Quick Reference Guide: VoiceOver for iOS

Recommended browser: Safari

⚡⤴ The Rotor

The Rotor allows the user to choose from a list of navigation options, including Containers, Headings, Landmarks, Same item, Vertical Navigation, Static text, Links, Tables, Lists, Buttons, Form Controls, Text fields, Search Fields, and Images.*

Twist two fingers in a circle to choose a setting on the Rotor. Left and Right swipes go to the next element on the page, Up and Down swipes go the next element of type selected in the Rotor.

The Basics

Task	Command
Turn VO on/off	(When setting is enabled) Triple press side button (iPhone X and later) or home button (prior to iPhone X)
Pause or resume reading	Two-finger tap
Start reading continuously from this point on	Two-finger swipe down
Read entire page	Two-finger swipe up
Read next item	Swipe right
Activate link or button	Double-tap
Close popup, cancel last action	Two-finger scrub
Go to next heading	Rotor, swipe down
Go to next landmark/region	Rotor, swipe down
Choose from a complete list of items on page	Two-finger triple-tap
Go to next table	Rotor, swipe down
Navigate table cells	Swipe up, down, left or right
Go to next list	Rotor, swipe down
Go to next list item	Swipe right
Go to next image	Rotor, swipe right
Go to next link	Rotor, swipe down
Go to first (last) item on page	Four-finger tap upper (lower) half of screen
Scroll (vertically or horizontally)	Three-finger swipe up, down, left, or right
Go back to previous heading, landmark, table, focusable item, etc.	Swipe up

Reading Text

Task	Command
Say prior line	Rotor, swipe up
Say next line	Rotor, swipe down
Say from current	Two-finger swipe down
Say prior character	Rotor, swipe up
Say next character	Rotor, swipe down
Say character phonetically	Settings > VO > Phonetic feedback
Say prior word	Rotor, swipe up
Say next word	Rotor, swipe down
Toggle speech on/off (good for braille use)	Three-finger double-tap**

Forms

Task	Command
Next form	Rotor, swipe down
Next focusable item	Swipe right
Next button	Rotor, swipe down
Select and deselect checkboxes	Double-tap
Next checkbox	Rotor (Same item or form controls), swipe down
Open combo box	Double-tap
Browse combo box	Drag finger to hear options
Select combo box options	Double-tap desired option(s)
Next combo box	Rotor (Same item or form controls), swipe down.
Toggle radio button selection	Double-tap
Next radio button	Rotor (Form controls or same item), swipe down

Text Editing

Task	Command
Select/deselect text	Pinch out/in
Copy the last spoken text to the clipboard	Three-finger quadruple-tap
Change case	Three-finger swipe up/down***
Insert space	Two-finger swipe right***
Backspace	Two-finger swipe left***
Write with finger	Rotor Handwriting

Tables

Task	Command
Go to next table	Rotor, swipe down
Cell to right	Swipe right
Cell to left	Swipe left
Cell below	Swipe down
Cell above	Swipe up

Other Commands

Task	Command
Gesture help	Four-finger double-tap
Help with current element.	Rotor (Hints) swipe up/down to enable hints
Toggle screen curtain on/off (VO works but screen is off)	Three-finger triple-tap
Split tap quick-activation	Select and hold with one finger, tap with another
Double-press button	Triple-tap
Speak words/characters typed	Settings > General > VoiceOver > Typing Feedback
Scroll to top	Double-tap clock in status bar
Access control center (Notifications)	Bring focus to status bar, three-finger swipe up (down)
Next/previous app	Four-finger swipe right/left
Drag mode	Double-tap and hold

*The settings for what appears in the Rotor are highly customizable. If an option you want is not appearing, navigate to Settings > General > Accessibility > Voiceover > Rotor to enable it.

**When Zoom is on, three-finger double-tap zooms, and three-finger double-tap and drag changes zoom.

***This gesture only works in handwriting mode, not in typing mode.

Full list of commands: https://tinyurl.com/commands-voiceover-ios