

Instructions for Creating a Voice Build

This guide gives you set by step instructions for creating a Voice Build with SpeakUnique.

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Before you begin

To record your voice with SpeakUnique, you will need:

- 1. A laptop or computer. Recording is not currently supported on iPads and tablets.
- 2. An external headset microphone that connects to your computer via the USB port or headphone socket. We do not recommend a specific headset, but headsets made by Sennheiser, Plantronics and Logitech are reliable.
- 3. A quiet room with no background noise and ideally soft furnishings to remove any echoing.

Device compatibility

Before you start recording, please ensure the device you want to use your voice on (e.g. communication aid, phone or tablet) is compatible with SpeakUnique voices. SpeakUnique voices can be downloaded unlimited times across a range of devices.

SpeakUnique App

The SpeakUnique app is a text-to-speech app that allows you to input text via a keyboard or pre-set categories and phrases. This typed message is then generated in your personalised synthetic voice. The app can be used with various input methods, such as switch access. It is compatible with iOS devices (i.e. iPhones and iPads) running **iOS 12** or higher, and many Android devices, depending on the chip used by the particular device.

A current list of tested Android devices is available here: <u>https://www.speakunique.co.uk/session/using-your-voice-speakunique-app-android</u>.

You can check whether a given device is compatible or not on the list.

Speed Test App

If you already own an Android device but you're not sure if it's compatible, you can check this by using our speed test app, which can be downloaded free from the Google Play store by searching for "SpeakUnique Speed Test". The app will run a short speed test, which takes less than a minute, to confirm if your device is compatible with the SpeakUnique app. Once you have run the test, you can delete the speed test app from your device.

Third Party Apps for iOS

We have partnered with Smartbox and Therapy Box to integrate SpeakUnique voices into Grid for iPad and Predictable for iOS devices, respectively. A licence for Grid for iPad or Predictable must be purchased separately or provided through your healthcare provision. Please note SpeakUnique voices **do not** integrate into Predictable on Android devices.

Windows Devices

For Windows devices, the voices are provided in SAPI5 format where they can be accessed by any software on the device which relies on synthetic voices.

We do not offer our own SpeakUnique app for Windows devices – you will need to use third party software to access your voice.

We have confirmed the voices are compatible with the speech generating devices listed below but please get in touch if we have not included a device you intend to use the voice on.

Tobii Dynavox

Indi 7, i-12+, i-15+, i-13, i-16, I-110

SmartBox

Grid Pad 8, Grid Pad 10, Grid Pad 11, Grid Pad 12, Grid Pad 13, Grid Pad 15, Touch Pad

Liberator/ PRC

Accent 1400, Accent 1000 and Accent 800

Registering for an account

Visit <u>www.speakunique.co.uk</u> and click **Sign Up/ Login.**



To register for a new account, please enter your **email address** and click **Begin Registration**

New to SpeakUnique?	Registered already?
Start with your email address:	Enter your email address:
☐ Lagree to the privacy policy ♂ and terms of use ♂ (These links will open in a new window.)	Enter your password:
Begin Registration >	Login >
	Forgot your password?

Enter your first name, last name and choose a password. We'd love to know how you found out about us and you can decide if you would like to be kept up to date on our news through our mailing list! Then click **Continue.**

Fields marked with a r	red star * are required for registration.
First name *	
Last name*	
Choose a password *	۲
How did you hear about SpeakUnique?	
	k

This guide will show you how to create a **Voice Build**, click **Get Started**.

Voice Build	Voice Repair	Voice Design	Healthcare Professionals
£175	£250	£300	\sim
lf your speech is not yet affected.	If your speech is already affected.	Use old recordings of your voice.	Free trial of Voice Build for healthcare
A synthetic replica	For if your voice is	OR	professionals.
of your own voice.	slow, slurred, or the pitch has changed. A repaired version of your voice.	Create a bespoke voice from voice donors.	Please register with your professional email address.

Not sure? Find out more about our services here or contact our support team at <support@speakunique.co.uk>

Please **complete your personal details**. We ask for this information to help us better understand how to build your synthetic voice. You do not need to provide us with your medical condition if you do not want to.

Let's get to know each other				
	We collect this information	on to help us create your synthetic voice.		
What is your medical diagnosis	or condition?	Please select your date of birth *		
		Day Vear Year		
When were you diagnosed?		Please select your gender *		
Month	▼ Year ▼	Male O Female O Other O		
← Previous	Please note that you do not need to provide the informati	ion set out on this page and you can proceed to the next page without		
	information on this page.	our understanding of now to null your voice, you can complete the		
	For the purposes of applicable data protection law, Speal	kUnique Limited ("SpeakUnique", "we", "us") is a controller of personal		
	data you provide by submitting this form. By completing	ng this form, you consent to your personal data being collected and		
	processed by us in order to improve our understanding of Notice at www.speakunique.co.uk/privacy-policy	how to build, repair or design your voice in accordance with our Privacy You can withdraw your consent at any time by emailing		
	and a second sec			

If you are being supported to use SpeakUnique by a **Healthcare Professional**, you can add their details to your account to grant permission for them to liaise with us on your behalf and allow them to view your progress. If you are unsure of this information at this stage, you can add this at any time from within "My Account".

Healthcare Professional Name:	Your Healthcare Professional will be able to:
Healthcare Professional Email Address:	 View your name and email address View your recording progress Listen to the recordings you complete with SpeakUnique or listen to the recordings you upload to your account
Healthcare Professional Phone Number:	 Listen to samples of your personalised synthetic voice Discuss the status and any feedback on the voice with the SpeakUnique team Apply for funding on your behalf
Job Role:	
	By ticking this box you confirm you give permission for SpeakUnique to liaise with your named healthcare professional about your account. You can withdraw your consent at any time by emailing support@speakunique.co.uk.

Please let us know how you would describe your accent. The **Accent Influence** box can be used if there is any extra information about your accent that you think would be helpful to tell us.

	* this information is required
We us voice (inform	e information about your accent to better understand how to generate your synthetic and make sure the voice sounds as much like you as possible, so it's important this nation is correct.
f Engl uour n	sh is not your native language, you might feel it is more accurate to select the country of ative language to describe your accent. You can always add more information about
accent	influences in the free text box below.
accent	influences in the free text box below. Country:
accent	Influences in the free text box below. Country: Please select
accent	influences in the free text box below. Country: Please select Region/County/State:
accent	Influences in the free text box below. Country: Please select Please select Please select
accent	influences in the free text box below. Country: Please select Please select Do you have any other accent influences? More about this ?

Your registration is now complete, and you can continue to the recording now. You will receive an email to confirm your account has been created.



	Thanks for signing up to SpeakUnique.
	Your account has successfully been created.
A cor use tl to yo	firmation email has been sent to the email address you provided. Please nis email address and the password you set at registration to log back in ur account.
	You are now ready to start creating your synthetic voice build.

Completing the Recording

Recording Set-Up

The next screens contain tips on how to complete a good recording.

We have prepared a short video explaining the recording process.



Recording tips are also provided in written format.



Make sure your external microphone is connected to your computer and is positioned in line with your jaw. You do not want the microphone too close to your mouth as this can lead to a poor-quality recording.





We offer a selection of different scripts for you to choose from. First select what genre of book you would like to read from; each genre contains a range of titles to pick from.





Once you have selected a genre, you will see the available titles. Each title has been rated for ease of reading. Use the circle button on the right to select which title you would like to read.

We also have a "Simple Script" available which is made up of shorter sentences and idioms which we can make available to you, if you struggle to read any of the provided scripts. Please contact us at support@speakunique.co.uk if you would like to use this script.

Choosing a script You have selected Bedtime Classics. Please select a book to read from b		
Alice in Wonderland	Lewis Carroll	Average
Dick Whittington and His Cat	Edith Carrington	Easier
Peter Pan	J.M. Barrie	Harder
Stories by Beatrix Potter	Beatrix Potter	Average
The Jungle Book	Rudyard Kipling	Average
sentences and vocabulary. Io	o return to the g	genre selectio

You are now ready to start recording. Please make sure you are comfortable.



Microphone Permissions

Before you begin recording, you need to ensure the correct microphone is selected. A list of available microphones on your device will be shown on screen, please choose your microphone and click **Continue.**

permissio	n to use your microphone, please click "Allow".	for
lf you ha	e done that and you are still seeing this message, please reload this	page.
lf there is bar at th	no box and you are having trouble, look for a small microphone ico top of the window and try clicking it to reset your permissions for	n in the URL this page.
-		
Plea	e click on your microphone in the list below and then click Continue:	
Plea	e click on your microphone in the list below and then click Continue: Mic 1: Default - MacBook Air Microphone (Built-in)	
Plea	e click on your microphone in the list below and then click Continue: Mic 1: Default - MacBook Air Microphone (Built-in) Mic 2: MacBook Air Microphone (Built-in)	

If you complete the steps outlined in the screenshot above and the microphone is still not recording, please check the microphone permissions on your web browser and your laptop/computer and ensure you have granted access to <u>www.speakunique.co.uk</u> to access your microphone.

The Recording Screen



- 1. This is the sentence you need to read aloud.
- 2. Press **Record** to start recording each sentence.
- 3. The **Play** button allows you to listen to the sentence you have just recorded please listen back to sentences frequently to check the quality.
- 4. The **volume bar** indicates the volume of the recording. An error message will appear if the recording is too loud, too quiet or if your microphone is too close to your mouth.
- 5. The **arrows** allow you to move between sentences. You can also use the arrow keys on your keyboard to do this.
- 6. The **progress bar** shows the sentence number you are reading and what percentage of the recording you have completed.
- 7. Here you can change the external **microphone** you want to use. Please note the name of the microphone might differ from what you expect.
- 8. Use the Save and Log Out feature if you would like to save your recording.

The Screen During Recording



- 1. Press record and start speaking. If you make a mistake, you are interrupted, you notice background noise or if you cough during the recording please rerecord the sentence.
- 2. Press **Stop** to stop recording the sentence.
- 3. A red box will appear around the screen to indicate that recording is in progress.
- 4. Your synthetic voice can be built on a minimum of 125 sentences and a maximum of 150 sentences.

The **Save and Submit** button will appear once you have reached sentence 126 and can be used when you are ready to submit your recordings to create your synthetic voice. If you wish to record all 150 sentences, please continue recording until you reach the end of the process.

After you've clicked **Save and Submit**, please confirm your **account type** and **accent information**. The submission will not be complete and the synthetic voice will not be generated until you click **Submit**.

	Please review the details we have about your voice.
Befo	re you submit the recordings, please check these details are correct:
Confirm your SpeakUnique service below:	
Voice Build	SpeakUnique Voice Build is for people who have a medical diagnosis that will affect their speech but <i>do not</i> have any symptoms/changes in their voice.
	More about Voice Build (2
Your Gender	Your Date of Birth
Female Male	01 V January V 1969 V
Other	
Your Accent	
	Durter La La La
Country: United Kingdom	Kegion: London
When you have confirmed the detail	s are correct please click Submit and you will be notified by email within 2 working days when your
synthetic voice samples are ready to li	isten to.
If you don't receive an email, check yo	ur junk folder or log back into your account to see your voice status.

Please ensure you have registered for the correct service – if you wish to change from a Voice Build to a Voice Repair (or vice versa) you can do this now.

S Please revie Before you submit th	w the details we have about your voice. he recordings, please check these details are correct:
Confirm your SpeakUnique service below:	
✓ Voice Build	SpeakUnique Voice Build is for people who have a medical diagnosis that will affect their speech but <i>do not</i> have any symptoms/changes in their voice.
Voice Build - Clinician	More about Voice Build (
Voice Repair	Your Date of Birth
□ Female ☑ Male □ Other	: 01 🗸 January 💙 1969 🗸
Your Accent	
Country: United Kingdom	Region: London V
When you have confirmed the details are correct ple	ase click Submit and you will be notified by email within 2 working dous when your
synthetic voice samples are ready to listen to.	
If you don't receive an email, check your junk folder or	log back into your account to see your voice status.

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Once you have submitted your recordings, your account will show that your voice is being generated.



Listening to Your Voice Build

You will be notified by email once your synthetic voice has been generated. If you do not receive an email, please check your junk folder or log back into your account to check your voice status.

Log into your account at <u>www.speakunique.co.uk</u> and click **Download/listen to samples of** your synthetic voice.



You can listen to 5 samples of your synthetic voice.

Your Voice Build	is ready!
"Here is a sample of my personalised SpeakUnique voice."	Play
"This is based on a recording of my voice."	Play
"It means I can continue to communicate in my own voice	e."
"The quick brown fox jumped over the lazy dog."	Play
"I'll have the soup of the day, please."	Play
Isn't it great? We hope you love your v	voice as much as we do!
What next?	
If you're happy with your samples and want to start using your voice, you will need to Apply For Funding purchase or apply for funding for your SpeakUnique voice in order to be able to Apply For Funding download it. Pay Now	
Show More	

If you have any feedback on the voice, you can use our **Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down** system to let us know what you think. If you have more specific feedback or would like to upgrade to our **Voice Repair** service, please email <u>support@speakunique.co.uk</u>.

What next?

If you're happy with your samples and want to start using your voice, you will need to purchase or apply for funding for your SpeakUnique voice in order to be able to download it.

Use the Apply for Funding button to apply for funding from one of our charity partners. If you wish to purchase your voice yourself, please use the "pay now" button. You can also email funding@speakunique.co.uk if you would like to discuss funding from the health service or a charity not listed on our website.

Hide

What do you think?

If you're happy with your voice but don't need to download it yet we will store the voice for as long as you like - free of charge! Click 1° to let us know you like the voice but don't need it yet!

If you don't like the voice, please don't apply for funding or purchase the voice just yet. Just click \mathcal{G}^{II} and a member of our team will be in touch with you or email support@speakunique.co.uk.

Show More

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Apply For Funding

Pay Now

Lasted updated: May 2024

Payment and Funding for Voice Build

You can opt to self-fund the voice via a secure online payment by clicking **Pay Now**. If you wish to complete a funding application, please click **Apply for Funding** and follow the below steps.

Your Voice Build	is ready!
"Here is a sample of my personalised SpeakUnique voice."	Play
"This is based on a recording of my voice."	Play
"It means I can continue to communicate in my own voice	e." Play
"The quick brown fox jumped over the lazy dog."	Play
"I'll have the soup of the day, please."	Play
Isn't it great? We hope you love your v	voice as much as we do!
What next?	
If you're happy with your samples and want to start using your vo purchase or apply for funding for your SpeakUnique voice in orde download it.	pice, you will need to Apply For Funding or to be able to Pay Now
Show More	

Our current funding partnerships will be displayed, alongside eligibility criteria.



The steps for applying for funding are specific to each charity but the required information will be shown on screen.

For example, the MND Association application is	shown below.
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Apply for MND Association Funding To apply for funding to cover the cost of your SpeakUnique voice from the MND Association please complete this form:			
Name*			
Address*			
Postcode*			
Phone number*			
Email address*			
Date of Birth*			
Speech & Language Therapist (SLT) details (If applicable)			
Doctor/GP details*			
Date of Diagnosis*			

Applications from some charities require endorsement from a healthcare professional. You are required to provide the email address of the healthcare professional endorsing your application for funding. An automatic email will be sent to them explaining what they need to do.

For example, the **PSPA** application is shown below.

Apply for PSPA Funding				
To apply for funding to cover the cost of your SpeakUnique voice from PSPA please complete this form.				
The details you enter will be sent to the named healthcare professional and PSPA, alongside the message below asking the healthcare professional to endorse your application for funding from PSPA. We will notify you by email on the outcome of your funding application.				
Name*		Below is a preview of the email that we will send on your behalf to your healthcare professional		
Phone number*		bates Thu, 18 Har 2021 To: Troin Speaklinique «support#speakunique.co.uk> Subient 2854 fundims remuest for a Seeakliniums voice		
Email address*	alice@speakunique.co.uk	Designed has applied for funding through DCDA for the part of a Spoold Injano uples		
SpeakUnique Product	Voice Build	They have nominated you as a healthcare professional to support this application.		
Cost	٤ 175	Please respond to this email, ensuring PSPA is cc'ed, confirming that you endorse this application and give a short overview of why this service would be beneficial to the individual.		
Name of healthcare professional endorsing application for Support Grant*		If the individual applying for funding is a resident in Scotland, please give a reason why the SpeakUnique voice cannot be funded through NHS Scotland's provision of communication aids.		
Contact details for healthcare professional*		Details of the individual applying for funding: Name: Phone number: Email address: alice@speakunique.co.uk SpeakUnique product: Voice Build Cost: £175		
NI	s s s s s s s s s s s s s s s s s s s	end		

Downloading Your Voice Build

The **Download Now** button will appear once your voice has been purchased or your funding has been approved.

S SpedkUnique	Your Account	Logout
Your Voice Build is ready!		
"Here is a sample of my personalised SpeakUnique voice."		
"This is based on a recording of my voice."		
"It means I can continue to communicate in my own voice."		
"The quick brown fox jumped over the lazy dog."		
"I'll have the soup of the day, please."		
Download Now		

You can download your voice an unlimited number of times across multiple devices on all our supported platforms, The process for downloading your voice will depend on the device/ app you are using and specific instructions can be found by clicking on the different tabs displayed on this page.

SpeakUnique		Your Account Logout			
Download Voice					
Your SpeakUnique voice is now ready to be downloaded.					
For more information on how your voice can be used, please click here.					
Your voice can be downloaded as many times as you would like, onto a range of different devices. Please select a tab below for more information on how to use your voice on each of our supported platforms.					
🖆 Apple 🗡 An	droid 📲 Windows 📄 Grid for iPad	Predictable (iOS Only)			
Compatible Apple Devices	Logging into the app	Downloading Your Voice			
Your voice can be used through the SpeakUnique app on iPads and iPhones running iOS11 or higher.	You can log into our app using your email address and password or email address and the download code, shown below:	If you have already logged into the SpeakUnique app and you are now ready to download your personalised voice into the app, please go to			
Please search for "SpeakUnique" in the app store to download our free app. For more information using your voice through third-party Apple apps visit our Using Your Voice page.	Click here for our app guide.	"Options" > "My Account" > "Voice Status" and click "Download Voice"			