

# ***Eye-Pal<sup>®</sup> Reader***

## Scanning and Reading Appliance User's Guide



Freedom Scientific, Inc.

[www.FreedomScientific.com](http://www.FreedomScientific.com)

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To register your product, visit <http://www.freedomscientific.com/forms/ProductRegistration>.

## Safety and Maintenance

To keep the unit in good condition and to ensure safe usage, observe the following guidelines:

- Read the instructions in this user's guide before attempting to use the unit.
- Do not attempt to repair the unit or open its case. This product contains no user serviceable parts.
- Keep the unit away from wet areas, rain, and other sources of liquids or high humidity. Do not submerge the unit.
- Always operate the unit in a place where the temperature is between 10° and 40° C (50° and 104° F).
- Always store the unit in a place where the temperature is between -20° and 65° C (-4° and 149° F).
- Always use the unit on a stable, level, hard surface such as a desk or table.
- When cleaning the camera lens unplug the power cord and apply a small amount of non-abrasive cleanser, such as the following, to a soft, lint-free cloth and gently wipe:
  - Water
  - Isopropyl alcohol
  - Petroleum benzene
  - Vinegar mixed with water at a concentration of no more than 10 percent vinegar, for example, 1.5 tablespoons of vinegar per cup of water (100 ml per liter)

### **CAUTION:**

Do not apply excessive pressure to the camera. Do not spray cleanser directly on these items. Also, do not use any cleanser that contains the following agents: acetone, ethyl alcohol, ethyl acid, ammonia, or methyl chloride.

When cleaning the rest of the unit, make sure the unit is unplugged. Use a lightly dampened, soft, clean cloth with water or mild detergent.

## Table of Contents

<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>1</b>
What's in the Box .....	1
<b>Assembly</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>Quick Start for Eye-Pal Reader</b> .....	<b>3</b>
How to Read with Eye-Pal Reader .....	3
<b>Operating Instructions</b> .....	<b>4</b>
Central Front Panel Controls.....	4
Hidden Front Panel Controls .....	4
Motion Activated Controls .....	5
Keypad Controls Method (Optional Accessory).....	6
Advanced Features .....	7
Book Saving Mode .....	7
Connecting Headphones or External Speakers.....	9
Traveling with Eye-Pal Reader .....	9
Tips for Best Performance .....	10
<b>Troubleshooting</b> .....	<b>11</b>
Important Notes .....	11
<b>Service and Support</b> .....	<b>12</b>



Congratulations for selecting Eye-Pal Reader, a state-of-the-art reader that scans books, newspapers, letters, and other printed material to read them aloud for you.

### **What's in the Box**

- Eye-Pal Reader
- Power supply
- Power cord
- User guide
- Quick reference guide
- Keypad (optional)

1. Place Eye-Pal Reader on a flat surface with the front panel facing toward you.



2. Unfold the camera. Pull the camera arm up until it locks into place. You will hear a clicking sound indicating that the arm is in place.
3. Swivel/pull the camera head up until it also locks into place. Again you will hear a clicking sound indicating that the camera head is in place.
4. Connect the power supply to the power cord. Turn Eye-Pal Reader around so the front panel is facing away from you. Plug the power supply into the back of the base on the left side. Next, plug the other end into a power outlet.

Your Eye-Pal Reader is now ready to use.

**Note:** There is a headphone port on the right side of Eye-Pal Reader for private listening. A headset is NOT included.

## Quick Start for Eye-Pal Reader

1. Clear the platform of any objects.
2. Turn on Eye-Pal Reader by holding in the small round power button located in the center of the front panel.
3. Turn the volume knob, located to the right of the power button, on the front panel, clockwise. A tune will play while the device starts up.
4. Once Eye-Pal Reader is done loading, you will hear “Please place your document.” You are now ready to read.

**Note:** Keep the platform clear of any documents until you hear “Please place your document.”

5. To turn off the device hold in the power button. Do not unplug the device until it is turned off.

### How to Read with Eye-Pal Reader

To start reading, place a document on the base of Eye-Pal Reader. Orientation does not matter. As soon as the document is still, you will hear a “shutter” sound. Eye-Pal Reader will begin to read aloud in just a few seconds.

To read fine print on a medicine bottle or any other small object place it in the middle of the platform. You will hear the device say, “Reading fine print.”

If you remove the document, you will hear, “Please place your document”. You may either replace the document or resume reading, by pressing the Pause/Resume button on the front panel (see below) or the Pause/Resume button on the Keypad.

**Note:** Eye-Pal Reader can only read text that is within the borders of the base platform. Any text outside of the borders will not be read. Be sure not to obstruct the camera’s view with your hands.

The following instructions will provide a detailed description on how to use Eye-Pal Reader with each of these 4 methods of operation:

- Central Front Panel Controls
- Hidden Front Panel Controls
- Motion Activated Controls (no buttons)
- Keypad Controls

### Central Front Panel Controls



**Power** – the small round button in the center of the front panel is used to turn Eye-Pal Reader on and off.

**Volume** – the big round knob to the right of the power button, on the front panel is used to adjust the volume. To increase the volume, turn the knob clockwise.

### Hidden Front Panel Controls

To use these controls locate the raised edge on the lower right corner of the base. With your finger press the edge downward. The cover will open and reveal four buttons.





**Pause/Resume Reading** – the second button from the left. It is marked with two vertical lines. Press this button to pause and resume reading. If this button is held down for 3 seconds, it will enable/disable the use of the motion activated controls.

**Read Previous Sentence** – the first button on the left marked with an arrow pointing left. It is used to return to the previous sentence. This button may be pressed as many times as needed to return to a specific sentence.

**Reading Speed** – there are two triangle buttons, one above the other, located to the right of the pause button. The top button will increase the reading speed while the bottom button will decrease the reading speed.

**Restarting** – to restart Eye-Pal Reader for any reason, press the first button in the hidden control panel on the left side for 5 seconds. You will hear “Restarting.”

## **Motion Activated Controls**

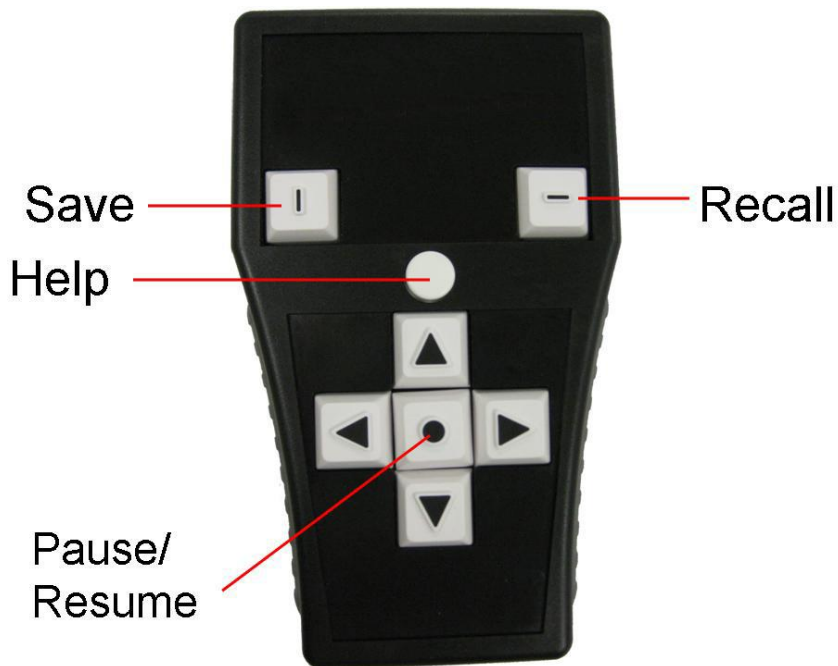
To enable the motion-activated controls, press and hold the pause button in the hidden front panel for 3 seconds. You will hear “Gesture Commands Enabled.”

**Pause/Stop Reading** – move your hand slowly above the printed material from left to right.

**Resume Reading** – move your hand slowly above the printed material from left to right.

**Read Previous Sentence** – move your hand slowly from right to left above the printed material. Move your hand as many times as it takes to reach any sentence.

## Keypad Controls Method (Optional Accessory)



**Help Button** –located in the middle of the keypad, above the Up Arrow, it is a white round button. Hold down the Help button and any other button on the keypad at the same time. You will hear a description of that button and its function.

**Pause/Resume Button** – located in the center of the arrow keys, it is a white square, marked with a raised black circle. In Reading Mode, this button will pause and resume reading.

**Left Arrow** – located to the left of the Pause/Resume button, it is a white square, marked with a raised black Left Arrow. In Reading Mode, press this button to hear the previous word.

**Right Arrow** – located to the right of the Pause/Resume button, it is a white square, marked with a raised black Right Arrow. In Reading Mode, press this button to hear the next word.

**Up Arrow** – located above the Pause/Resume button, it is a white square, marked with a raised black Up Arrow. In Reading Mode, press this button to hear the previous sentence.

**Down Arrow** – located below the Pause/Resume button, it is a white square, marked with a raised black Down Arrow. In Reading Mode, press this button to hear the next sentence.

**Save Button** – located on the upper left side of the keypad, it is a white square, marked with a raised black vertical line. Hold down the Save button and one of the Arrow buttons at the same time. You will hear, “Image saved.” Up to four pages can be saved; one page designated to each Arrow Button.

**Recall Button** – located on the upper right side of the keypad, it is a white square, marked with a raised black horizontal line. Hold down the Recall button and press one of the Arrow Buttons to read a previously saved page. You will hear “Reading image.”

## **Advanced Features**

**Reading Columns** – when the Left Arrow and Right Arrow buttons are pressed at the same time, Eye-Pal Reader will read through columns.

**Describing Page Layout** – when the Up Arrow and Down Arrow buttons on the keypad are pressed at the same time, Eye-Pal Reader will describe the layout of the page.

**Changing Languages** – when the Recall and Save buttons on the keypad are pressed at the same time, Eye-Pal Reader will switch languages and/or voices.

**Turning Light Off** – when the Up Arrow, Down Arrow and Pause buttons on the keypad are pressed at the same time, the light will turn off.

## **Book Saving Mode**

Book Mode allows you to save multipage documents to a USB flash drive.

### **How to start scanning in Book Mode:**

1. Turn on the device
2. Wait for the music to stop playing, and then plug the USB flash drive into the USB port located on the right side of Eye-Pal Reader. You will hear, “External memory device is detected. Entering Book scan mode.”
3. Place a document or a book on the platform.
4. Wait for the camera shutter sound; this indicates that the page has been scanned.
5. Wait two seconds in between scanning pages. Once the scanned page is removed you can place another one on the platform.
6. Repeat until you've scanned all pages.

## Converting a saved Book to Text and MP3 (audio file)

1. When you're done scanning, press the Pause/Resume button to convert scanned pages into a text and audio file.
2. When the process is complete, you will hear, "Conversion complete, you can now disconnect external memory device".

**Note:** The conversion process takes time depending on the quality and complexity of the scanned image(s).

3. Take out the flash drive when instructed.

Now you can use the flash drive on your computer to view, read and listen to the saved text.

- When a Book is saved, three folders are created on the USB flash drive:  
\$EyePal Audio; \$EyePal Images; \$EyePalText
- Eye-Pal Reader converts the scanned images into a text and MP3 file at the same time. Users will be able to find the MP3 files in the Eye-Pal Audio folder and Text files in the Eye-Pal Text folder.
- If scanned images are not converted, they can be found in the Eye-Pal Images folder.
- It is recommended that you rename the MP3 and text files to make them meaningful to you (name of the document, book).

## Connecting Headphones or External Speakers

1. Headphones with a pin audio jack are recommended. Headphones with a USB connector are not compatible with Eye-Pal Reader.
2. With the device on, plug the headphones or speakers into Eye-Pal Reader. The headphone jack is located on the right side of the device.

**Note:** Always stop reading before plugging or unplugging the headphones or external speakers. If you add or remove the headphones or speakers while Eye-Pal Reader is reading and a problem occurs, restart the device and follow the instructions.

## Traveling with Eye-Pal Reader

To collapse Eye-Pal Reader, locate the button at the joint of the camera head and long vertical arm. Press this button and swivel the camera head down and away from you.



Then locate the button on the joint that is towards the back on the right side of the platform. While holding the arm of the camera press the button and slowly lower the arm until it lays flat on the platform.



## **Tips for Best Performance**

- Give Eye-Pal Reader time to work. Eye-Pal Reader should process only one command at a time.
- When Eye-Pal Reader is starting up, ensure that the Freedom Scientific logo is not covered.
- When placing a document, keep the text flat and ensure there are no obstructions blocking the camera's view of the text (including your hands).
- Make sure that a document is moved completely off Eye-Pal Reader before placing another document onto it.

Eye-Pal Reader is trouble free most of the time due to its simple, yet effective design. However, if you encounter a problem, here are some tips:

1. If Eye-Pal Reader freezes up, stops responding to your commands or is acting abnormally, please hold the triangle button in the hidden front panel for several seconds. You will hear “Restarting”. This process does not restart the device itself, just the software.
2. If this doesn’t solve the problem, turn off the device and then power it back on by pressing the power button on the front panel.
3. If the problem persists, please call your local distributor or Freedom Scientific Technical Support.

### **Important Notes**

Eye-Pal Reader is programmed to correct itself and will restart on its own, if necessary. If this occurs, wait a moment before using it again.

## Service and Support

You can contact Freedom Scientific Technical Support to receive technical assistance. Before contacting Technical Support, it is recommended that you refer to *Troubleshooting* on page 11 to try to resolve your problem quickly.

**Note:** This device has no user-serviceable components. Any unauthorized attempt to service or replace internal components will void the product warranty.

To contact Technical Support by Web, visit **[www.FreedomScientific.com](http://www.FreedomScientific.com)**, choose Support, and complete the form to submit questions.

To contact by e-mail, send questions to **[Support@FreedomScientific.com](mailto:Support@FreedomScientific.com)**.

To contact by telephone, U.S. customers can call **(727) 803-8600**, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 AM to 7:00 PM (Eastern Time).

When you call, please have your questions ready and be prepared to provide the following information:

- Product name
- Product serial number
- What you were doing when the problem occurred
- How you tried to solve the problem

To register your product, visit **[www.freedomscientific.com/forms/ProductRegistration](http://www.freedomscientific.com/forms/ProductRegistration)**.