

NOVACHAT: Settings Quick Reference Guide



Important Functions

Below are the main Functions buttons on the NOVA chat devices:

Menu Button  /  /  allows you to determine which vocabulary file will be used, which augmentative options are enabled, how and when to speak messages, and how a wide variety of other options are configured.

Home Button  /  /  /  navigates out of Chat software to the Home screen of the Android software.

Back Button  /  /  navigates to previous page or to previous Menu. Pressing and holding the Back button also reveals the Chat software menu.

 Click [HERE](#) to download Chat Editor

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This guide will show you how tailor the NovaChat software to a user's needs using different functions within the NovaChat Settings menu.

Setting or Changing Speech

1. Select **Menu > Application Settings**.
2. Press **Speech Output > Voice**.
3. Press **Synthesizer** and select either Acapela or Ivona.
4. Press **Voice Settings**, then press on the drop-down list and select the voice you would like to use. To hear an audio sample of the voice press the Test button.
5. Press the back button until you exit back to the vocabulary.

CereProc Voices

1. Press the **Home** button to exit NovaChat. Download and install the relevant voice from the Play Store.
2. In Android, select Settings from the Apps tray.
3. Select Accessibility, then Text-to-Speech. Set the Preferred Engine to the new voice, then exit the Settings app.
4. Launch NovaChat, follow steps 1-3 in **Setting or Changing Speech** and select **Android** as the **Synthesizer**.
5. Press the back button until you exit back to the vocabulary.

Turning Speech On or Off

1. Select **Menu > Application Settings**.
2. Press **Speech Output**.
3. Select **Speech Off** (If ticked then speech is off).
4. Press the back button until you exit back to the vocabulary.

Connecting the Device to the Amp

If the device loses the Bluetooth connection to the amp, it can be restored. The Amp must be fully charged so that it can reconnect.

1. Select **Menu > Application Settings > System > Bluetooth Settings**.
2. Select **Use with Amplifier** (if not already ticked).
3. Press **Connect to Amplifier**, then select the amp. A Bluetooth pairing request may appear – select OK. The amp will now show as connected.
4. Press the back button until you exit back to the vocabulary.

Hint: if you cannot see the amp in step 3 you will need to plug in the charger and try again once the amp is fully charged.

Setting a Button's Acceptance or Release Time

1. Select **Menu > Application Settings**.
2. Press **Timing > Acceptance Time ***.
3. Select **Enable**, then press Time.
4. Use the + and – buttons to set a duration time in seconds (to remove the pop-up number pad select the back button).

The more seconds you set the longer a press is needed to activate the button.

5. Press the back button until you exit back to the vocabulary.

** To set a release time follow the instructions above but select **Release Time** in the Timing menu*

Changing Button Styles Globally

You may wish to change how the buttons look throughout the entire vocabulary rather than individually. To do this you need to ensure that you are in a user's vocabulary and not an original (indicated by a padlock in the library menu).

Changing the Label Position

1. Select **Menu > Edit Mode**.
2. Press and hold on any button to modify. A menu will open.
3. Select **Button Style Override** to display the button properties.
4. Select the **Vocabulary** tab.
5. Ensure **Font Settings** is ticked.
6. Select Label Position (leave Label On Top unticked).
7. Press **Save**.
8. Select **Menu > Edit Mode** to finish editing.

Changing the Font on a Button Label

1. Select **Menu > Edit Mode**.
2. Press and hold on any button to modify. A menu will open.
3. Select **Button Style Override** to display the button properties.
4. Select the **Vocabulary** tab.
5. Ensure **Font Settings** is ticked. This will allow you to change the font type, size, and embellishments.
6. Press **Save**.
7. Select **Menu > Edit Mode** to finish editing.

*Hint: if you wish to change how an individual button or page looks then select the **Button** or **Page** tab in Step 4.*

Show/Hide Button Images

1. Select **Menu > Application Settings > Style**.
2. Images are shown on buttons by default – to change to text only untick **Show Button Images**.
3. Press the back button until you exit back to the vocabulary.

Using Word Finder

Using a vocabulary for the first time or using a new vocabulary can be daunting. Word Finder is included with the NovaChat software and will show you which buttons to press to locate the word you wish to say.

1. Select **Menu > Application Settings**.

2. Select **Word Finder**, ensure **Show Menu Item** is ticked.
3. Press the back button until you exit back to the vocabulary.
4. Select **Menu > Word Finder**.
5. Type in the word you wish to find, e.g. hello. This will then show you the buttons to press in the vocabulary.
6. Press the back button until you exit back to the vocabulary.

Editing the Speech Display Bar

The Speech Display Bar (SDB) can be personalised to a user's specific needs by changing the position, size, colour, and font.

Changing the Font

1. Select **Menu > Application Settings > Style**.
2. Select **Font**, choose font style.
3. Select **Font Size**, use the + and – buttons to choose a size, press **OK**.
4. If you wish for the text to be in **Bold** or **Italic**, ensure there is a tick in the relevant box.
5. Press the back button until you exit back to the vocabulary.

Changing the Size, Position & Icons

1. Select **Menu > Application Settings > Style**.
2. The default SDB position is at the top – to move this to the bottom untick **On Top**.
3. Icons are set to display in the SDB by default – to show text only untick **SDB Icons**.
4. Select Number of Lines, choose from Hidden, 1, 2, 3 or 4 lines.
5. Press the back button until you exit back to the vocabulary.

Changing the Background & Text Colour

1. Select **Menu > Application Settings > Style**.
2. Select **Background Color** - choose which colour you would like the SDB background to be.
3. Select **Text Color** - choose which colour you would like the SDB text to be.
4. Press the back button until you exit back to the vocabulary.

Word Prediction

NovaChat has word prediction built in and will learn as the device is used more and more. You can add words that you want to ban to the word prediction menu. You can also delete any words that have been learned.

Changing the Default Dictionary

1. Select **Menu > Application Settings > Text**.
2. Select **Prediction > Default Dictionary**.
3. Choose **British English**.
4. Press the back button until you exit back to the vocabulary.

Adding Banned Words

1. Select **Menu > Application Settings > Text**.
2. Select **Banned Words**.
3. Type in the word you wish to ban then select **Add**.
4. Repeat until you have added all the words you wish to ban.
5. Press the back button until you exit back to the vocabulary.

Deleting Learned Words

1. Select **Menu > Application Settings > Text**.
2. Select Delete Learned Words.
 - i. Select **Delete All Words > Yes** to delete all learned words, or
 - ii. Select **Delete Words** and press the red **X** next to the individual word you want to delete.
3. Press the back button until you exit back to the vocabulary.

Change Skin Tone in SymbolStix Vocabularies

This new feature lets you set single or randomised skin tones in individual SymbolStix libraries (available in version 2.30 & above).

1. Select **Menu > Edit Mode**.
2. Select **Menu > Vocabulary Settings > SymbolStix Settings**.
 - a. To use a single skin tone, select **Skin Tone** and choose a skin colour. All symbols will have this same skin colour.
 - b. To use random skin tones, enable **Use Random Skin Tones** (green tick), then select **Randomize Skin Tones**. A message will appear stating that this cannot be undone – select Yes. If you wish to revert back to a single skin tone, deselect **Use Random Skin Tones** and follow step 'a' above.
3. Press the back button until you exit back to the vocabulary.

Disabling the Hardware Volume Buttons

Feature available in version 2.32 - you can disable the volume buttons on the device.

1. Select **Menu > Application Settings > System**.
2. Tap to select **Disable Device Volume Buttons** - ensure there is a tick in the box. Unticking will re-enable the volume buttons.

Backing Up & Restoring User Data

You can back up and restore a user's data, including pronunciations, button timing settings, customised vocabularies, profile, etc, to a USB stick.

Note: *Backing up (exporting) a vocabulary will only back up the customised vocabulary, not all the settings associated with it.*

Backing Up a User

1. Put your USB stick into the device (press the Back button if needed to return to the vocabulary).

2. Select **Menu > Application Settings > System**.
3. Select **User Backup/Restore > User Backup**.
4. Enter a filename for the backup i.e. KB June 2022 then select **Save**.
5. Press the 3 lines in the File Manager, select the USB stick/disk option. Select **Save** again.
6. You will receive a message to say "The backup completed successfully" – select **OK** to finish.
7. Press the Back button to return to your vocabulary and remove your USB stick.

Restoring a User

1. Put your USB stick into the device and press the Back button if needed to return to the vocabulary.
2. Select **Menu > Application Settings > System**.
3. Select **User Backup/Restore > User Restore**.
4. Select the file that you wish to back up from your USB stick.
5. A warning will appear to let you know that this will overwrite existing data – select **YES**.
6. You will now receive a message saying NovaChat will restart and load the restored data – select **OK**.
7. When NovaChat has restarted select **OK**.
8. NovaChat will continue to load, and your backup has been restored. You can now remove your USB stick.