

Filter

Text views

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A text view displays multiline, styled text content, which can optionally be editable.

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The interface is not merely a visual display—in fact, it's possible to have an interface with no visual display at all. A human interface is the sum of all communication between the computer and user. It's what presents information to the user and accepts information from the user. It's what actually puts the computer's power into the user's hands.

Text views can be any height and allow scrolling when the content extends outside of the view. By default, content within a text view is aligned to the leading edge and uses the system label color. In iOS, iPadOS, and visionOS, if a text view is editable, a keyboard appears when people select the view.

Best practices

Use a text view when you need to display text that's long, editable, or in a special format. Text views differ from [text fields](#) and [labels](#) in that they provide the most options for displaying specialized text and receiving text input. If you need to display a small amount of text, it's simpler to use a label or — if the text is editable — a text field.

Keep text legible. Although you can use multiple fonts, colors, and alignments in creative ways, it's essential to maintain the readability of your content. It's a good idea to adopt Dynamic Type so your text still looks good if people change text size on their device. Be sure to test your content with accessibility options turned on, such as bold text. For guidance, see [Accessibility](#) and [Typography](#).

Make useful text selectable. If a text view contains useful information such as an error message, a serial number, or an IP address, consider letting people select and copy it for pasting elsewhere.

Platform considerations

No additional considerations for macOS, visionOS, or watchOS.

iOS, iPadOS

Show the appropriate keyboard type. Several different keyboard types are available, each designed to facilitate a different type of input. To streamline data entry, the keyboard you display when editing a text view needs to be appropriate for the type of content. For guidance, see [Virtual keyboards](#).

tvOS

You can display text in tvOS using a text view. Because text input in tvOS is minimal by design, tvOS uses [text fields](#) for editable text instead.

Resources

Related

- [Labels](#)
- [Text fields](#)
- [Combo boxes](#)

Developer documentation

- [Text](#) — SwiftUI
- [UITextView](#) — UIKit
- [NSTextView](#) — AppKit

Change log

Date	Changes
June 5, 2023	Updated guidance to reflect changes in watchOS 10.

Platforms	Topics & Technologies	Resources	Programs
iOS	Accessibility	Documentation	Apple Developer Program
iPadOS	Accessories	Tutorials	Apple Developer Enterprise Program
macOS	App Extension	Downloads	App Store Small Business Program
tvOS	App Store	Forums	MFi Program
visionOS	Audio & Video	Videos	News Partner Program
watchOS	Augmented Reality	Support	Video Partner Program
Tools	Design	Support Articles	Security Bounty Program
Swift	Distribution	Contact Us	Security Research Device Program
SwiftUI	Education	Bug Reporting	Events
Swift Playground	Fonts	System Status	Meet with Apple
TestFlight	Games	Account	Apple Developer Centers
Xcode	Health & Fitness	Apple Developer	App Store Awards
Xcode Cloud	In-App Purchase	App Store Connect	Apple Design Awards
SF Symbols	Localization	Certificates, IDs, & Profiles	Apple Developer Academies
	Maps & Location	Feedback Assistant	WWDC
	Machine Learning & AI		
	Open Source		
	Security		
	Safari & Web		