

Touch Accommodations in iOS 10

Apple have made a group of accessibility settings for people who are capable of using a touch screen but benefit from some assistance. This guide will take you through all of the options.

How to find the touch accommodations

Go into your iPad's settings app. Go to General on the left hand side. On the right hand side, choose Accessibility. Finally, choose Touch accommodations. Set up the touch accommodation settings you want to use, then turn Touch Accommodations on.

Hold duration (similar to Keyhold Time Delay)

If you have been using keyhold time delay in previous versions of Predictable, you may want to turn hold duration to on.

What is hold duration?

Hold duration requires you to press and hold on an onscreen key for a preset period of time before that touch is recognised by the iPad.

What is the benefit of hold duration?

By requiring a user to press and hold on an item before recognising a touch, Hold duration cuts down on the number of taps made accidentally. It's useful for people whose touch isn't especially accurate, giving them an option to tap the wrong part of the screen without the iPad performing an action that the user doesn't want it to.

How do I set it up?

Set the timer first, using the plus and minus buttons beneath the Hold Duration on/off setting. How long you set the timer will depend on personal preference. Requiring a longer press reduces the chance of mishits, but can slow a user down quite a lot. Requiring a shorter press makes the iPad faster to use, but may increase the chance of mis-hits. You can always change the time later, so it's worth experimenting. Turn hold duration to on, then turn touch accommodations to on.

Ignore Repeat (similar to Force delay)

If you have been using force delay in a previous version of Predictable, you may want to turn ignore repeat on.

What is ignore repeat?

Ignore repeat shuts the touchscreen down for a short period of time after a user taps on it.

What is the benefit of Ignore Repeat?

By not allowing registering a second or third tap in quick succession, this setting cuts down on accidental screen taps from users who find it difficult to touch the screen just once. If someone has a tendency to touch the screen multiple times, whilst only intending the first tap, then ignore repeat will allow this user to use the iPad much more easily.

How do I set it up?

Turn ignore repeat to on, then set the timer with the plus or minus buttons. If you make a lot of accidental screen taps then you may want to set the timer higher, if you still want to be able to use the iPad quickly, then you may benefit from a lower time setting.

Can I use Hold Duration & Ignore Repeat together?

Yes, you can. You may want to reduce the timer settings on one or both of these options, however, or using the iPad may become very slow and frustrating.

Tap assistance

What is Tap assistance?

Tap assistance registers any single finger gesture as a tap. It does this by accepting either the first point at which a user makes contact with a screen as the point of tap, or by accepting the point at which a user removes their finger from the screen as the point of tap.

What is the benefit of tap assistance?

If you find it easier to press on the screen, then move your finger into position over the part of the touch screen you wish to activate, using tap assistance (with the option "Use final touch location" selected) may make the iPad much easier to use, and increase the chance of activating a button on the first attempt.

If you find that you often make contact with the touchscreen at the point you intend to but that your finger slips and the tap isn't registered, then using tap assistance (with the option "Use initial touch location" selected) is likely to help your taps to be recognised together.

How do I set it up?

Choose from the options Use initial touch location or Use final touch location. A new option will show (Tap assistance gesture delay). This option gives you a chance to cancel an action by lifting your finger from the screen before a timer expires, reducing the chance of accidental taps – it only registers actions once a user has held down on the screen for a pre-set period of time, much like the hold duration option. Set the timer high if you

want to give yourself a lot of scope to cancel the actions you're carrying out, or low if you want to be able to carry out actions quickly, at the possible expense of accuracy.