Help

Definitions

Keyboard Help

A mode in a screen reader when keys and keystrokes are pressed, the screen reader announces what they key or set of keys without actually doing anything.

Virtual Viewer: a special message window used by JAWS to display information. You can review the text in the virtual viewer using the reading commands with which you are already familiar. Depending on your JAWS settings, the virtual viewer may or may not actually appear visually on the screen.

Tree View: a method of displaying data—usually files and folders or help topics—that uses a system of groups and sub-groups to organize its entries. The keystrokes for using a tree view are written below.

Pane: just as with a window pane in the physical world, a pane in computer terminology refers to a section of a window in a computer program. Panes are used to separate different types of information. For example, a help manual on the computer might have one pane containing all of the available help topics while a different pane contains the text of a chosen topic. You can switch between panes in various programs using the F6 key.

Keyboard help: a tool for learning what various keystrokes do. When keyboard help is active, JAWS will speak the keys you press and what they do without actually doing anything. If you press the key combination twice quickly, JAWS will give a more detailed definition. You can toggle keyboard help with JAWS key + 1.

Context sensitive help: a means of obtaining JAWS help specific to the control or window currently in focus. For example, pressing the keystroke to activate context sensitive help (JAWS key + F1) while focused on a button will tell you that pressing the space bar will activate the button. JAWS key + F1 will be invaluable in many, many instances. Launching context sensitive help will place you in the virtual viewer.

Forum: an online community of individuals where they discuss a specific topic or set of topics. While internet forums can cover an infinite variety of subjects, they are presented here as a useful means of obtaining assistance with various computer-related questions. In fact, many computer-related answers found on forums have arisen as a result of other users having asked those same questions previously.

Knowledge Base: a database of information about a given subject. Like forums, knowledge bases may contain user-edited content. Unlike forums, however, most knowledge bases do not generate their content as a result of user-submitted questions.

Keystrokes:

Launch context sensitive help: JAWS key + F1

Bring up a list of windows shortcuts: JAWS key + W

Show a list of currently available JAWS Keystrokes: insert h

Move up one item in a tree view: up arrow

Move down one item in a tree view: down arrow

Open a sub-menu in a tree view: right arrow

Close a sub-menu in a tree view: left arrow

Switch panes in a program: F6

Exit the virtual viewer: escape

Toggle Keyboard Help: JAWS key + 1

Activate PC cursor: JAWS key semicolon

Activate JAWS cursor: JAWS Key

Route PC to JAWS cursor: JAWS key colon

Route JAWS cursor to PC cursor: JAWS KEY left bracket