Deque Desktop Screen Readers Survival Guide
Basic Keyboard Commands for Reading and Navigating Web Content

Task	JAWS	NVDA	Narrator	VoiceOver
Turn screen reader on	Not available	Control + Alt + N	Windows logo + Control + Enter	Command + F5
Turn screen reader off	Insert + F4	Insert + Q	Windows logo + Control + Enter or Caps Lock + Escape	Command + F5
Stop reading	Control	Control	Control	Control
Read next item	Down Arrow	Down Arrow	Caps Lock + Right Arrow*	VO + Right Arrow
Read previous item	Up Arrow	Up Arrow	Caps Lock + Left Arrow*	VO + Left Arrow
Read next *focusable* item (e.g. link, button)	Tab	Tab	Tab	Tab
Activate link	Enter	Enter	Caps Lock + Enter or Enter** or Space Bar**	VO + Space Bar or Enter
Activate button	Enter or Space Bar	Enter or Space Bar	Caps Lock + Enter or Enter or Space Bar	VO + Space Bar or Enter or Space Bar
Start reading continuously from this point on	Insert + Down Arrow	Insert + Down Arrow or Numpad Plus	Caps Lock + Down Arrow or Caps Lock + Control + R	VO + A
Go to next heading	H	H	H**	VO + Command + H
Show list of all headings	Insert + F6	Insert + F7	Caps Lock + F6	VO + U (Rotor), then Left/Right Arrow Keys
Go to next heading of level [1-6]	1-6	1-6	1-6**	Not available
Go to next landmark/region	R (JAWS 16+) ; (JAWS 15)	D	D**	Not available
Go to the main content landmark	Q	Not available	Caps Lock + N	Not available
Open Elements List or Rotor	Insert + F3	Insert + F7	Caps Lock + [F6 or F7], then Tab (twice) to the Scoping drop-down list	VO + U
Go to next table	T	T	T**	VO + Command + T
Navigate table cells	Control + Alt + Arrow Keys	Control + Alt + Arrow Keys	Control + Alt + Arrow Keys	VO + Arrow Keys
Go to next list	L	L	Not available	VO + Command + X
Go to next list item	I	I	Not available	Not available
Go to next graphic	G	G	Not available	VO + Command + G
Show list of all links	Insert + F7	Insert + F7	Caps Lock + F7	VO + U (Rotor), then Left/Right Arrow Keys
Go to next link	Not available	K	K**	VO + Command + L
Go to next *unvisited* link	U	U	Not available	Not available
Go to next *visited* link	V	V	Not available	VO + Command + V
Go to next form element	F	F	F	VO + Command + J
Go back to previous heading, landmark, table, focusable item, etc.	Shift + [H, R, T, Tab, etc.]	Shift + [H, D, T, Tab, etc.]	Shift + [H**, D**, T**, Tab, etc.]	VO + Shift + Command + [H, T, Tab, etc.]
Toggle screen reader mode	*Forms Mode:* (On) (Automatic when in form element), (Off) Numpad Plus	*Browse/Focus Mode:* Insert + Space Bar *Forms Mode^:* Insert + Space Bar	*Scan Mode:* Caps Lock + Space Bar	Not available
Interact with (go into/out of) objects (like iframes, menus, application regions, etc.)	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	VO + Shift + Down/Up Arrows
Toggle between: Radio buttons, <select> list items, Tabs (ARIA widget), Tree view items (ARIA widget), Menu items (ARIA widget)	Arrow Keys	Arrow Keys	Arrow Keys	Arrow Keys, then [VO + Space Bar or Space Bar]
Toggle Virtual PC Cursor	Insert + Z	Not available	Not available	Not available

- *Cycle between element types with Caps Lock + Page Up or Caps Lock + Page Down (or Caps Lock + Control + Up Arrow or Caps Lock + Control + Down Arrow), then advance through those page elements one at a time.
- **Scan Mode only.
- ^When in a form element.
- Insert is the default NVDA modifier key, but Caps Lock can be set as a duplicate modifier key (so that it can be used in place of Insert).

- The Narrator key, Caps Lock (or Insert can be used in its place), can be locked so it doesn't need to be pressed with every command by pressing Caps Lock + Z (or Insert + Z) (only when not in Scan Mode).
- VO is an abbreviation for VoiceOver keys Control + Option. The VO keys can be locked so that they don't need to be pressed to perform VoiceOver commands by pressing VO + ;.

- **Recommended browsers:**
  - JAWS + Chrome, Edge, Firefox, or Internet Explorer
  - NVDA + Firefox, Chrome, or Edge
  - Narrator + Edge
  - VoiceOver + Safari