

What's New in ZoomText 2021

New Voice Assistant to Help with Various ZoomText and Fusion Commands and Features

Voice Assistant provides a way to interact with ZoomText and Fusion in Windows 10 using speech input. Supported languages include English, Dutch, German, Spanish, and French. You can ask Voice Assistant to help you with various ZoomText or Fusion features using natural language and speech. This means that the same action can be performed using similar phrases instead of a single predefined voice command. For instance, to increase magnification, you could say "zoom in" or "increase zoom level" or "increase magnification."

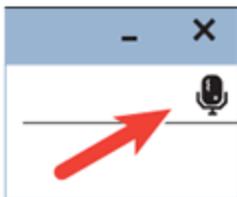
Unlike keyboard shortcuts, which can be hard to remember, natural voice commands are an easier way to interact with ZoomText and Fusion. Using voice input to control actions can also benefit users with any conditions that prevent or limit them from using a keyboard effectively.

Using Voice Assistant

Voice Assistant accepts voice commands to perform ZoomText and Fusion functions. To activate the feature and the listening process, you can use either a wake word, a key combination, or the user interface. You can speak voice commands using your computer's internal microphone, an external microphone, or a wired headset's microphone.

Note: Since all voice recognition processing is performed over the Internet using Microsoft Services in the cloud, there may be a slight delay depending on your connection.

1. To begin listening for a specific command, do one of the following:
 - Press the key combination, **CAPS LOCK+ALT+SPACEBAR**.
 - Speak the wake word which alerts the software to begin listening for a voice command, similar to using an Alexa or Google Home device. The wake word for ZoomText and Fusion is "**Zoomy**." Speak this word followed by a specific command, such as, "Zoomy, speech off" or "Zoomy, zoom in."
 - Click the microphone button in the upper right corner in the ZoomText or Fusion toolbar.



Note: The wake word is not available if you are using a Bluetooth microphone. In this case, you must press **CAPS LOCK+ALT+SPACEBAR** before speaking the voice command.

2. When Voice Assistant starts listening for a voice command, a short audible notification plays, and a visual indicator appears on the screen.



You can now speak the command. After hearing a voice command, a different audio and visual indicator plays and displays until the command is processed.



3. When complete, the visual indicator disappears, another audio indicator plays, and the requested action is performed.
If Voice Assistant does not hear anything, it says, "Sorry, I didn't hear anything."
If Voice Assistant does not understand or if the voice command is not supported, it says, "Sorry, I didn't catch that."

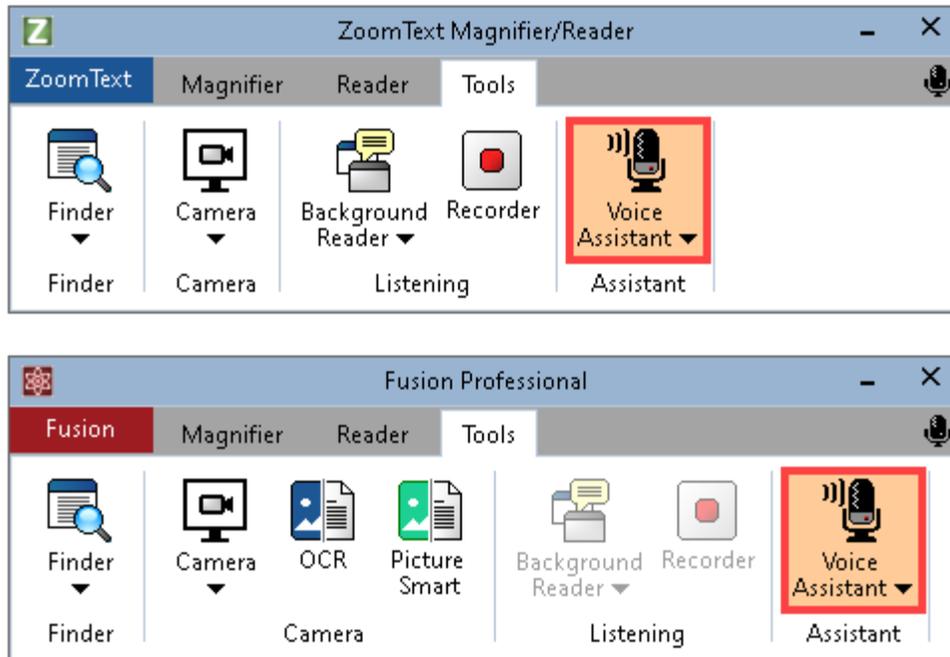
Here are a few commands you can try to help you get started. Remember to say "Zoomy" or press **CAPS LOCK+ALT+SPACEBAR** before speaking each command:

- Help
- Zoom in
- Zoom out
- Toggle zoom
- Color off
- Color on
- Speech on
- Speech off
- Talk faster
- Talk slower

Turning Voice Assistant On and Off

To turn off and disable Voice Assistant, do one of the following:

- Use the voice command, "Voice Assistant off."
- On the **Tools** toolbar tab, select the **Voice Assistant** button.



- Click the down arrow on the **Voice Assistant** button and choose **Settings**. In the Voice Assistant Settings dialog box, clear the "Enable Voice Assistant" setting.
- In the Startup Wizard, clear "Enable Voice Assistant" in the Voice Assistant page.
(**ZoomText > Preferences > Run Startup Wizard** or **Fusion > Preferences > Run Startup Wizard**)

Note: When Voice Assistant is off, the microphone button in the upper right corner in the ZoomText and Fusion toolbar is unavailable.

Turning Off the Wake Word

You can turn off the wake word and use **CAPS LOCK+ALT+SPACEBAR** instead to make Voice Assistant begin listening for a command. You can then speak the command after pressing the keystroke.

To turn off the wake word, do one of the following:

- Use the voice commands, "Wake word off" or "Disable wake word."
- Toggle off "Listen for wake word Zoomy" in the Voice Assistant Settings.

Note: When the wake word is off, you must always press **CAPS LOCK+ALT+SPACEBAR** first to tell Voice Assistant to begin listening for a command.

Turning Off Voice Assistant Sounds

To turn off the sounds associated with the wake word and command processing, do the following:

1. On the Tools toolbar tab, click the arrow next to Voice Assistant or navigate to Voice Assistant and press the **DOWN ARROW** key.

2. In the **Voice Assistant** menu, choose **Settings**.
The Voice Assistant Settings dialog box appears.
3. Choose "Enable Voice Assistant sounds" to toggle wake word and command processing sounds on or off.

FS Support Tool for Gathering System Information

The FS Support Tool is a new utility that collects information about your computer and sends a report to our Technical Support and Software Development teams to help us troubleshoot any issues you may be experiencing while running ZoomText or Fusion. You will typically be asked to run this utility during a technical support session if it is determined that additional details about your system are needed. Some information that is collected includes:

- System information such as processor, RAM, operating system, architecture, and more
- Event logs
- Version of Adobe Reader (if installed)
- Versions of all installed web browsers
- Information on installed Microsoft Office applications
- Crash dumps
- Installation logs
- Currently running system processes
- User settings

The FS Support Tool can be started from the ZoomText Support or the Fusion Support menus and guides you through collecting and submitting a report.

Migrating Settings from Previous Releases

When upgrading to a new version of ZoomText or Fusion, any custom settings from a previous release are automatically imported. This includes features such as magnification level, color, pointer, cursor, mouse enhancements, and any custom settings you created for applications. The import is silent (no messages or dialog boxes appear) and begins the first time you start the new version. Custom settings older than the two previous versions will not be imported.

Continuous Improvements with Focus Tracking

We continue to improve focus tracking in both ZoomText and Fusion. For example, when navigating within the Inbox of Microsoft Outlook, especially at higher magnification levels, tracking now stays left justified. This makes it much easier to see who sent the messages as you scroll up and down in the Inbox. This improved performance carries over to Microsoft Teams where you will see better focus tracking as you navigate screens and options.

Fusion 2021

Picture Smart Improvements

Introduced in Fusion 2019, Picture Smart allows you to choose a photo and submit it to be analyzed. A description of the image is then displayed in the Results Viewer. To use Picture Smart, press **INSERT+SPACEBAR**, followed by **P** to activate the Picture Smart layer. You can then press **A** to describe a photo acquired from the PEARL camera or a flatbed scanner, **F** to describe a selected image file in Windows Explorer, **C** to describe the current control, or **B** to describe an image on the Windows Clipboard.

Fusion 2021 continues to expand this feature by offering several improvements including:

- **Describing images on web pages:** If focused on an image that is part of a web page, such as a photo on Facebook, pressing **INSERT+SPACEBAR, P** followed by **C** now describes the photo.
- **Submitting images to multiple services to help improve accuracy:** By default, images are submitted to Microsoft for analyzing. However, the Results Viewer now contains a More Results link which submits the image again to additional services for analyzing and displays an updated description. You can also add **SHIFT** to a Picture Smart command to use multiple services. For example, **INSERT+SPACEBAR, P** followed by **SHIFT+F, SHIFT+C, or SHIFT+B**.
- **Using Picture Smart in multiple languages:** If you are using Fusion in a language other than English and you attempt to use Picture Smart, Fusion will use machine translation to display descriptions in the particular language. You can also manually choose from 38 languages for displaying results, configurable using the new Picture Smart Language option in Settings Center. To open Settings Center, press **INSERT+J, U, E**

Please note that these changes, especially the machine translation for other languages, is still experimental, so things may not always work as expected. Results will improve as we continue refining this functionality.

For more information on Picture Smart, press **INSERT+SPACEBAR, P** followed by **QUESTION MARK**.

OCR Text Directly into a Word Document

The Convenient OCR (Optical Character Recognition) feature in Fusion has been enhanced to send recognized text directly to Word. Convenient OCR enables you to access images containing text that is part of the image and displays this information in the Results Viewer. This includes onscreen images such as the graphical setup screen for an application, an inaccessible PDF opened in Adobe Reader, a currently selected image file in Windows Explorer, or a document acquired by the PEARL camera or a flatbed scanner.

If Microsoft Office is installed on your system, you can now:

- Use the new command **INSERT+SPACEBAR, O** followed by **R** to perform OCR on a selected image file in File Explorer or the Desktop and place the recognized text directly into a Word document. You can also press the **APPLICATIONS** key and choose "Convenient OCR to Word with Fusion" from the context menu.

- Use the new Open in Word link that appears at the bottom of the Results Viewer once the OCR process is complete.

For more information about using Convenient OCR, press **INSERT+SPACEBAR, O** followed by **QUESTION MARK** or refer to the Convenient OCR help topic. To access the help topic in Fusion, press **INSERT+J, H, J**.

New Keystroke for Setting Punctuation Level

You can now press **INSERT+SHIFT+2** on the number row (**CAPS LOCK+SHIFT+2** in the Laptop keyboard layout) to cycle through the four punctuation levels which controls how much punctuation Fusion speaks while reading. The available levels are None, Some, Most, and All. Similar to toggling Screen Echo (**INSERT+S**) or Typing Echo (**INSERT+2**), the punctuation level will revert back to the previous setting when Fusion is restarted. To permanently set a punctuation level, use the JAWS/Fusion Startup Wizard or Settings Center.

To access the Startup Wizard in Fusion, press **INSERT+J, H, Z**.

To access Settings Center in Fusion, press **INSERT+J, U, E**.

Note: Due to issues with some Dell keyboards when using the Laptop layout, you may need to use the **RIGHT SHIFT** key to perform this keystroke.

Automatic Message Reading in Outlook 365

When you open a message from the Inbox in Outlook 365, Fusion will now immediately begin reading the message contents without reading the title or header information. Currently, messages are not automatically read if you **ALT+TAB** to an open message, or you press **ENTER** on a message in the Inbox that is already open.

To further customize how messages are read, open Quick Settings (**INSERT+V**) while in Outlook, search for "message," and configure any of the resulting options. A few items you might want to change include:

- **Message Header Field with Message Announcement:** Turn this option on if you want Fusion to announce the sender's email address and the subject of the message when a message opens or gains focus.
- **Messages Automatically Read:** Turn this option off if you do not want Fusion to automatically read messages when they are opened.
- **Speak Window Titles For Read-only Messages Automatically:** Turn this option on if you want Fusion to announce the title of the message window when a message opens or gains focus.

ZoomText Downloads

ZoomText Connected Link: [ZT2021.2011.12.400.exe](#)

ZoomText Offline Installer: [ZT2021.2011.12.400-Offline.exe](#)

Fusion Downloads

Fusion Connected Link: [F2021.2011.8.400.exe](#)

Fusion Offline Installer: [F2021.2011.8.400-Offline.exe](#)

Want to Learn More About Our Products and Services

You can call our toll free number 888-211-6933 or email us at info@nelowvision.com.

Our two(2) state-of-the-art technology showrooms are a wonderful resource, showcasing a variety of leading electronic low vision magnifiers and blindness products. You can schedule an appointment with one of our Vision Specialists who can help you find the right technology, training and care solution.

If you cannot come to us, our staff can even drive out and bring our Vision Store to you, for a no-obligation product demonstration. We offer a comprehensive line of products including electronic magnification low vision aids, blindness products, and leading low vision products for people with glaucoma, macular degeneration and other forms of vision loss.