 + Dot 4 + Dot 5 + Space bar
Activates the Return key	Space bar or Dot 1 + Dot 5 + Space bar
Undo Typing	Dot 1 + Dot 3 + Dot 5 + Dot 6 + Space bar

Redo Typing	Dot 2 + Dot 3 + Dot 4 + Dot 6 + Space bar
Text search	Dot 1 + Dot 2 + Dot 4 + Space bar
Output text style	Dot 2 + Dot 3 + Dot 4 + Dot 5 + Dot 6 + Space bar
Start dictation when in text field	Dot 1 + Dot 5 + Dot 6 + Space bar
Show/Hide onscreen keyboard	Dot 1 + Dot 4 + Dot 6 + Space bar

Control

VoiceOver action	Braille command (chord)
Toggle Screen Curtain on and off	Dot 1 + Dot 2 + Dot 3 + Dot 4 + Dot 5 + Dot 6 + Space bar
Pause or continue speech	Dot 1 + Dot 2 + Dot 3 + Dot 4 + Space bar
Toggle speech on or off	Dot 1 + Dot 3 + Dot 4 + Space bar
App Switcher	Dot 1 + Dot 6 + Space bar
Help	Dot 1 + Dot 3 + Space bar
Change an item's label	Dot 1 + Dot 2 + Dot 3 + Dot 4 + Dot 6 + Space bar
Toggle QuickNav	Dot 1 + Dot 2 + Dot 3 + Dot 4 + Space bar
Play/Pause Music	Dot 1 + Dot 5 + Dot 6 + Space bar

Braille

VoiceOver action	Braille command (chord)
Pan braille to the left	Dot 2 + Space bar
Pan braille to the right	Dot 5 + Space bar
Toggle announcement history	Dot 1 + Dot 3 + Dot 4 + Dot 5 + Space bar
Translate	Dot 4 + Dot 5 + Space bar
Next output mode	Dot 1 + Dot 2 + Dot 4 + Dot 5 + Space bar
Next input mode	Dot 2 + Dot 3 + Dot 6 + Space bar
Switch between contracted and uncontracted braille	Dot 1 + Dot 2 + Dot 4 + Dot 5 + Space bar

Input and output mode correspond to 6-dot, 6-dot contracted, and 8-dot braille models.

8-dot

VoiceOver action	Braille command (chord)
Previous container	Dot 1 + Dot 7 + Space bar
Next container	Dot 4 + Dot 7 + Space bar
Delete	Dot 7 + Space bar
Return	Dot 8 + Space bar
Toggle mute	Dot 1 + Dot 3 + Dot 4 + Dot 7 + Space bar
Start help	Dot 1 + Dot 3 + Dot 7 + Space bar
Scroll up page	Dot 3 + Dot 4 + Dot 5 + Dot 6 + Dot 8 + Space bar
Scroll down page	Dot 1 + Dot 4 + Dot 5 + Dot 6 + Dot 8 + Space bar
Simulated long press	Dot 3 + Dot 6 + Dot 7 + Dot 8 + Space bar
Single letter quick nav	Dot 1 + Dot 2 + Dot 3 + Dot 4 + Dot 5 + Dot 7 + Space bar

American Printing House for the Blind (APH) Refreshbraille 18:

Bluetooth Pairing code – 1234

When using the American Printing House (APH) Refreshbraille 18 braille display and VoiceOver with iOS, you can use the following key commands to navigate.

Navigation

VoiceOver action	Display key
Move to previous item	Joystick Left
Move to next item	Joystick Right

Rotor

VoiceOver action	Display key
Move to next item using rotor setting	Joystick Down
Move to previous item using rotor setting	Joystick Up

Interaction

VoiceOver action	Display key
Double-tap the selected item	Router
Select item under your finger	Joystick press

Braille

VoiceOver action	Display key
Pan braille to the left	Left
Pan braille to the right	Right
Toggle expanded status description	Status router

Freedom Scientific Focus Blue

Bluetooth Pairing code - 0000

When using a Freedom Scientific Focus Blue braille display with VoiceOver in iOS, you can use these device specific keys for navigation.

Navigation

VoiceOver action	Display key
Move to previous item	Right Nav Rocker Up
Move to next item	Right Nav Rocker Down
Scroll left one page	Right Rocker Up
Scroll right one page	Right Rocker Down
Scroll up one page	Left Rocker Up
Scroll down one page	Left Rocker Down
Activates Back button if present	Left Selector

Rotor

VoiceOver action	Display key
Move to previous item using rotor setting	Left Nav Rocker Up
Move to next item using rotor setting	Left Nav Rocker Down

Interaction

VoiceOver action	Display key
Double-tap the selected item	Router Row
Select item under your finger	Left Mode Button or Right Mode Button
Start or stop the current location	Right Selector

Braille

VoiceOver action	Display key
Toggle expanded status description	Status Router Row
Pan braille to the left	Left Panning
Pan braille to the right	Right Panning

Humanware BrailleNote Apex

Bluetooth Pairing code – 0000

When using the Humanware BrailleNote Apex braille display with VoiceOver in iOS, you can use the following device specific keys to navigate.

Navigation

VoiceOver action	Display key
Move to previous item	Thumb 1
Move to next item	Thumb 4
Activates the Home button	Thumb 2 + Thumb 3

Interaction

VoiceOver action	Display key
Double-tap the selected item	Router
Activates the Eject key	Thumb 1 + Thumb 3
Activates the Delete key	Thumb 1 + Thumb 2
Activates the Return key	Thumb 3 + Thumb 4
Toggle Screen Curtain on and off	Thumb 1 + Thumb 4

Braille

VoiceOver action	Display key
Toggle expanded status description	Status Router
Pan braille to the left	Thumb 2
Pan braille to the right	Thumb 3