
Clicker 4

Quick Guide

To support reading and writing

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PN

Clicker supports reading and writing at all levels in many ways, but this Quick Guide concentrates on some of the program's features which are particularly helpful for students with dyslexic-type difficulties.

Reading

1. Start Clicker and click Start Writing.
2. Click on the 'Hide Grid' icon at the right hand end of the ClickerWriter toolbar to hide the grid.
3. ClickerWriter saves and opens HTML documents, so click **File > Open** and try to find one on your computer to open as an example. If you don't have a suitable document, open some text in another program, copy, and then paste it into ClickerWriter.
4. Select the text and click the coloured **ABC** button and choose a suitable font, size and colour.
5. Highlight the text you want to read, then click on the speech bubble at the right hand side of the toolbar. You can also click on a word at a time to hear it.
6. Adjust the speech options: click **Options > User Preferences > Speech**; and change the voice and speed.
7. If words are not pronounced correctly, click **Options > Pronunciation** to change it.

Speak as you type

1. Set ClickerWriter to speak each word and each sentence as it is typed in – select **Options > User Preferences > Speech** and tick **Speak each word as space entered** and **Speak each sentence as full-stop entered**. Type a sentence to hear the speech.

Picture support

1. Set ClickerWriter to give pictures as you type – select **Options > User Preferences > Instant Pictures** and tick **Instant Pictures-As-You-Type**. Type a few words to see pictures come up. Note that you don't get pictures or symbols for every word – only for words which have a matching picture in the Clicker libraries.



CALL Centre
University of Edinburgh, Paterson's Land,
Holyrood Road, Edinburgh, EH8 8AQ
Tel: 0131 651 6236
<http://www.callcentrescotland.org.uk>



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Spellchecker

1. Type a few mis-spelled words – e.g. Wen I rite teh comptr toks wich I yooshaly lik. Then click the **ABC-tick** button on the toolbar to do a spellcheck. A spellcheck grid will appear with suggestions for each mis-spelling.
2. Listen to the words in the grid by clicking with the **right** mouse button.
3. Change the mis-spelling for the correct word (if one is offered in the grid) by clicking with the left mouse button.
4. Note that 'real word errors' like 'rite' are not picked up.
5. Note that the spellchecker doesn't offer any suggestions for 'comptr', but if this happens, you would show the pupil how to play around with the speech and spellchecker to try and get some suggestions. E.g. Double click on 'comptr' in the sentence, and then on the 'Speak' button to listen to it. You might ask the pupil what sound and letter is missing – and hope they said 'u'. Add the 'u' to the word to make 'computr' and then click on the ABC spellcgeck button again – the correct spelling will be offered.
6. When you check 'yooshaly' no suggestions are made in the grid so we will add this mis-spelling to the spelling dictionary. Click on **Options > User Preferences > Spellchecker** and then type in 'yooshaly' to the **!New Word** box, click **Add Word**, and then type in 'usually' to the **..suggest** these words box. Click **OK**. Now select 'yooshaly', click **ABC** and the correct spelling will be offered.

Word list grids

1. Every Clicker user (i.e. the user chosen when Clicker first starts) has their own set of word list grids, organised alphabetically. To see the wordlists, first show the grids (click on **Hide Grid** at the top right of the toolbar, or press **F2**). Then click on the **Word List** button in the grid toolbar (the one with two columns of text in it). Click on a word list to open it.
2. Add some new words to the grid by holding down **SHIFT** and then clicking on a cell.

Review Clicker Examples

Click on **Home** in the grid toolbar, then on **See the examples** and have a look at some of the examples.

Make a grid

1. Click on **Home** in the grid toolbar, then on **Make a Clicker Grid**.
2. Click on the various tabs (Sentence Building, Word grids) to see the type of grid templates available. Choose either a simple word grid, or one from the Sentence Building list.
3. Change the background colour of the grid – select **Grid > Grid Properties**, click on **Background colour** and choose a new colour.

4. Add some words to the blank cells (**Shift-Left-Click**). You should get some pictures automatically added to some cells. If you don't, select **Options > User Preferences** and check that **Instant Pictures-for-cells** is ticked.
5. Add graphics to some cells by **Shift-right-clicking** to open cell properties, then click **Graphics** and open a graphic.
6. Save the grid - Click **File > Save Grid as**.

Using Clicker 4 with Penfriend

1. Load Penfriend (version 1.02 or later)
2. Use the Predict grid in **Examples > keyboard > Predict**
3. The predicted words are then sent to the grid.

To set up your own prediction grid

1. Make a new grid
2. To set up prediction cells
 - a. Select cell
 - b. Open cell dialog box for the cell
 - c. Click send tab
 - d. Enter the command {predict} into the send text box
 - e. Click OK

NB This only works reliably with up to 6 cells set up to predict.