

Instructions for Creating a Voice Repair

This guide gives you set by step instructions for creating a Voice Repair 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:

<https://www.speakunique.co.uk/session/using-your-voice-speakunique-app-android>.

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

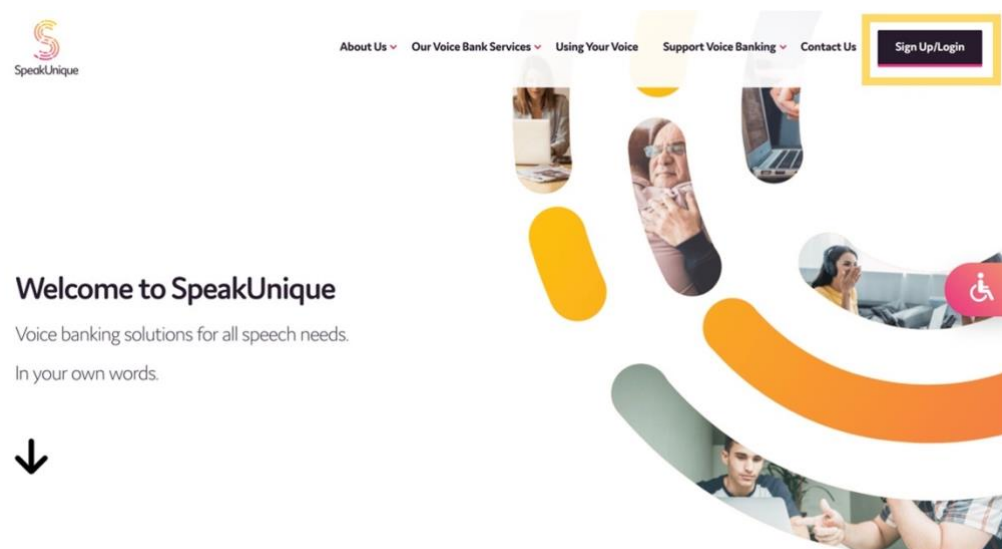
Grid Pad 8, Grid Pad 10, Grid Pad 11, Grid Pad 12, Grid Pad 13, Grid Pad 15, Touch Pad

Liberator/ PRC

Accent 1400, Accent 1000 and Accent 800

Registering for an account

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



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

The image shows two side-by-side forms for user authentication. The left form is titled 'New to SpeakUnique?' and contains a text input field for 'Start with your email address:'. Below the field is a checkbox labeled 'I agree to the privacy policy and terms of use' with links to the respective documents. At the bottom of the form is a 'Begin Registration >' button. The right form is titled 'Registered already?' and contains two text input fields: 'Enter your email address:' and 'Enter your password:'. Below these fields is a 'Login >' button. A link for 'Forgot your password?' is located at the bottom left of the right form. A '< Cancel' button is positioned at the bottom left of the entire form area.

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**.



Let's get to know each other:

Fields marked with a red star * are required for registration.

First name*

Last name*

Choose a password*

How did you hear about SpeakUnique?





Would you like to join our marketing list? ☐

[← Cancel](#) [Continue →](#)

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



Please select one of our voice bank services:

Voice Build  £175 If your speech is not yet affected. A synthetic replica of your own voice. Get Started	Voice Repair  £250 If your speech is already affected. For if your voice is slow, slurred, or the pitch has changed. A repaired version of your voice. Get Started	Voice Design  £300 Use old recordings of your voice. OR Create a bespoke voice from voice donors. Get Started	Healthcare Professionals  Free trial of Voice Build for healthcare professionals. Please register with your professional email address. Get Started
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Not sure? [Find out more about our services here](#) or contact our support team at support@speakunique.co.uk

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



Let's get to know each other

We collect this information to help us create your synthetic voice.

What is your medical diagnosis or condition?

When were you diagnosed?

Month... Year...

Please select your date of birth *

Day... Month... Year...

Please select your gender *

Male ☐ Female ☐ Other ☐

[< Previous](#)

Please note that you do not need to provide the information set out on this page and you can proceed to the next page without completing these fields. However, in order to improve our understanding of how to null your voice, you can complete the information on this page.

For the purposes of applicable data protection law, SpeakUnique Limited ("SpeakUnique", "we", "us") is a controller of personal data you provide by submitting this form. By completing this form, you consent to your personal data being collected and processed by us in order to improve our understanding of how to build, repair or design your voice in accordance with our Privacy Notice at www.speakunique.co.uk/privacy-policy [You can withdraw your consent at any time by emailing \[privacy@speakunique.co.uk\]\(mailto:privacy@speakunique.co.uk\).](#)

[Next >](#)

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".

Your Healthcare Professional

Healthcare Professional Name:

Healthcare Professional Email Address:

Healthcare Professional Phone Number:

Job Role:

Please select...

Your Healthcare Professional will be able to:

- 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
- 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

☐ 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.

[< Cancel](#)

[Save Changes >](#)

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.

How would you describe your accent?*

* this information is required

We use information about your accent to better understand how to generate your synthetic voice and make sure the voice sounds as much like you as possible, so it's important this information is correct.

If English is not your native language, you might feel it is more accurate to select the country of your native language to describe your accent. You can always add more information about accent influences in the free text box below.

Country:

Please select

Region/County/State:

Please select

Do you have any other accent influences?

More about this ?

(optional)

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 confirmation email has been sent to the email address you provided. Please use this email address and the password you set at registration to log back in to your account.

You are now ready to start creating your synthetic voice build.

Start Now →

Recording tips


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

We have prepared a short video explaining the recording process.



Recording your voice

For step-by-step instructions on how to record your voice, please watch our video below



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Recording tips are also provided in written format.



Recording Tips

Our state-of-the-art speech synthesis technology works by mimicking what it hears in your recording.
This is what makes it so great at capturing your identity in the voice.

But there are a few things to remember:

Make sure you are in a quiet room with no background noise. For example, if you have any pets make sure they're out of the room, switch off any appliances like the dishwasher or washing machine, and try to record away from any busy streets.

The quality of the audio will also affect the quality of the voice. This is why we ask you to **use an external microphone** (not the one built-in to your computer). Try not to record in a room that is very echoey: rooms with lots of soft furnishings are good, and closing windows and curtains can also help.

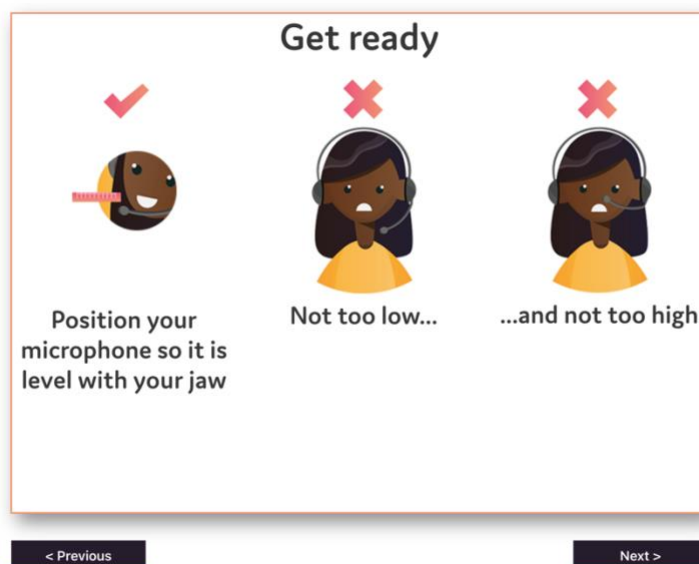
Read the sentences in a natural voice - don't over-emphasise any of the words but try not to sound too flat. Otherwise this will come through in your synthetic voice.

Only record when you are reading the correct sentence. Try not to cough or stutter on a word during the recording. If you do or **if you make a mistake while reading a sentence then re-record the sentence.**

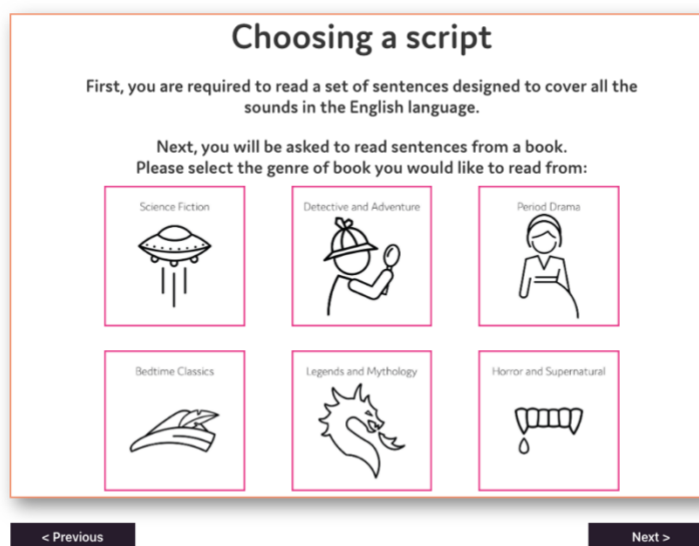
< Previous

Next >

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@peakunique.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 below.

Title	Author	Reading Difficulty	
Alice in Wonderland	Lewis Carroll	Average	<input type="radio"/>
Dick Whittington and His Cat	Edith Carrington	Easier	<input type="radio"/>
Peter Pan	J.M. Barrie	Harder	<input type="radio"/>
Stories by Beatrix Potter	Beatrix Potter	Average	<input type="radio"/>
The Jungle Book	Rudyard Kipling	Average	<input type="radio"/>

Please note that some books may have been edited for clarity and ease of reading. The books have been rated for difficulty based on factors such as length of sentences, structure of sentences and vocabulary. To return to the genre selection please press Previous

< Previous


Next >

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



Get Comfortable

Set yourself up somewhere quiet and comfortable where you can keep your computer stable. Grab yourself a glass of water or a cup of tea.



< Previous

Next >

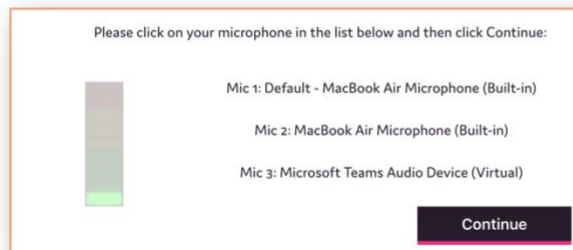
Microphone Permissions

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**.

We need to access your microphone to continue. If there is a box above asking for permission to use your microphone, please click "Allow".

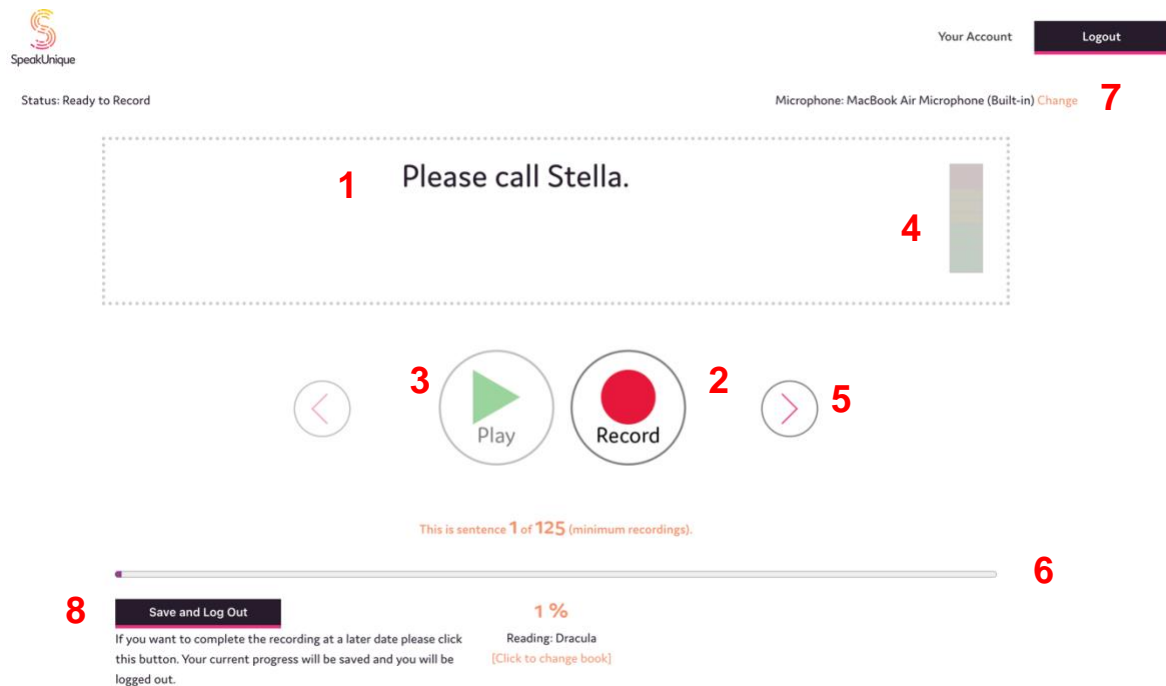
If you have done that and you are still seeing this message, please [reload this page](#).

If there is no box and you are having trouble, look for a small microphone icon in the URL bar at the top of the window and try clicking it to reset your permissions for this page.



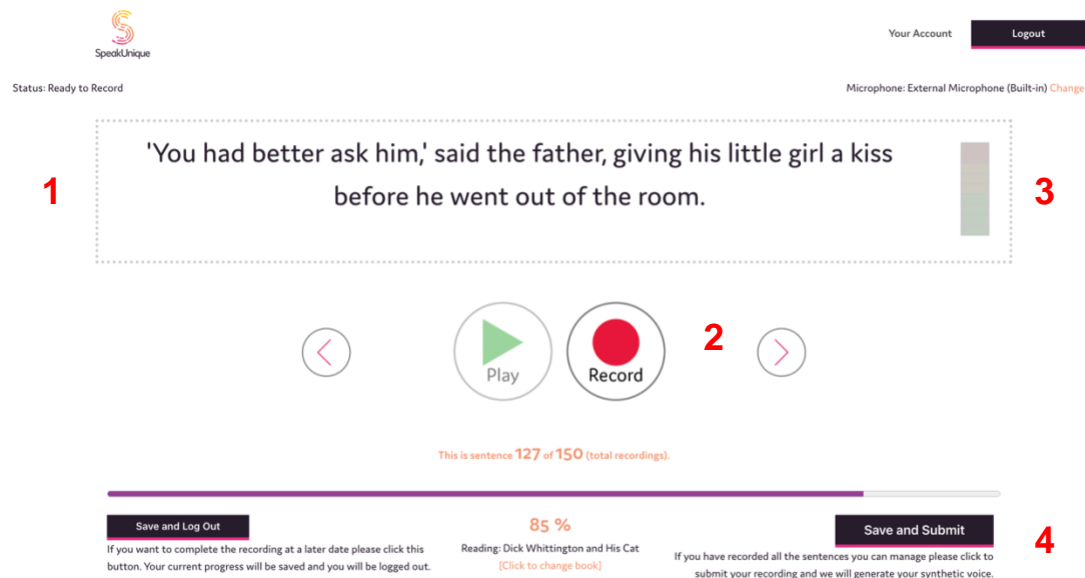
If you complete the steps outlined in the screenshot above and the microphone is still not recording, please check the microphone permissions on your web browser and your laptop/computer and ensure you have granted access to www.speakunique.co.uk to access your microphone.

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

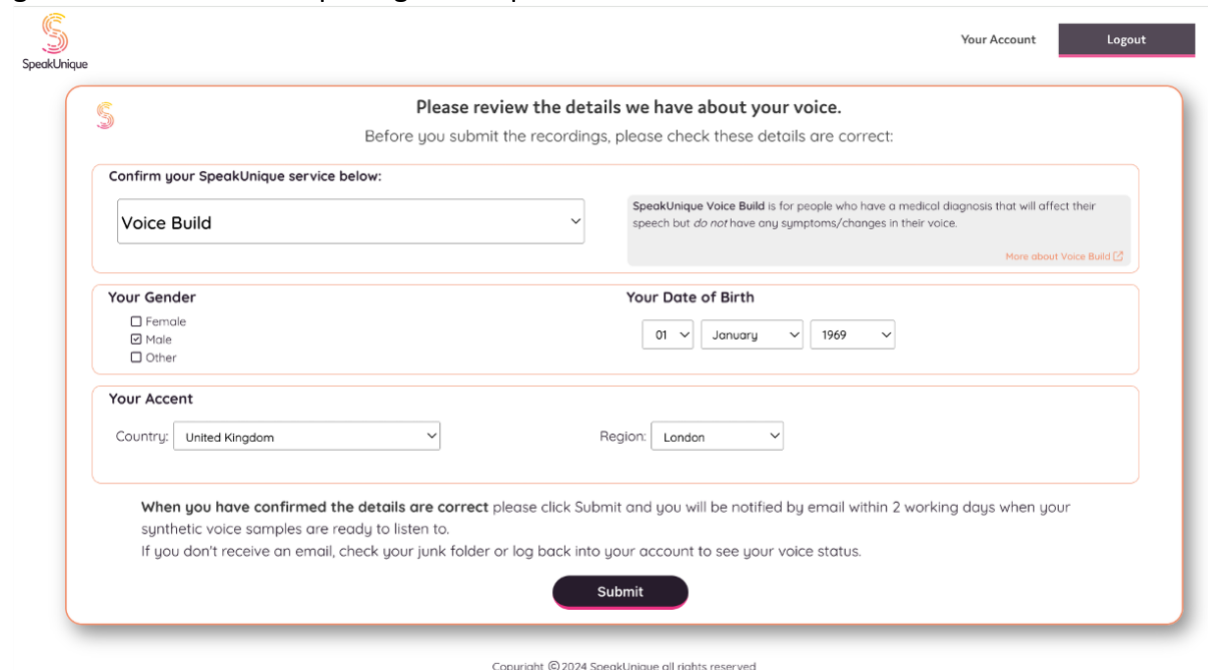
The screen when you are recording audio



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 make sure to confirm your **account type** and **accent information**. The submission will not be complete and synthetic voice will not be generated without completing this step.



SpeakUnique

Your Account Logout

Please review the details we have about your voice.

Before 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 do not have any symptoms/changes in their voice.

More about Voice Build

Your Gender

☐ Female
☒ Male
☐ Other

Your Date of Birth

01 January 1969

Your Accent

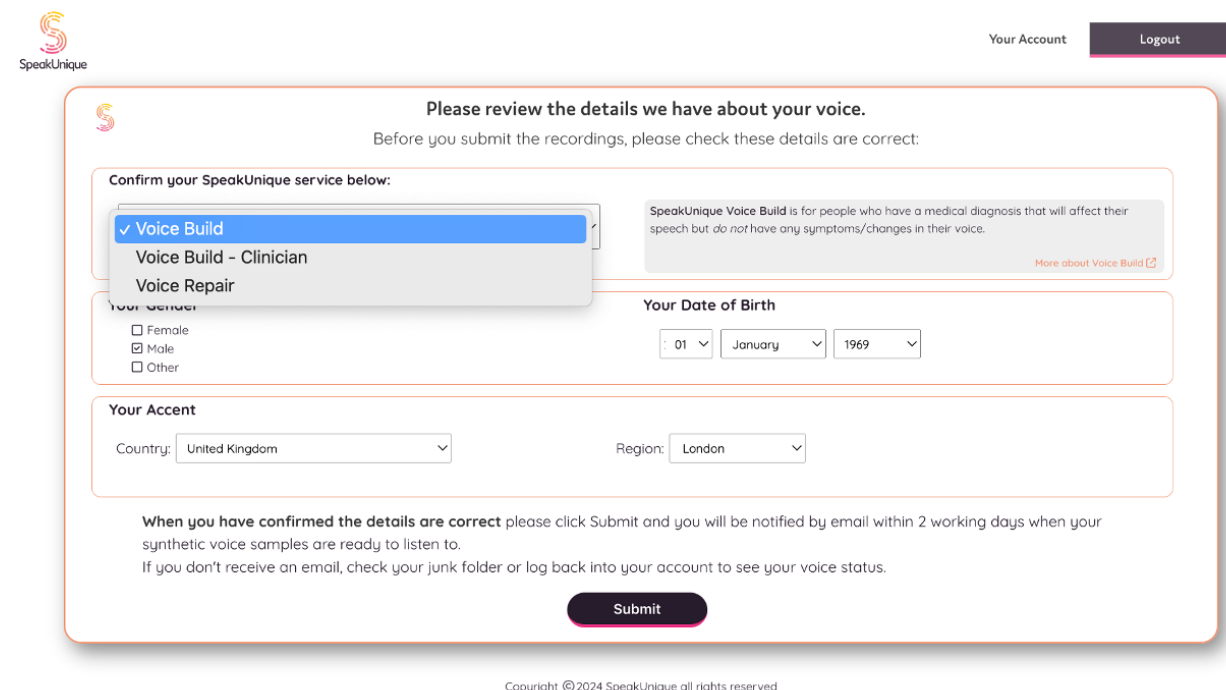
Country: United Kingdom Region: London

When you have confirmed the details are correct please click Submit and you will be notified by email within 2 working days 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.

Submit

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



SpeakUnique

Your Account Logout

Please review the details we have about your voice.

Before you submit the recordings, please check these details are correct:

Confirm your SpeakUnique service below:

✓ Voice Build
Voice Build - Clinician
Voice Repair

SpeakUnique Voice Build is for people who have a medical diagnosis that will affect their speech but do not have any symptoms/changes in their voice.

More about Voice Build

Your Gender

☐ Female
☒ Male
☐ Other

Your Date of Birth

01 January 1969

Your Accent

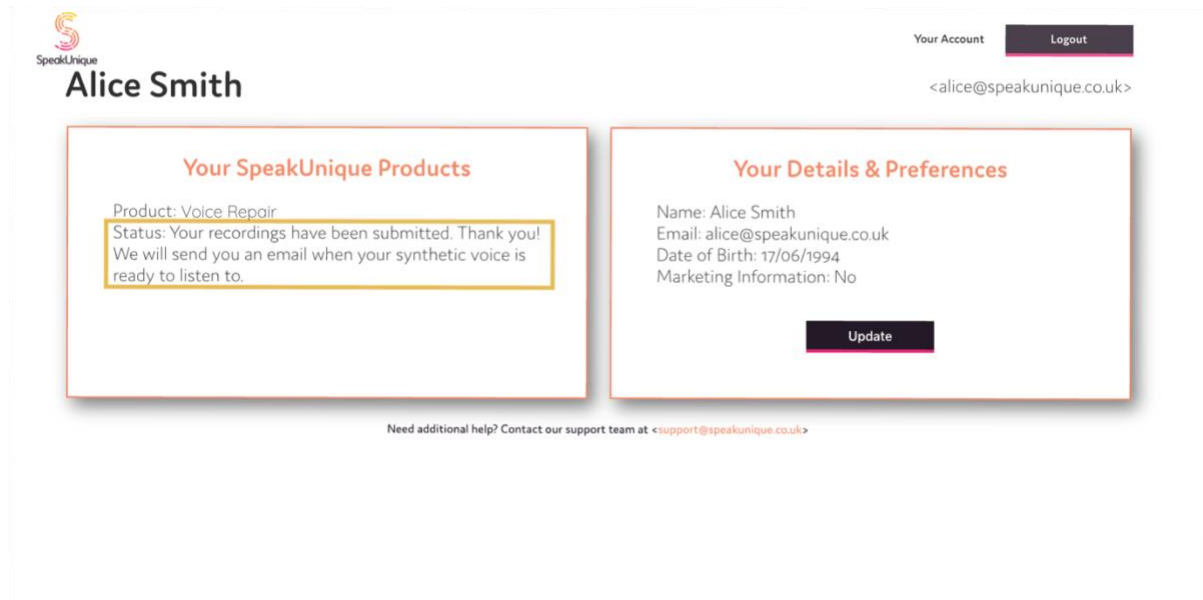
Country: United Kingdom Region: London

When you have confirmed the details are correct please click Submit and you will be notified by email within 2 working days 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.

Submit

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



Listening to your Voice Repair

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 www.speakunique.co.uk and click **Download/listen to samples of your synthetic voice**.

SpeakUnique

Your Account Logout

<alice@speakunique.co.uk>

Alice Smith

Your SpeakUnique Products

Product: Voice Repair
Status: Your Voice Repair has been generated.
[Download/Listen to your synthetic voice](#)

Your Details & Preferences

Name: Alice Smith
Email: alice@speakunique.co.uk
Date of Birth: 17/06/1994
Marketing Information: No
[Update](#)

We will generate 5 different versions of your repaired synthetic voice. You can then pick which version of the voice you like the best, using the circle button below the voice. Before you proceed to payment or funding for the voice, please ensure you have selected which voice you would like to use.

SpeakUnique

Your Account Logout

Your Voice Repair is ready to listen to!

Here are some samples of your SpeakUnique voice.

Please select your preferred version of your synthetic voice.

	Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D	Option E
"Here is a sample of my personalised SpeakUnique voice."	Play	Play	Play	Play	Play
"This is based on a recording of my voice."	Play	Play	Play	Play	Play
"It means I can continue to communicate in my own voice."	Play	Play	Play	Play	Play

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

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.

[Show More](#)

[Apply For Funding](#)

[Pay Now](#)

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 [👍](#) 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 [👎](#) and a member of our team will be in touch with you or email support@speakunique.co.uk.

[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, please email support@peakunique.co.uk.

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@peakunique.co.uk if you would like to discuss funding from the health service or a charity not listed on our website.


[Hide](#)

Apply For Funding

Pay Now

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  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  and a member of our team will be in touch with you or email support@peakunique.co.uk.

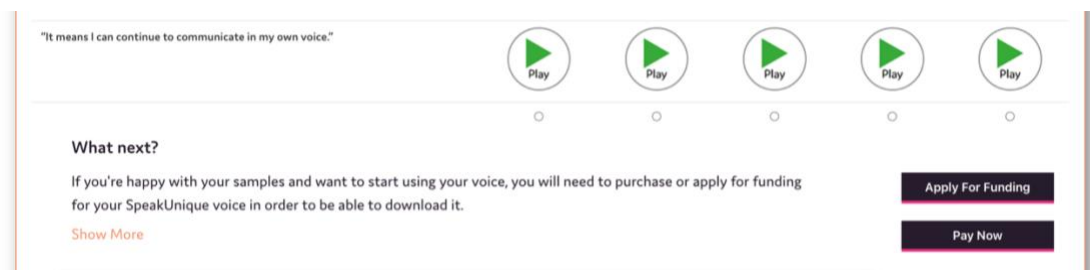
[Show More](#)



If you have more specific feedback please email support@peakunique.co.uk









Payment and funding for Voice Repair

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.



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

A selection of charities will fund a SpeakUnique voice for communication aids. Please see below for the charities that will currently fund our voices and the eligibility criteria for each fund.

 <p>Irish Motor Neurone Disease Association Irish Motor Neurone Disease Association</p> <p>IMNDA are able to offer funding for Voice Build, Voice Repair or Voice Design, to those living with a confirmed diagnosis of MND in the Republic of Ireland. To apply for funding from IMNDA you will need to be registered with IMNDA and provide contact details for your Speech and Language Therapist.</p> <p>Apply →</p>	 <p>MND Scotland Making time count Motor Neurone Disease Scotland</p> <p>MND Scotland will fund 100% of the cost of SpeakUnique products for those resident in Scotland who have a confirmed diagnosis of Motor Neurone Disease or Kennedy's Disease.</p> <p>Apply →</p>	 <p>mnda motor neurone disease association Motor Neurone Disease Association</p> <p>The MND Association will fund 100% of the cost of SpeakUnique products for those resident in England, Northern Ireland or Wales, who have a confirmed diagnosis of Motor Neurone Disease or Kennedy's Disease.</p> <p>Apply →</p>
 <p>Multiple System Atrophy Trust Multiple System Atrophy Trust</p> <p>The MSA Trust can offer funding for their members living with MSA in the UK and Ireland. Please make sure you have checked with the Trust that you are eligible and that you have the support of a Speech and Language Therapist or MSA Health Care Specialist.</p> <p>Apply →</p>	 <p>PSPA Progressive Supranuclear Palsy Association</p> <p>PSPA are able to offer funding for SpeakUnique products for those who live in the UK with a confirmed diagnosis of PSP or CBD. Please note you will need to provide contact details of a healthcare professional to apply.</p> <p>Apply →</p>	 <p>ATAXIA Ataxia UK</p> <p>Ataxia UK can offer funding for Voice Build, Voice Repair and Voice Design for people with ataxia who live in the UK.</p> <p>Apply →</p>
 <p>Mouth Cancer Foundation Awareness and Support Mouth Cancer Foundation</p> <p>The Mouth Cancer Foundation will offer funding for Voice Build, Voice Repair and Voice Design for patients, who live in the UK and are at risk of losing their voice through surgery and treatment of head and neck cancers.</p> <p>Apply →</p>	 <p>MND and Me FOUNDATION MND and Me</p> <p>The MND and Me Foundation will offer funding for Voice Build, Voice Repair and Voice Design for patients, who live in Queensland Australia and have a confirmed diagnosis of MND. If not already registered with the Foundation, a Client Contact Form and Consent Form will be required.</p> <p>Apply →</p>	

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.

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 for funding from PSPA 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*

Phone number*

Email address*

alice@speakunique.co.uk

SpeakUnique Product

Voice Repair

Cost

£ 250

Name of healthcare professional endorsing application for Support Grant*

Contact details for healthcare professional*

Below is a preview of the email that we will send on your behalf to your healthcare professional

Date: Thu, 18 Mar 2021

To:

From: SpeakUnique <support@speakunique.co.uk>

Subject: PSPA funding request for a SpeakUnique voice

[Your name] has applied for funding through PSPA for the cost of a SpeakUnique voice. They have nominated you as a healthcare professional to support this application. 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. 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.

Details of the individual applying for funding:

Name:

Phone number:

Email address: alice@speakunique.co.uk

SpeakUnique product: Voice Repair

Cost: £250

Send

v2.1

19

Lastest updated: May 2024

Downloading your Voice Repair

The **Download Now** button will appear once your voice has been purchased or your funding has been approved. You will need to select your preferred version of the voice to proceed to the download page.



Your Account

Logout

Your Voice Repair is ready to listen to!

Here are some samples of your SpeakUnique voice.

Please select your preferred version of your synthetic voice.

	Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D	Option E
"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."					
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

[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.



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

Android

Windows

Grid for iPad

Predictable (iOS Only)

Compatible Apple Devices

Your voice can be used through the SpeakUnique app on iPads and iPhones running iOS11 or higher.

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.

Logging into the app

You can log into our app using your email address and password or email address and the download code, shown below:

[Click here](#) for our app guide.

Downloading Your Voice

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

"Options" > "My Account" > "Voice Status" and click "Download Voice"