

Assistive Access — Apple's Cognitively Accessible iPhone Mode Co-Designed With Disability Communities

Digital Inclusion · Good practice · United States of America

Quality score: 72/100

Evidence strength: Strong

Summary

Apple's Assistive Access strips iPhone and iPad to a high-contrast, icon-based interface for Calls, Messages, Camera, Photos and Music, built with feedback from people with cognitive disabilities. Shipped in iOS 17 (2023), extended in iOS 18, free on every compatible device.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Innovation level	3/5
Sustainability (ongoing)	1/1
Evaluation evidence	0/1
Demonstrated reach	1/1
Documented learning	1/1

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-25

[Apple Inc.](#) — accessed 2026-09-25

[Apple Newsroom: Apple previews Live Speech, Personal Voice, and more new accessibility features](#) — accessed 2026-09-25

[Easterseals Crossroads: Exploring iOS 18's New Accessibility Features for Cognitive Disabilities](#) — accessed 2026-09-25

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