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Gaming Toolkits

Fallout

Accessibility Score: ★★☆☆☆

Fallout's vast, post-apocalyptic landscapes may seem impossible to navigate without vision, but with patience, strong audio awareness, and a well-prepared strategy, blind players can still survive and thrive in the Wasteland. Your tools will be environmental sounds, map familiarity, companion support, and strategic planning.

Learn the Wasteland by Sound and Memory

- **Start Small:** Pick a small settlement or a specific quest hub (like Megaton, Diamond City, or Vault 111) and make it your “home base” before exploring further.
- **Break Locations into Zones:** Divide larger areas into mental zones—market stalls, crafting areas, gates, and dangerous outskirts—each identified by unique sounds (e.g., NPC chatter, machinery hums, or gunfire echoes).
- **Visualize the Routes:** Mentally map out routes between key locations like workbenches, vendors, and quest givers. Walk these paths multiple times so the sound landmarks become second nature.
- **Use Audio Descriptions:** If available, use mods or a sighted friend to provide a narrated walkthrough of new areas, helping you visualize the terrain before exploring independently.

Choose the Right Build for Blind Play

- **Companion-Focused Play:** Recruit companions like Dogmeat, Piper, or Nick Valentine who can help in combat and navigation. Dogmeat, for example, can be commanded to attack enemies you can't see.
- **High Perception and V.A.T.S.:** Invest in the Perception stat and use V.A.T.S. (Vault-Tec Assisted Targeting System) often—it slows time, highlights enemies, and lets you queue attacks without needing precise aim.
- **Survivor or Support Role:** Specialize in crafting, settlement building, and quest support roles rather than fast-paced shooter combat, where visual cues dominate.

Master Fallout's Audio Landscape

- **Weapon Recognition:** Guns have unique firing sounds—recognizing them.



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- **Footsteps & Movement:** Different surfaces—metal grates, wooden floors, dirt—produce distinct sounds. Use these to track your location or detect approaching NPCs and enemies.
- **Enemy Alerts:** Super Mutants, Raiders, and Ghouls have distinct vocal shouts and movement sounds. Learn these to prepare for combat.
- **Environmental Cues:** Generators, water pumps, turrets, and ambient weather (wind, rain, distant thunder) help anchor you in the world.

Combat Strategies for No-Visual Play

- **Close-Range Weapons:** Rely on shotguns, melee weapons, and explosives for combat. They're more forgiving when aiming without visuals.
- **Use V.A.T.S. Liberally:** Pause combat with V.A.T.S. to lock onto enemies via audio detection and Perception stats rather than eyesight.
- **Companion Positioning:** Let your companion take point in combat—use them as a moving reference point and damage sponge.

Survival Tips for the Blind Wastelander

- Stick to main roads and rivers when traveling—they're easier to follow by sound.
- Use settlement building as a safe, controlled gameplay environment.
- Save often—Fallout can be unforgiving, and blind play increases the chance of surprise death.
- Consider accessibility mods (if on PC) to enhance HUD audio feedback or provide spoken cues.

Learn More: [New to Fallout: How accessible is the series for the blind?](#)

