



Manual v6.0



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Introduction

easyChat is a robust set of AAC vocabularies and computer/phone access for individuals with complex communication needs. It can be accessed by: direct touch selection, keyguards, touchguides, switches, HeadPointing and Eye Gaze.

The easyChat family of vocabularies is available on Liberator's Accent devices and offers an extensive set of core and UK topic-based vocabulary pages that are fully customisable and intuitive, utilising the popular SymbolStix icons.

easyChat was developed in the UK with input from a large team of practising AAC professionals to meet not only the communication needs of individuals who use AAC devices, but also the needs of those supporting them. easyChat's launch in September 2015 quickly enabled individuals to transition from app-based and low-tech communication solutions to dedicated devices supported by a UK-based company offering technical and clinical support. Since its introduction, easyChat has grown and evolved following feedback from SLTs, teaching staff and families.

The easyChat family consists of an assessing tool: easyChat Explore, in addition to four vocabulary options: easyChat Phrases, easyChat Core, easyChat Words and easyChat Spell. Each option has a variety of features, yet the consistency of its layout is optimal for supporting multiple clients or having clients transition between vocabularies:

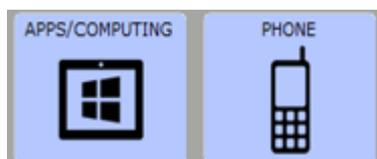
The vocabulary in easyChat is organised in an intuitive way with the most common words arranged by parts of speech on the easyCore home page and extended interest, daily life and lesson-based vocabulary on easyTopic pages.

easyCore gives quick access to the most frequently used words (Marvin, C., Beukelman, D., Bilyeu, D. (1994). "Vocabulary-Use Patterns in Preschool Children: Effects of Context and Time Sampling." AAC, Vol. 10, No. 4) using Fitzgerald color coding:

| |
|-----------------|
| Verbs |
| Auxiliary Verbs |
| Pronouns |
| Determiners |
| Prepositions |
| Nouns |
| Adjectives |
| Adverbs |
| Question Words |
| Conjunctions |

The easyTopics pages include a wide range of subjects and interests from apps to zoo animals. These pages can enable the user to talk about their interests, school lessons and chat socially.

In addition to the wide vocabulary and grammar support, easyChat offers mobile phone commands, internal and external computer access commands, scheduling features and an mp3 player.



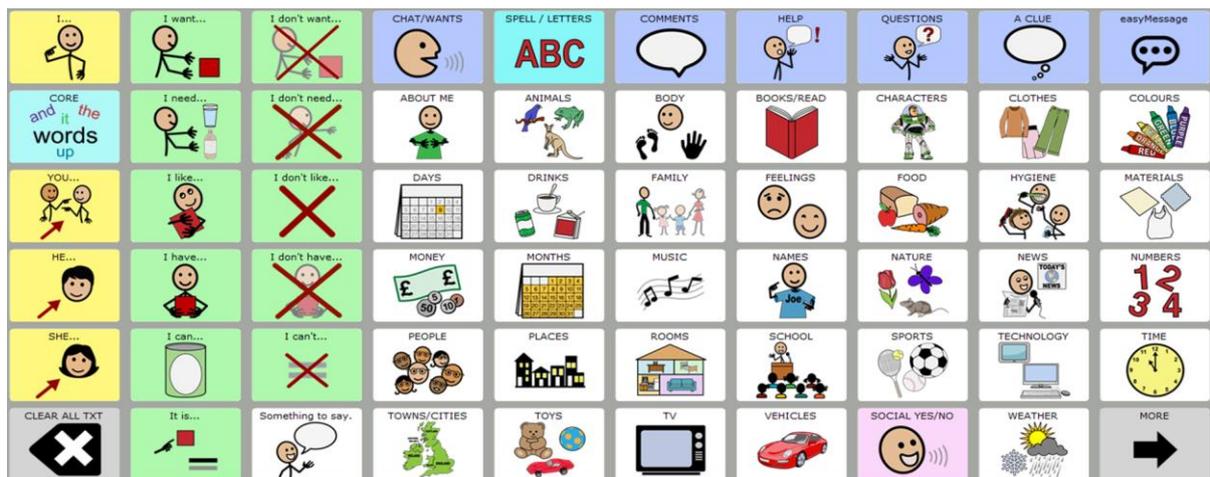
easyChat Phrases is ideal for the emerging communicator. It's intuitively programmed with access to some phrases starters on the home screen for a communicator to begin putting sentences together with pages of topic-based, pre-stored phrases.

The topics included fully-customisable daily life, interests and lesson-based vocabulary. Any of the pages can be customised; the words within the pages are stored alphabetically however you can arrange your own word order by using swap page keys.

easyChat Phrases is consistent with other versions of easyChat, allowing the device user to transition to other easyChat vocabularies easily and with minimal support or relearning

easyChat Phrases is available in 15, 28, 36, 45, 60 and 84 location sizes.

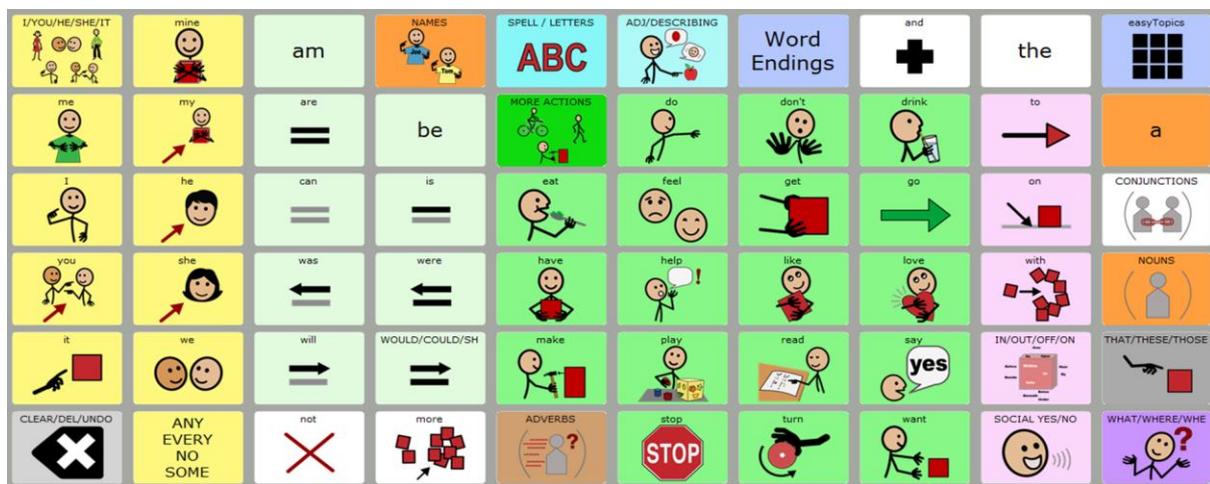
The home screen of easyChat Phrases (pictured below) includes sentence starters.



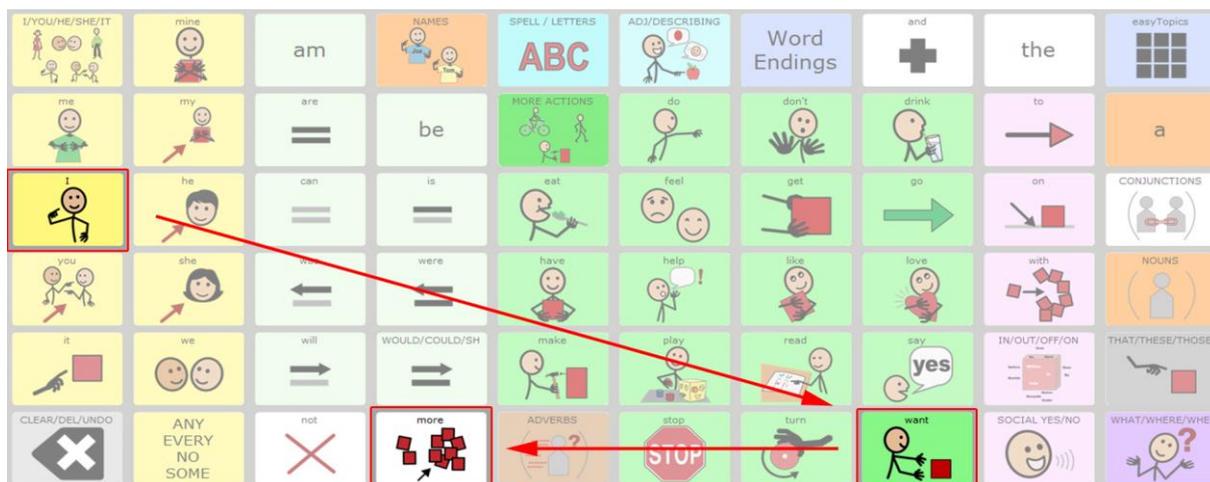
easyChat Core is ideal for an individual that requires a symbol-based program with quick access to core vocabulary on the home page. Extended topic-based vocabulary pages are pre-stored and represent a variety of interests and subjects with plenty of room to expand and customise with single words and phrases.

easyChat Core is available in 15, 28, 36, 45, 60 and 84 location sizes.

The home screen of easyChat Core (pictured below) is the starting point for communication.



All easyCore words are accessed by pressing only 1-2 buttons. Whether it's a single word ("more"), a phrase ("I want more") or a full sentence ("can I have more of that, please?").



Function Keys

SPELL/LETTERS



The SPELL/LETTERS button opens up your spelling keyboard*, here you have lots of keyboard functionality including access to spelling, word prediction, abbreviation expansion and emoticons. We also have access to our

APPS/COMPUTING and PHONE pages here which will be expanded on later in this manual.



* Please see page xx for information on how to view and change to an alternative keyboard.

CLEAR/DEL/UNDO



The CLEAR/DEL/UNDO button opens a set of frequently used and useful commands and is always accessible from the bottom left corner of every page. The following commands are available using this button:



Word Endings

Word Endings

The most frequently used word endings will appear for selection when pressing a core word. For the less frequently used word endings you can find these under the Word Endings button on the easyChat Core page.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-------------------|------|-------|---------------------|----------------|--------------|-------|---------------|------------------|
| +d | +ed | +ing | +ful | WORD ENDINGS | ADJ/DESCRIBING | Word Endings | and | the | easyTopics |
| +r | +er | +n | +ment | MORE ACTIONS | do | don't | drink | to | a |
| +s | +es | +est | +ies | eat | feel | get | go | on | CONJUNCTIONS |
| 's | +ly | +y | +ness | have | help | like | love | with | NOUNS |
| | | | | make | play | read | say | IN/OUT/OFF/ON | THAT/THESE/THOSE |
| CLOSE/EXIT | ANY EVERY NO SOME | not | more | ADVERBS | stop | turn | want | SOCIAL YES/NO | WHAT/WHERE/WHE |

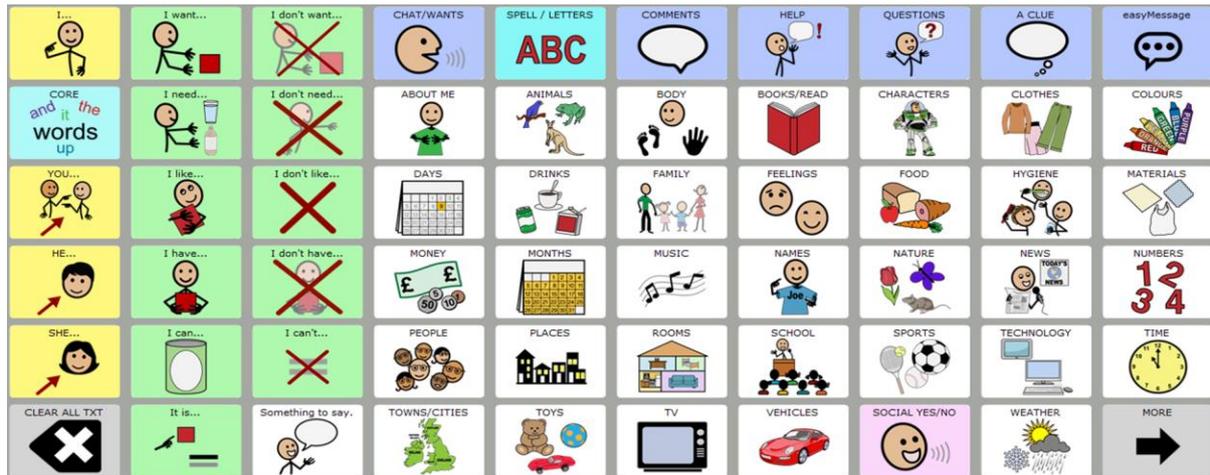
e.g. when pressing the verb 'help' the following morphology appears: helped, helping and helps. But if you want a different word ending such as helpful you can go into the Word Endings page and choose +ful from this screen.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|-------|---------------|------------------|
| I/YOU/HE/SHE/IT | mine | am | NAMES | SPELL / LETTERS | ADJ/DESCRIBING | Word Endings | and | the | easyTopics |
| me | my | are | be | helped | helping | helps | drink | to | a |
| I | he | can | is | eat | feel | get | go | on | CONJUNCTIONS |
| you | she | was | were | have | HELP | like | love | with | helper |
| it | we | will | WOULD/COULD/SH | make | play | read | say | IN/OUT/OFF/ON | THAT/THESE/THOSE |
| CLOSE/EXIT | ANY EVERY NO SOME | not | more | ADVERBS | stop | turn | want | SOCIAL YES/NO | WHAT/WHERE/WHE |

easyTopics



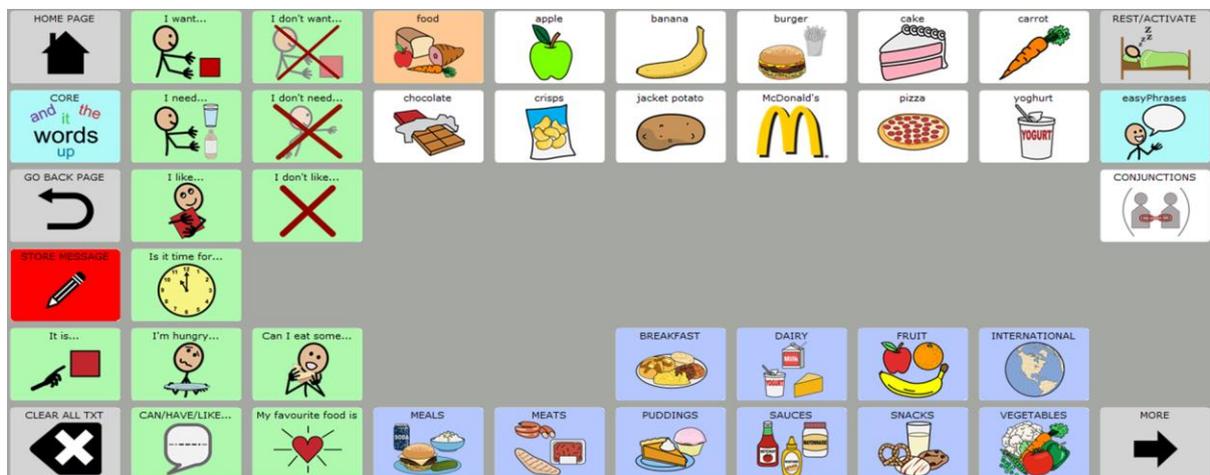
The easyTopics button opens the user into the easyChat Phrases vocabulary. Here you will find pages of fully-customisable daily life, interests and lesson-based vocabulary.

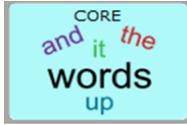


Any of the topic pages can be customised; the words within the pages are stored alphabetically however you can arrange your own word order by using swap page keys.

When an easyTopic is selected, a page opens with vocabulary related to that topic. Along the bottom there are links (blue buttons) to related pages.

As with the easyTopics page (above) each of the topics have related prestored sentence starters (green) allowing an individual to quickly build up a phrase or sentence.





By pressing the CORE button on any easyTopic page you will return to the easyChat Core vocabulary page.

Parts of Speech



Verbs are words that express an action or a state of being. Many common verbs and helping verbs are available right from the easyCore main page with even more verbs accessed by pressing the MORE ACTIONS button.

When a verb selection is made, word endings and category page buttons appear to allow a user to conjugate the verb e.g., "eat" can become "ate," "eating," "eats" or "eaten."



Adverbs are words that modify action words, e.g., he ran *again*. They tell us when, where, how, in what manner, or to what extent an action is performed.

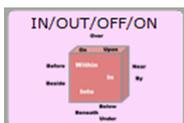


Adjectives are a word that describes or clarifies a noun (e.g., she is *cold*). Adjectives describe nouns by giving some information about an object's size, shape, age, colour, origin or material.



Pronouns (*I, me, he, she, herself, you, it, etc.*) are words that takes the place of a noun. In the sentence *Josh saw Sarah, and he waved at her*, the pronouns *he* and *her* take the place of *Josh* and *Sarah*, respectively.

Many pronouns are available right from the home screen. By pressing the yellow PRONOUNS button, the user can access other subject, object, possessive and reflexive pronouns.



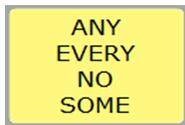
Prepositions are a word or phrase that connects a noun or pronoun to a verb or an adjective in a sentence. Several common prepositions (i.e., with, on, to) are available right from the easyCore page.

An example of a preposition is the word "with" in the following; "I'm going with her." More high frequency prepositions are available by selecting the pink PREPOSITIONS button.

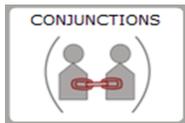


Question Words form wh-questions (e.g., *who* is that? *where* are you?), the user simply makes the appropriate selection from this button. Any wh-question word selection brings up more options like contractions (e.g.,

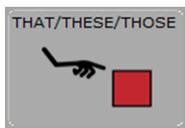
who's, where's) and additional wh-question words (i.e., which, whose) that can be used or ignored.



Indefinite pronouns take the place of a noun, but not one particular noun. An example of this would be "**Everyone** had a great time at the party." The indefinite pronoun, "everyone" refers to those who went rather than naming each person.



Conjunctions are the part of speech used as a "joiner" for words, phrases, or clauses in a particular sentence. It links these words or groups of words together (e.g., or, than, if, but). The conjunction "and" is available right from the home screen for quick access. All other conjunctions (i.e., because, but, if, than, or) can be accessed from the white conjunction button.



Determiners point to a particular noun or to the noun it replaces. There are four demonstratives in English: *this*, *that*, *these* and *those*.

| | |
|-----------|---------------------|
| am | |
| are = | be |
| can = | is = |
| was ← | were ← |
| will → | WOULD/COULD/SH ⇒ |

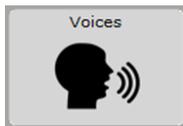
Auxiliary verbs are sometimes called *helping verbs* because they are needed to form many of the tenses. They are available on the easyCore home page.

When you select an auxiliary verb the option to access another form is immediately displayed (e.g., "is" can become "isn't," "were" can become "weren't."). Verbs connect the subject (so a noun/name/pronoun) to the rest of the sentence.

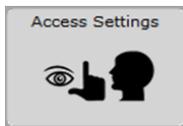
easySetup



From the menu button you can pressing easySetup gives you access to change some commonly used settings without going into the main toolbox of the device.



Allows you quick access to change the voice on the device from a selection of licenced voices.

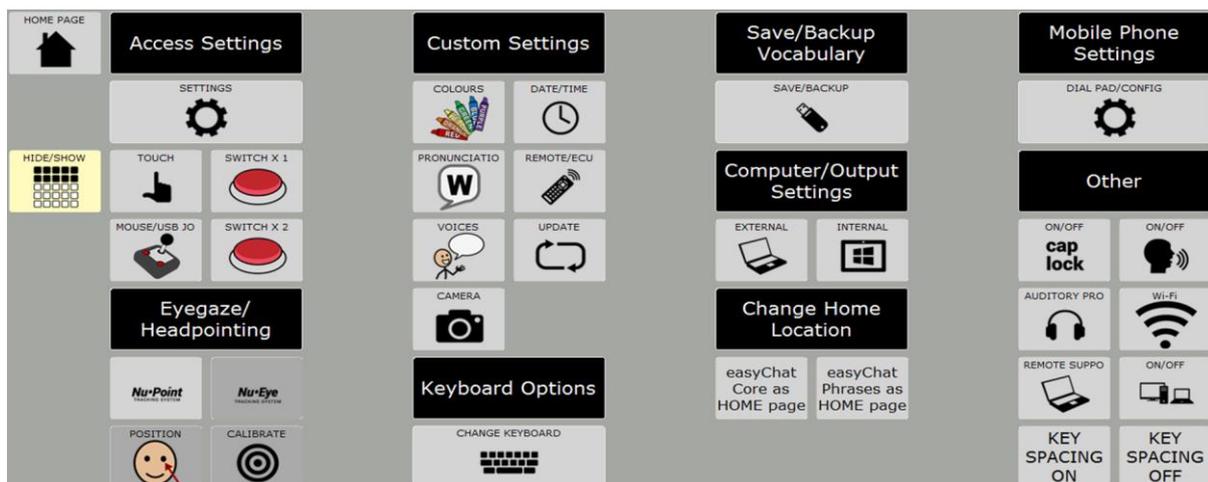


Select the access method, direct select touch/switch/eyegaze etc.



Pressing easySetup again from this screen will take you into a menu with lots of settings that can be changed quickly. Programming, saving, customising, connecting and remote support are easily done from the easySetup page.

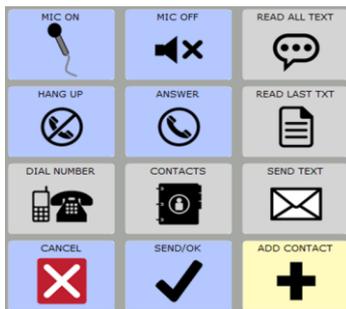
From the easySetup page, the look and feel of the device can be personalised, the vocabulary and settings can be backed-up, and Bluetooth connections can be managed.



Features

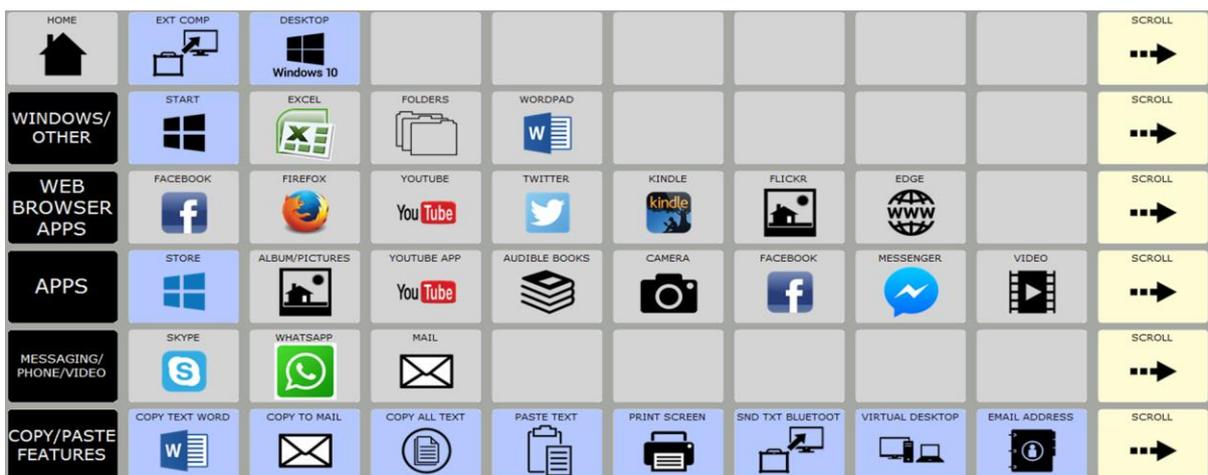


PHONE is an easy-to-use set of mobile phone commands, allowing the device user to send and receive phone calls and text messages. Text messages can be composed using the pre-stored, customisable vocabulary, pre-stored customisable message pages and a choice of keyboards (QWERTY, ABC, picture).



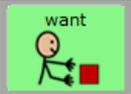
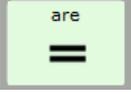
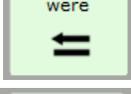
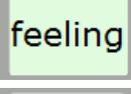
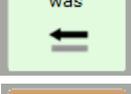
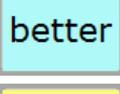
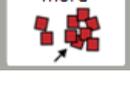
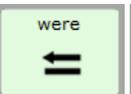
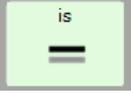
APPS/COMPUTING is a set of easy-to-use computer access commands allowing device users to control Windows and programs within the device or take control of external computers.

Commands for social media like Facebook, WhatsApp, Twitter and YouTube are integrated for easy log-in and interaction.



Practice easyChat!

Try creating some of these simple sentences using the easyCore page:

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|--|---|---|---|
| I want more |  |  |  | | | |
| Don't do that |  |  |  | | | |
| Where are you going? |  |  |  |  |  | |
| We took it back |  |  |  |  |  | |
| I like eating chocolate |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| We were feeling happy |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| That was better |  |  |  |  |  | |
| Is there any more? |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| It's my turn |  |  |  |  | | |
| They were helping me |  |  |  |  |  | |
| Have you seen her? |  |  |  |  |  | |
| |  |  | | | | |
| Their turn is over |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Will you be mine?



Remember when we ran together?



They asked her to go away



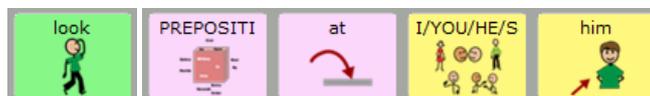
We weren't being mean



He already said sorry



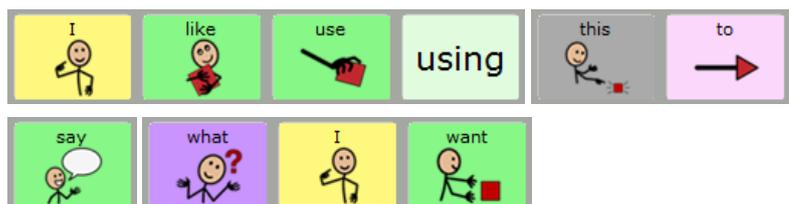
Look at him



This is so easy



I like using this to say what I want



FAQ's

Setting up your device for use with a Mobile Phone.

Using a mobile phone with easyChat

There are many phones to choose from, however, before purchasing a mobile phone to connect to a communication device, decide on the desired features of phone, either: making and receiving a telephone call only or sending and receiving text messages as well as making and receiving telephone calls.

Making and receiving telephone calls only

To use the phone for making and receiving phone calls; look for a phone that is Bluetooth compatible. Most mobile phones are able to connect to the communication device via Bluetooth and enable audio for making and receiving calls.

Sending and receiving text messages & making and receiving telephone calls

To make calls and send and receive text messages (SMS), the choice of mobile phones is slightly more limited since most current mobile phones are not capable of sending and receiving text messages using a Bluetooth signal. The restrictions lie with the mobile phone manufacturers and whilst Liberator offers the Bluetooth connectivity via the communication device we cannot guarantee the functionality of the Bluetooth phone system with every phone.

The phones Liberator has found most compatible (i.e. for voice calls and texting) are the following:

Samsung S4, S5, S6, S6 edge, S7, S8 and the Note, Sony Ericssons, Motorola Gleam, Sony Ericsson W595, Motorola z9n, the Sony Ericsson Zyl0, W20i, W518i, W580, W350, W350i, W180, W800i, K770i, C905, C902 and W760a.

It is recommended to test the communication device with the preferred mobile phone before deciding to purchase one; Liberator does not take responsibility for the purchase of a mobile phone and its compatibility.

1. Connecting a mobile phone for the first time



Press the easySetup button



Press DIAL PAD/CONFIGURATION button

Press **Phone Configuration**

On your Mobile Phone turn your Bluetooth on and set to discoverable if required.

On the Accent select **Pair to Phone**

Check the phone for permission to pair and when prompted and when prompted type **0000** as the passcode to pair (this is done on the mobile phone).

Notice how the mobile signal and battery indicator are displayed in the status bar of the communication device.

If prompted with the following message; "Auto delete text messages from phone once they are downloaded to the device (Automatic)? If "NO" messages must be manually deleted on phone." It is recommended to select the "YES" option.

Select **OK** several times to exit and return to easyChat.

2. Connecting a mobile phone that has already been paired (see instructions above to pair for the first time)

Press the **easySetup** button

Press **DIAL PAD/CONFIGURATION** button

Press **Phone Configuration**

On your Mobile Phone turn your Bluetooth on and set to discoverable if required.

On the Accent select **Pair to Phone**

Notice how the mobile signal and battery indicator are displayed in the status bar of the communication device.

3. Disconnecting a mobile phone

Press the **easySetup** button

Press **DIAL PAD/CONFIGURATION** button

Press **Phone Configuration**

Press **Disconnect**

Before programming pages to send a text or make a call; all contacts must be added into the directory. To do this follow instruction 4.

4. Add Contacts to the directory

Select **easyTopics**

Select **PHONE**



Select **ADD CONTACT**

Enter the telephone number of the contact to add then press **OK**

Now, enter the name of the contact and select **OK**

To continue adding more contacts, select **ADD CONTACT** or to finish press **CANCEL**.

Please note: this has only added the contacts to the directory for additional programming.

5. Adding a contact to use for sending a text message (must be done after step 4)

Select **easyTopics**

Select **PHONE**



Select **SEND TEXT**



Select **ADD/MODIFY** button (grey button top right corner)

Choose a blank button to add your contact to

Select **SPELL MESSAGE OR DEFINE A KEY FUNCTION**

Press the **UP** arrow (so the cursor is at the start of the text)

Select **INSERT TOOL** and press **MORE ITEMS**

Select the tool **PHONE SEND TEXT MESSAGE**

Choose the contact you wish to add

Press **OK**

Select **CHANGE LABEL**

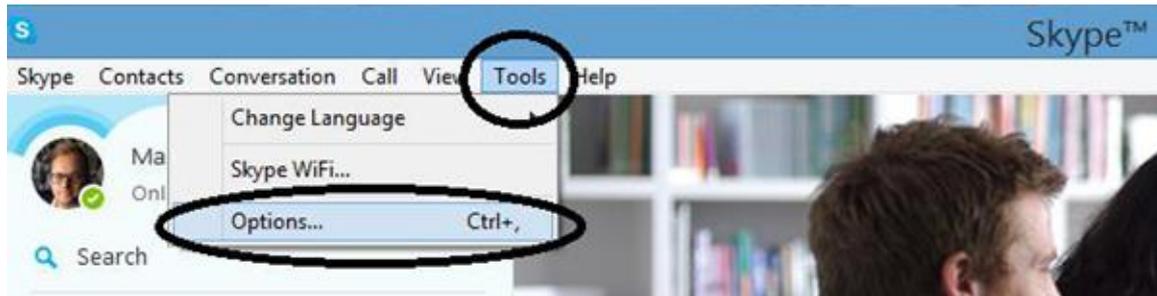
Press **CLEAR DISPLAY**

Type the name of new contact

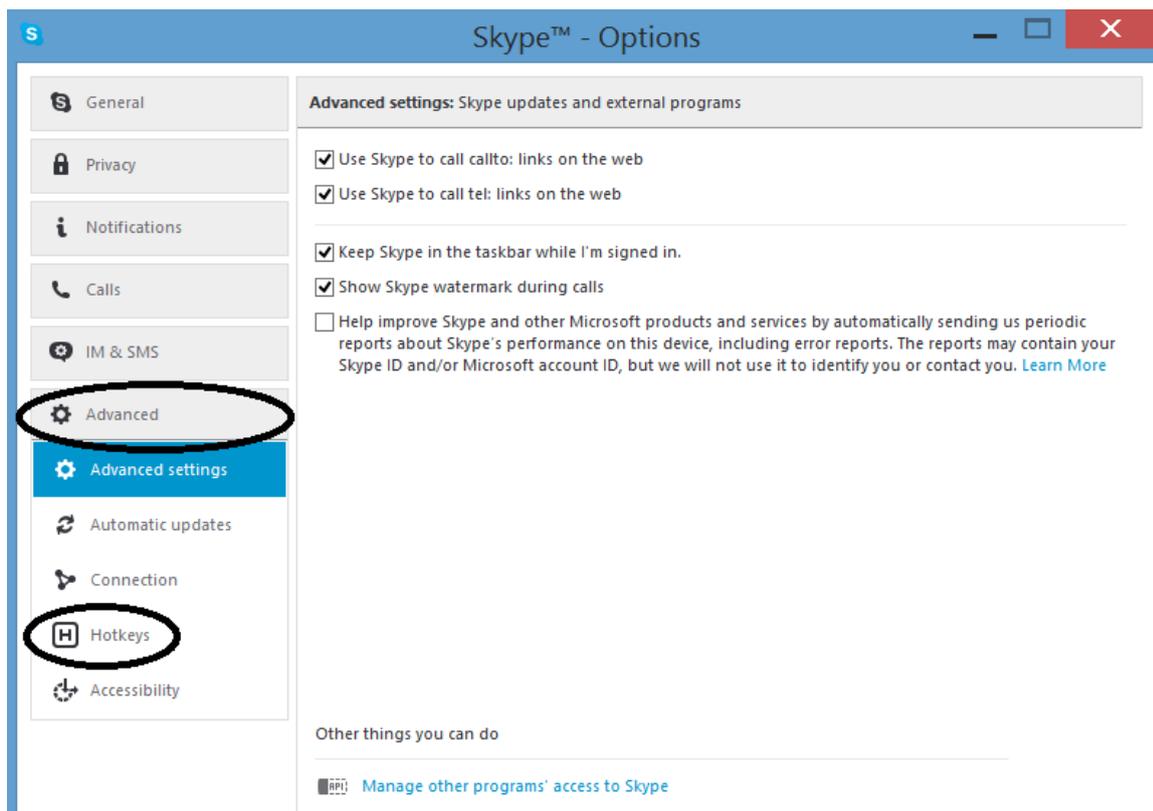
Press **OK** twice to complete

Setting up Skype

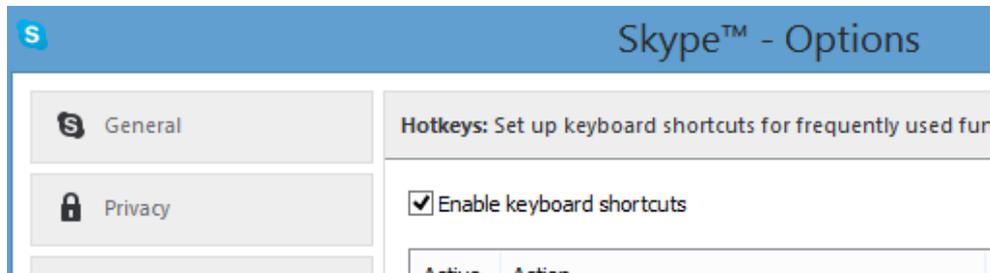
For easyChat to support Skype, the keyboard shortcuts must be enabled and additional commands must be programmed in Skype; to do this follow the instructions below:



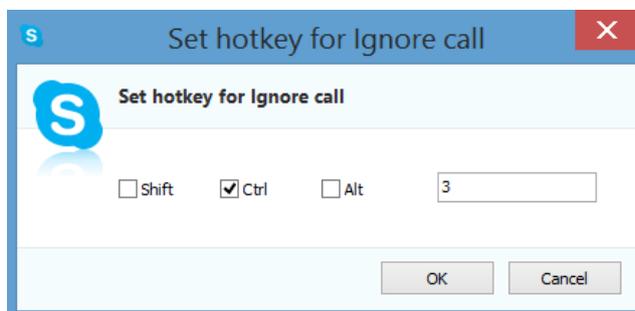
Select Tools, Options (as shown above), then select Advanced and Hotkeys as shown below:



Click the check box next to Enable keyboard shortcuts as shown below:

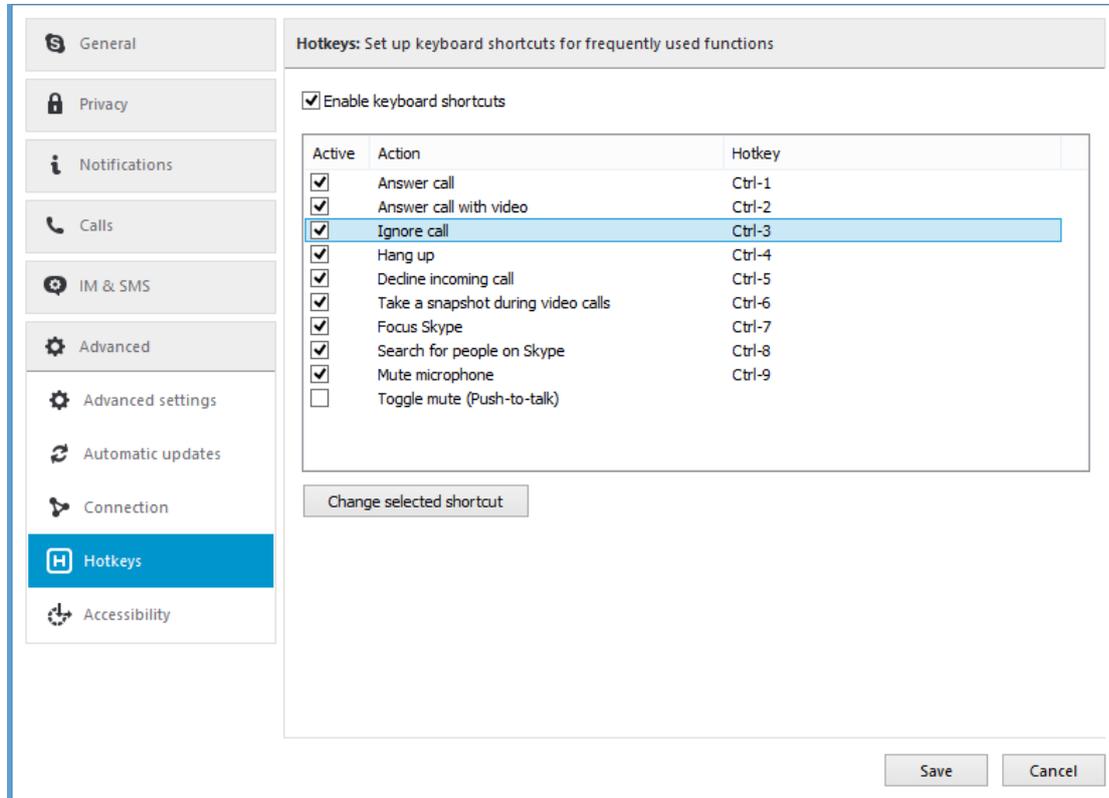


Then continue adding other commands by selecting the relevant tick box. To add a command select the function and a box will appear like the one shown below:



Ensure the Ctrl is ticked and add the final command in the text box, for example, add 3 and press OK for the "ignore call" command.

This is how skype should be setup:



Once all the tick boxes match the settings above select SAVE to exit

| Action | Keyboard Shortcut/Hotkey |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Answer call | Ctrl-1 |
| Answer call with video | Ctrl-2 |
| Ignore call | Ctrl-3 |
| Hang up | Ctrl-4 |
| Decline incoming call | Ctrl-5 |
| Take a snapshot during video calls | Ctrl-6 |
| Focus Skype | Ctrl-7 |
| Search for people on Skype | Ctrl-8 |
| Mute microphone | Ctrl-9 |

Please make sure **“Enable keyboard shortcuts”** is ticked

Setting up Email

easyChat offers email support through Windows Mail. To set this up follow the below instructions.



Press **Mail** in APPS/COMPUTING

Press **Add account** on the popup that appears.

Choose your email client; you have a choice of Outlook.com (Live.com/Hotmail.com/MSN), Office 365 or Microsoft Exchange, Gmail, Yahoo! Mail, iCloud or another email service if required.

Mail will ask you for your email address for the client you have specified, or if you don't have one you can create a Microsoft account directly through the App.

You will then be prompted to Enter your password.

Once setup you will be able to use all of the great commands in easyChat for sending emails, reading emails, speaking emails and deleting emails.

Setting up WhatsApp

One of the most popular messaging services on the market today is WhatsApp. To set this up follow the below instructions.



Press **WhatsApp** in APPS/COMPUTING



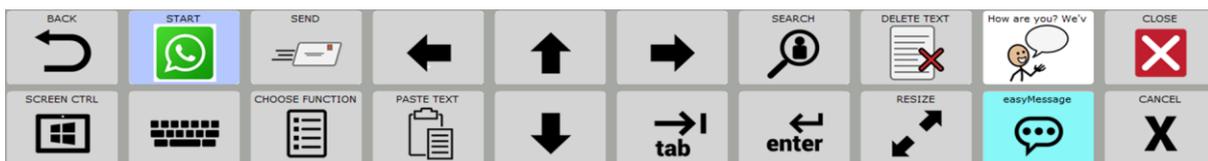
Press **START**

This will launch WhatsApp web in your default web browser.

On your mobile phone open WhatsApp, go into Menu/Settings then WhatsApp Web, then select Scan QR Code and Scan the QR Code on your display with your mobile phone.

WhatsApp will now be linked on your device and your mobile.

You can now use easyChat and the WhatsApp commands to send messages to friends, family and colleagues through WhatsApp using your device.



Setting up access to popular Windows Apps

easyChat offers Access to many popular Apps through the Accent communication aid. You will be required to download the relevant App from the Windows App Store on your Accent.

Most of these will be free to use.



Press **STORE** in APPS/COMPUTING

This will open the Windows APP Store where you can search for and install any/all of the following Apps which you will be able to control using the easyChat commands.



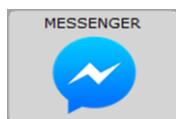
Hyper for Youtube



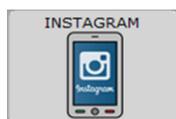
Audiobooks from Audible



Facebook



Messenger



Instagram



Netflix