

Life-Changing Apps for People with Brain Injury

BrainLine.org

Almost every day, we hear of new apps developed for just about everything — from staying organized to finding pharmacies or restaurants while on the road. It's hard to keep up.

Some of these apps have proven to be especially helpful for people with brain injury. The phone can be used to remind you of an upcoming appointment or to take medication, or it can be used like a traditional paper notebook to keep all your addresses, telephone numbers, calendar items, lists, and ideas.

Name	Description	Price	Device	Helps With
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AccessNow	AccessNow is sharing accessibility information about places around the world. Search for specific places like a restaurant, hotel or store, or browse the map to see what is nearby with the accessibility features you require. If info isn't already on our map, you can add it yourself and contribute to our worldwide community. Filter the map by category and tags and find the access that you need now.	Free	iOS , Android	Accessibility
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Android Accessibility Suite	Android Accessibility Suite (formerly Google Talkback) is an accessibility feature. Its goal is to help the visually impaired navigate their devices. These features come built in with virtually every version of Android and can be activated in the Settings menu. The app will then help the	Free	Android	Communication, Accessibility
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visually impaired interact with their devices. It's fairly basic, but effective. It adds things like vibration, spoken, and audible feedback.

[Audible](#) Listen to books on your mobile device. Great for people who have trouble reading or who retain information more effectively by listening. Free [iOS](#), [Android](#) Reading

[Be My Eyes](#) Fostering the largest global community for the blind and visually impaired, the free app, Be My Eyes, virtually connects someone with vision problems with a sighted volunteer who can help them “see.” Using any smartphone, a blind or visually impaired user can open the app to request assistance, be connected through live video with a sighted volunteer, and then point their camera at what they want described to them. The sighted volunteer will then tell the user what they see in the user’s native language – it’s as simple as that! Free [iOS](#), [Android](#) Accessibility

[Behavior Tracker Pro](#) Application that allows caregivers, behavioral therapists, aides, or teachers to track behaviors and automatically graph them. Option to record video of behaviors or interventions to later review with doctors, parents, teachers or therapists. \$29.99 [iOS](#) Behavior

Name	Description	Price	Device	Helps With
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<u>BestSuite</u>	This suite of three apps help people with brain injuries and other challenges get more done! Set and monitor goals, track and understand where your energy goes, get automatic reminders to take breaks -- see it all appear in your calendar. Free video instruction and app training is also available on the <u>BEST Connection website</u> .	\$9.99	<u>iOS</u>	Organization, Life-Skills, Memory
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<u>Breathe2Relax</u>	Hands-on stress management tool with diaphragmatic breathing exercises. Designed to help you with mood stabilization, anger control, and anxiety management.	Free	<u>iOS, Android</u>	PTSD, Anxiety, Stress
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<u>Clear Record Pro</u>	Audio recording app that suppresses ambient, background noise allowing the user to record conversations in noisy environments while maintaining clear voices. Control play-speed without modifying pitch-quality. Slow down conversations to a manageable pace for the user.	\$1.99	<u>iOS, Android</u>	Speech, Communication
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<u>Concussion Recognition & Response: For Parents/Youth Coaches</u>	Helps coaches and parents recognize whether an individual is exhibiting/reporting the signs and symptoms of a suspected concussion. In less than 5 minutes, the app allows a coach or parent to respond quickly to determine whether to remove the child from play and the need for further medical examination.	Free	<u>iOS, Android</u>	Concussion Screening
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Name	Description	Price	Device	Helps With
Corkulous Pro	Collect, organize, and share ideas on virtual cork boards. "Pin" notes, labels, photos, contacts, and tasks. Group ideas visually on one board or spread ideas out across multiple boards.	Free*	iOS	Organization
Cozi Family Organizer	Family life organization app that includes a shared calendar, shopping lists, to do lists, family journal. This app allows you to stay in sync with your family. * <i>Paid version available for advanced functionality.</i>	Free*	iOS , Android	Organization
dictate2us Transcription	Voice recorder with integrated transcription service* provides you with a comprehensive dictation and transcription solution. Record, edit, and upload a digital recording then have the file transcribed to text. HIPAA compliant. * <i>Transcriptions are a paid feature.</i>	Free*	iOS , Android	Communication
DialSafe Pro	Learn proper phone usage and safety with an app that allows for hands-on practice. Learn these critical skills through the use of animated lessons, skill building games, practice sessions, and a realistic phone simulator.	Free	iOS	Life-Skills
Evernote	Help remember everything across all of the devices you use. Stay organized, save your ideas and improve productivity. Take notes, capture	Free	iOS , Web , Android	Organization

Name	Description	Price	Device	Helps With
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photos, create to-do lists, record voice reminders, and make notes completely searchable.

<u>Find My iPhone/Find My Device</u>	Location app that tracks wireless devices and enables a you to track where the devices are, where they have been, and enables you to send warning messages or tones to those devices.	Free	<u>iOS, Android</u>	Memory, Location Monitoring
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<u>Flashcards Deluxe</u>	Flashcard app which can be used to study just about anything you want. Built in dictionary, capacity to include pictures and sounds, zoom into pictures, and auto-repeat sounds on the cards.	\$3.99	<u>iOS, Android</u>	Memory
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<u>Google Maps</u>	Google Maps isn't directly for the disabled or otherwise handicapped. However, it does have a variety of tools to help people with those kinds of issues. You can find stuff with wheelchair accessible entrances and the turn-by-turn navigation works even while walking. They even have a small group of engineers that work specifically on accessibility features, such as disability-friendly transit options. It takes a little bit of digging in the app, but it's actually a pretty decent experience for this kind of stuff.	Free	<u>iOS, Android</u>	Accessibility
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<u>Hello My Name Is -</u>	Use your fingers to write or draw your own personalized "hello my name is" name tag. Good	Free	<u>iOS</u>	Social Situations
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Name	Description	Price	Device	Helps With
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<u>Graffiti Sticker</u>	for conferences or situations where a digital name tag may help you stand out.			
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<u>iBooks with VoiceOver</u>	Search and instantly download thousands of popular book and magazine titles. iBooks works with VoiceOver, which will read the contents of the pages out loud.	Free	<u>iOS</u>	Hearing, Reading
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<u>ICE Medical Standard</u>	ICE Medical Standard lets you put your emergency medical contact information on your smartphone's lock screen image. If you are in an accident, first responders and emergency room staff can find your emergency medical contact information as soon as they turn on your smartphone.	Free*	<u>iOS, Android</u>	Emergency
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<u>IFTTT</u>	IFTTT is an app that helps you set up automated actions. It's useful for a lot of various things: reading your text messages out loud, turning off your lights, and all kinds of other stuff. With a bit of investment, you can make most of your house compatible with IFTTT. That can make life a whole lot easier for a lot of people. However, it does take some work and potentially some money to get everything set up. The app is completely free, though. You can also find recipes for IFTTT with a simple Google Search. It's one of the best disabled apps out there.	Free	<u>iOS, Android</u>	Accessibility
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Name	Description	Price	Device	Helps With
<u>Index Card</u>	<p>Non-linear writing tool that helps capture your ideas and store notes as they come to you. Organize the flow of your thoughts by using a familiar corkboard interface and compile your work into a single document.</p>	\$4.99	<u>iPad</u>	Organization
<u>Inspiration Maps</u>	<p>Inspiration Maps is a graphic organizer and idea-mapping tool that can help you visually organize ideas. You can create diagrams, maps, organizers, brainstorms, create text outlines, and easily share with others. The app allows you to create up to five documents to test the functionality of the app for free before using in-app purchase to upgrade to full, unlimited function.</p>	Free*	<u>iOS</u>	Organization
<u>JABtalk</u>	<p>JABtalk is a free speech communication application designed to help non-verbal children and adults communicate. Speech therapists commonly refer to JABtalk as an easy and effective augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) device. By combining personalized voice and images with an extremely simple user interface, JABtalk delivers a speech solution that is both fun to use and easy to learn. Originally designed as a communication tool for children with special needs, JABtalk has evolved into a communication tool used by special needs children, stroke patients, toddlers, speech-language pathologists, and others.</p>	Free	<u>Android</u>	Communication

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<u>Learning Ally Link</u>	<p>This app provides access to the Learning Ally library of human-read audiobooks offering the largest selection of books students want and need to read, including bestsellers, literature, and textbooks. Interactive learning tools include: highlighted text synced with the audio narration, speed control, bookmarking, highlighting, and note taking. <i>* Learning Ally membership is required to use this app. <u>Membership is free with eligible print disability.</u></i></p>	Free*	<u>iOS, Android</u>	Reading, Vision
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<u>Lumosity</u>	<p>Brain exercises targeting memory, attention, speed, flexibility, and problem solving. You can design your own personalized training, including "courses" with TBI- and/or PTSD-specific content. <i>*Paid subscription available for advanced features.</i></p>	Free*	<u>iOS, Android, Web</u>	Brain Training
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<u>MakeChange</u>	<p>This app will show you the best way to count change so that you use the least number of coins. Slide and stack coins until you have the amount shown on the register display and check your answer.</p>	\$1.99	<u>iPad</u>	Life-Skills
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<u>Matrix Game</u>	<p>Helps you develop visual perception skills such as visual discrimination. It can also help you to develop attention and concentration, spatial orientation and principles of classification and</p>	Free*	<u>iOS, Android</u>	Problem Solving
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categorization. * *Paid version available for advanced levels and more functionality.*

<u>Naming Therapy</u>	Word-finding app to help people with aphasia and children with special needs practice important naming and description skills. Allows users to add their own images.	\$24.99	<u>iOS</u> , <u>Android</u>	Communication, Speech
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<u>Notability</u>	A sleek, powerful note-taker to annotate documents, record lectures, sketch illustrations, and more. With built-in iCloud support, it's perfect for keeping notes, documents, and doodles up to date on both iPhone and iPad. Also includes a great searchable microphone functions. <i>"I can no longer focus on a speaker AND take quality notes. Notability permits me to go back in an amplify my notes to match speaker heard on microphone."</i>	\$9.99	<u>iOS</u>	Organization
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<u>Penultimate</u>	Handwriting app that helps you get the fast, tactile gratification of writing on paper, with digital power and flexibility. Take notes, keep sketches, or share your next breakthrough idea — in the office, on the go, or at home. <i>*Advanced functionality and features are paid.</i>	Free*	<u>iPad</u>	Memory, Organization
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<u>Pictello</u>	Create visual stories and talking books. Each page in a story can contain a picture, a short video, up to ten lines of text, and a recorded	\$19.99	<u>iOS</u>	Communication
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sound or text-to-speech using natural sounding voices.

[Proloquo2Go](#) An alternative communication solution to help you if you have difficulty speaking. Natural sounding text-to-speech voices, high-resolution, up-to-date symbols, powerful automatic conjugations, a vocabulary of more than 7,000 items, and advanced word prediction. \$249.99 [iOS](#) Communication

[Proloquo 4 Text](#) Text-based communication app that gives a voice to people who cannot speak. It offers a customizable single screen layout for easy conversation, free natural-sounding voices in 15 languages, word and sentence prediction and social media. \$119.99 [iOS](#) Communication

[PTSD Coach](#) Designed for veterans and service members who have, or may have, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Education about PTSD, information about care, a self-assessment for PTSD, help finding support, and tools that can help you manage the stresses of daily life with PTSD. Free [iOS, Android](#) PTSD

[Quick Talk AAC](#) This app gives a voice to those who cannot speak for themselves. Quick and flexible app designed to help you talk as quickly as possible. \$24.99 [iOS, Android](#) Communication

Name	Description	Price	Device	Helps With
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<u>Red Panic Button</u>	This emergency app allows anyone to send out a call for help with the tap of a button. For people with disabilities, being able to quickly access assistance in case of an emergency or problem is very helpful. The app allows a user to send one SMS message to an entire list of panic contacts that also includes a Google Maps link to their location. Additional features include recording a 10 second audio message to send to contacts, notifying people on twitter, as well as sending emergency emails.	\$4.99	<u>iOS, Android</u>	Emergency, Communication
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<u>SpeakWrite Recorder</u>	Voice recorder that turns your phone into a fully functional dictation system. Record, edit, and send your audio. App integrates with SpeakWrite's 24/7 paid transcription service. Compile your dictation, upload, and within a few hours receive your transcribed document.	Free	<u>Android</u>	Speech, Communication
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<u>Spaced Retrieval Therapy</u>	Facilitates recalling an answer over expanding intervals of time (1 minute, 2 minutes, 4 minutes, 8 minutes...) helps to cement the information in memory, even for those with impaired memory.	\$3.99	<u>iOS, Android</u>	Memory
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<u>T2 Mood Tracker</u>	Designed for service members and veterans, this app helps you self-monitor, track, and reference emotional experiences associated with common deployment-related behavioral health issues like post-traumatic stress, brain injury, depression, and anxiety.	Free	<u>iOS, Android</u>	PTSD, Behavior
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<u>TapGram</u>	Tapgram Tapgram makes sending simple messages to your loved ones easy. Once you are set up, you won't need to touch a keyboard to send messages to the people that you love. Instead, you create messages by tapping on images and the messages can be posted to your social media feed or sent to your friends and	Free	<u>Website</u>	Communication
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Name	Description	Price	Device	Helps With
	loved ones via email. In turn, friends and family can tap on pictures to send you a reply. You will need a phone, tablet, or a computer with a connection, and a free tapgram account. It comes with a quick start guide. This website is tablet & smartphone friendly. Add to your phone homescreen to use like a phone app.			
<u>Touch Calendar</u>	Touch Calendar makes viewing your calendars easy. See your whole calendar at a glance. No more flipping between different calendar views. Touch Calendar does it all from one zoomable and scrollable view. This app is especially useful for people with attention problems who do better with fewer steps.	\$3.38	<u>Android</u>	Organization
<u>Unus Tactus (Touch. Locate. Call)</u>	Developed to assist people of all ages with mild cognitive and/or motor deficits by allowing you to have an easy to use cell phone, with a simple set up. It utilizes a one-touch photo dialing system to generate phone calls using phone numbers from your existing contacts or those that you import directly.	\$9.99	<u>iOS</u>	Communication
<u>Verbally</u>	Comprehensive Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) app for the iPad. This app enables real conversation for those who have challenges speaking. Just tap in what you want to say and Verbally speaks for you. <i>*Premium features available with an in-app purchase.</i>	Free*	<u>iPad</u>	Communication, Speech
<u>Visual Schedule Planner</u>	Customizable visual schedule iPad app that is designed to give you an audio/visual representation of the events in your day. In addition, events that require more support can be linked to an activity schedule or video clip.	\$14.99	<u>iPad</u>	Organization
<u>Voice4U</u>	Picture-based, augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) application that helps you express your feelings, thoughts, actions, and needs.	\$59.99	<u>iOS, Android</u>	Communication, Speech
<u>Voice Access</u>	Voice Access is an accessibility service that lets you control your device with spoken commands. It utilizes the power of Google's Voice Search to help you control your device. It includes navigation functions, you can use your voice as a	Free	<u>iOS, Android</u>	Accessibility

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back button, home button, etc to move around. Additional commands includes scroll down, click next, and you can even type with it. Voice Access can be useful for people who have difficulty using a touchscreen due to paralysis, tremor, temporary injury, or other reasons. Assistance is using the app is [available here](#).

Week Calendar	Week Calendar is a user friendly and the all-round calendar app. Visualize your busy schedule using colors and emojis. Have a clear and detailed overview based on day, week, month or year level. Move your appointments by simply dragging, copying and pasting. It works with all your calendars including shared calendars. iCloud, Google Calendar, Yahoo! Calendar, Microsoft Outlook, Exchange ActiveSync, iCal, CalDAV, ICS subscription calendars are all supported. <i>"Color coding permits me to visually see when I need to take a break. Also, it automatically adds in travel time; a failure on prior calendars. Also, I learned that I can update the WeekCal via Google or iCalendar if am using a PC or web at time of making appointment."</i>	Free*	iOS	Organization
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WheelMap	This free app helps wheelchair users and their caregivers search and find wheelchair accessible places worldwide. Based on aggregated data from users with disabilities all over the globe, Wheelmap helps people with disabilities plan out trips and destinations based on their ability to access a building. For example, when choosing a restaurant to eat out, a user with a wheelchair might use Wheelmap to check for wheelchair accessibility prior to going.	Free	iOS , Android	Accessibility
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Where Am I?	View and share your location, including your city, zip code, telephone area code, and approximate street address as well as the times of sunrise and sunset and GPS latitude and longitude.	Free	Android	Location
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Word Warp	Game with which you can create as many words as possible from a selection of letters. If you're			
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Name	Description	Price	Device	Helps With
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stuck, just press the “warp” button and it will help you out.