



A new generation of low vision aids

Receiving the news that there is nothing more that can be done to improve your vision can be both frightening and life limiting but in the digital age there is much more help available than ever before.

Worldwide, there are around 160 million people who are visually impaired and have some degree of low vision. It is often characterised as being partially sighted, such as blurred or distorted vision, shadows, blind spots or tunnel vision. Those that are severely sight impaired may qualify to be registered blind. If you are affected by an eye condition such as Diabetic Retinopathy, Glaucoma, Macular Degeneration or Retinitis Pigmentosa, you can still live independently if you are supported by the correct low vision aids.



amigo
Portable Electronic Magnifier

Years ago a hand held magnifier was the most that could be offered but now there are a host of digital visual and audio devices out there.

Electronic video magnifiers can be used to assist you to read all manner of text and some offer the ability to connect to your PC whilst others are hand held and can assist on the go.



For those who find reading difficult, there are digital aids that convert text into sound; thus reading aloud in a variety of easy to understand voices in up to 30 languages. Many of the hand held devices are incredibly thin and have touch screen magnifiers that read text aloud. You simply focus it towards

printed text, take a snapshot and listen as it reads it to you. They come as hand held devices but also have stands so that they can be used on a table top or desk. Many of them will change the text and background colours to best suit your needs.

More sophisticated systems can send the text to your PC or a television screen to make it even more accessible.

With so many aids available, a diagnosis of a significant visual impairment can be less daunting and certainly less life limiting because there is much better help available to assist independence.

If you have found this article interesting and have questions regarding it, then please do get in touch either for a chat by phone, or please feel free to email me.

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