

# ACCESSIBILITY CHECKLIST

for people with cognitive disabilities



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***What to look for when you're shopping for a cell phone or personal digital assistant (PDA)***

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**People with cognitive disabilities said “lack of accessibility in design makes it too hard to use.”**

We asked children and adults with cognitive disabilities what would make using cell phones and personal digital assistants (PDAs) more accessible and usable, and more fun.

Based on their responses and other research, we made 2 lists of what to look for when you are buying a cell phone or PDA.



**Making technology  
accessible for all  
is required by law.**



*One law requires that technology  
bought with federal funds must be accessible.*  
**(SECTION 508 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT)**

*Another law requires that manufacturers  
of communication technologies must  
make those technologies accessible  
to people with disabilities.*  
**(SECTION 255 OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT)**



**→ → The next 2 pages are checklists to use when  
you are shopping for a cell phone or PDA. → →**

**CELL PHONE CHECKLIST**  
what to look for when you shop



1. Large buttons, print and images

2. Voice commands

3. One-touch dialing

4. Adjustable volume

5. Variety of alerts

6. Adjustable screen brightness

7. Long battery life

8. Easy to use instruction manual

9. Easy to carry or wear

10. Screen stays lit longer

11. Special "locator" alert

12. Internet and web access

13. Speakerphone

14. Easy to use camera and games

**BEFORE YOU BUY A CELL PHONE**  
be sure you understand these features

**PDA CHECKLIST**  
what to look for when you shop



1. Large buttons, print and images
2. Voice commands
3. One-touch dialing
4. Adjustable volume
5. Variety of alerts
6. Adjustable screen brightness
7. Long battery life
8. Easy to use instruction manual
9. Easy to carry or wear
10. Screen stays lit longer
11. Special "locator" alert
12. Internet and web access
13. Speakerphone
14. Easy to use camera and games
15. Internal memory back-up
16. Continued alert until PDA is turned off
17. Voice output (text to speech, speech to text)

**BEFORE YOU BUY A PDA**  
be sure you understand these features

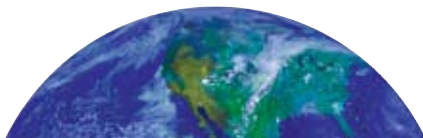
There are millions of people with cognitive disabilities  
all over the world.

**You are a part of a *large market.***

**You are an *important customer.***

**You have the *right to purchase  
what you need and want.***

So—if you can't find the features you need  
or want in a cell phone or PDA,  
call or write the manufacturer.



**LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD.**

DIANE NELSON BRYEN, PHD, *EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR*

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