Accessible Touchscreen Apps for People Living with Dementia

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Background

Facilitating independent activity for people living with dementia can:

- Increase positive emotions (Leng et al. 2014)
- Reduce boredom (Leng et al. 2014)
- Alleviate distressed behaviour (Department of Health 2015)
- Minimise dependence on caregivers (NICE-SCIE 2007)
Background

Touchscreen tablet computers are accessible for people living with dementia (Armstrong et al., 2010)
Apps

Over 2 million apps available
(Statista, 2016)

Growing by 1,000 apps each day
(IB Times, 2015)

Where to start?
Improving the accessibility of touchscreen apps for people living with dementia

1. **Identify** key design features that increase accessibility
2. **Develop** an evidence-based framework to find apps
3. **Collaborate** with developers to improve their apps
4. **Share** app recommendations with people living with dementia and professional/family care providers
1. Identify design features


Study involving sixty participants testing four apps at two sites (Sheffield & Toronto) (Astell et al., 2016)
Video analysis

84 video recorded sessions analysed and every interaction with the screen coded
2. Develop a framework

Two stage, evidence-based app selection framework:

Stage 1. Finding apps
Stage 2. Evaluating apps
Stage 1. Finding apps
Stage 2. Evaluating apps
3. Collaboration with app developers

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Advanced Options

- Drag-and-Drop
- Swipe to Lock Toolbar
- Emphasized Auto Hint
4. Share recommendations

Welcome

ActTo Dementia provides recommendations and guidance on accessible touchscreen apps for people living with dementia. This website is an ideal resource for anyone with a diagnosis of dementia, or anyone looking to support a person with a diagnosis, to find and use apps on a tablet computer for entertainment and activity. We are a group of university researchers unaffiliated with any app developers and all of our recommendations have been through an evidence-based review process.

Latest Recommendations

- Four In A Row
- Pro Darts 2014
- The Draughts
- Dots: A Game About Connecting

Browse apps by genre
- Art
- Board games
- Card games
- Puzzle games
- Sports
- All

Browse apps by feature
- Failure-free
- Free apps
- One player games
- Pick-up and play
- Two player games

Search our website

Search

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Next steps

Evaluate the ‘dementia-enabling’ versions of Solitaire and Bubble Explode *(study completed, analysis underway)*

Evaluate the website with different user groups *(study underway)*

Investigate responses to the auto-prompt feature in a study using eye-tracking glasses *(study underway)*

Apply App Selection Framework to other types of app *(study underway – Chinese games)*
Thank you
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