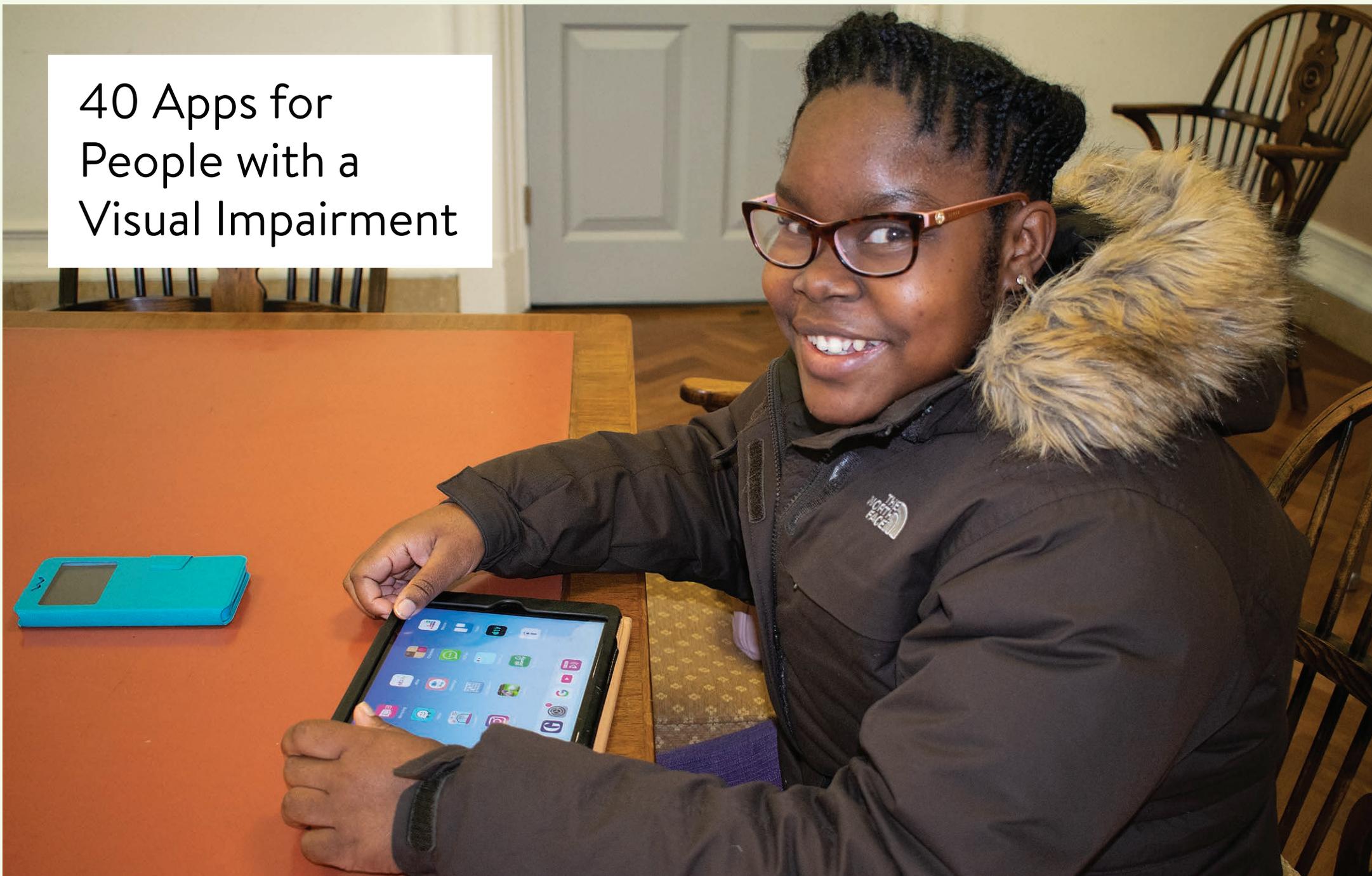


# 40 Apps for People with a Visual Impairment



**If you have a visual impairment, a smartphone has the power to open up the world around you. There are many apps out there that can enable you to live more independently and go beyond expectations, which is what we're about at Henshaws.**

Whether you are wanting to read your post, identify the colours of your clothes, navigate independently from A to B, or access books and TV shows, there are apps which can enable you to do these things and so much more.

We have pulled together a list of 40 of these apps (some are free, others paid for) and divided them into five categories so that you can easily find what you're looking for: productivity; reading and books; outdoor navigation and transport; entertainment; and miscellaneous.

Why not give them a download, have a go and let us know how you get on. If there are other apps not listed in this eBook that you find useful, let us know those too.



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1



# Seeing AI

Seeing AI is an app from Microsoft which narrates the world around you using AI (artificial intelligence). The app uses your phone's camera to complete tasks such as scanning barcodes to identify products; reading documents (including handwritten ones); recognising friends and describing people around you; identifying currency; recognising colours and light; and much more. Seeing AI can also identify objects, people and text in photos.

**Watch our series of videos to discover more about all the features of Seeing AI.**

**Available on:** iOS

**Cost:** Free

**Website:** <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/seeing-ai/>

**Twitter:** @MSFTEnable



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the App store



# TapTapSee

2

TapTapSee uses your phone's camera to photograph objects and identify them. Just activate the 'take picture' button to photograph any object at any angle, and the app analyses the image and gives you a description, out loud, within seconds. You can also use TapTapSee to identify photos in your camera roll and you can share any images taken with TapTapSee to social media and to your camera roll.

**Watch our TapTapSee video to see it in action.**

**Available on:** iOS and Android

**Cost:** Free

**Website:** <https://taptapseeapp.com/>

**Twitter:** @TapTapSee



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the App store



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3



# Eye-D

Eye-D describes the world around you using your phone's camera and GPS. Eye-D is able to identify objects, read text, identify your current location and explore places around you. You can also upgrade to Eye-D Pro which will unlock even more features, including more advanced text recognition options and the ability to search for specific locations. Eye-D is unique in that it combines the features of identification apps with those of navigation apps so it really is a fantastic companion for living more independently. **Check out our blog which explains each feature of Eye-D in greater detail.**

**Available on:** iOS and Android

**Cost:** Free (£7.49 for Eye-D Pro)

**Website:** <https://eye-d.in>

**Twitter:** @HelloEyeD



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Download Eye-D from the Play Store



Download Eye-D Pro from the Play Store



# Cash Reader

4

Cash Reader is the perfect app for identifying currencies from all over the world. Just point your phone's camera at the bank note you want to identify and the app will announce the denomination, either through speech or vibration patterns. Providing that you have downloaded the data for the currencies that you want to identify, you do not need an internet connection. The app is free to download, however the free version only allows you to identify the two lowest denominations of each currency. If you want to be able to identify all denominations, you need to upgrade to the full version – access to the full version for one year costs just £5.99.

**Available on:** iOS and Android

**Cost:** Free (with in-app purchases)

**Website:** <https://cashreader.app/en/>

**Twitter:** @cash\_reader



Download from the App store



Download from the Play store



5



# NaviLens

NaviLens uses your phone's camera to scan markers that you can personally customise in order to label products. Once you download the app, request a set of markers, write the text for the labels, print them off and stick them onto the products you want to label. Markers are also being used to make public transport more accessible in the Spanish cities of Barcelona, Madrid and Murcia, making it easier for visually impaired people to navigate public transport more independently. [Watch our NaviLens video to see Mark put it to the test.](#)

**Available on:** iOS and Android

**Cost:** Free

**Website:** <https://www.navilens.com>

**Twitter:** [@navilens](#)



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# Voice Dream Scanner

6

Voice Dream Scanner is the ultimate app for scanning, recognising and reading printed documents. While this can be done using other apps, Voice Dream Scanner has additional options for saving documents as PDFs or plain text and you can save those documents to locations including Dropbox and Google Drive to view on other devices. You can also use Voice Dream Scanner in conjunction with Voice Dream Reader. Voice Dream Scanner does not require an internet connection so you can be rest assured that anything you scan stays private. It has been described as “simply the best OCR app to date” on the community website AppleVis.

**Available on:** iOS

**Cost:** £5.99

**Website:** <https://www.voicedream.com/scanner/>

**Twitter:** [@VoiceDreamApp](#)



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the App store



7



# BeSpecular

BeSpecular enables you to receive visual information from volunteers, referred to as sightlings. The app works by a visually impaired person taking a photo and attaching a text or voice message asking a question or explaining what they need help with. Within minutes the user receives one or multiple replies and then rates out of five stars the helpfulness of the volunteers. This app is great because you get a description from a human being and it's very accessible and quick. **Watch our BeSpecular video to see it in action.**

**Available on:** iOS and Android

**Cost:** Free

**Website:** <https://www.bespecular.com/>



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# Be My Eyes

8

Be My Eyes is very similar to BeSpecular in that it connects visually impaired people with sighted volunteers. The difference is that you are connected through a live video connection. The sighted volunteer can tell the user what they see when the user points their phone at something using the rear-facing camera and can assist with helping the visually impaired person to point their camera specifically at what they want help identifying.

**Watch our Be My Eyes video to see the app in action.**

**Available on:** iOS and Android

**Cost:** Free

**Website:** <https://www.bemyeyes.com/>

**Twitter:** @BeMyEyes



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# Find out more!

**This is Chapter 1 of our latest Apps eBook, which features 40 apps we think are useful to people with sight loss.**

We hope you enjoyed it. You can download the full eBook for just £3.00 at [www...](#)

The cost of the Apps eBook will help us to create more content to support people with sight loss and other disabilities to develop the skills and knowledge they need to be more independent.

**#BeyondExpectations**

**#KnowledgeVillage**

