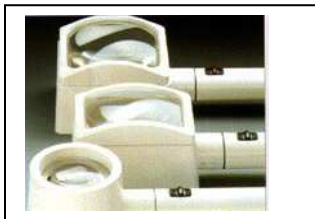


Vision Equipment

People who have difficulty seeing, may benefit from using specialised equipment or adaptive techniques. This equipment may assist the individual in performing daily living tasks more effectively.

Strategies that may make life easier include:

- Arranging the environment in logical manner.
- Keeping things in consistent places.
- “Safe Proofing” the environment (eg: making use surfaces are a level as possible to avoid slipping and not leaving obstacles on the floor is important).
- Having a “Buddy”, someone who can provide cues and can assist in orientating the visually impaired person.
- Ensure adequate lighting and colour contrast is available to the visually impaired person.



MAGNIFYING DEVICES

Specialised magnifying devices can be prescribed via a referral from an optometrist to a low vision clinic.

Magnifying sheets and glasses can assist the visually impaired in reading tasks.

Desk based magnification lamps, or magnifiers worn around the neck allow for hands free use.



Close circuit magnification aids can be used to enlarge the print of books onto a TV screen.

LARGE PRINT MATERIALS

Large print books, calendars and teledexes, make reading easier.

Large playing cards and Bingo cards are easier for some people to hold and see.



Large print songbooks are also available, as well as tactile board games and large print board games.

Lower vision watches.



TALKING EQUIPMENT

Talking equipment ie watches and clocks with voice output, can assist people with time orientation.

Talking Kitchen scales can assist with accurate measuring. Talking calculators are also available



KITCHEN EQUIPMENT

Plates with a sloping end, enables the spoon or fork to be pushed towards one end.

A plate guard can be added to a plate to prevent spillage, and assist getting food onto eating utensils.

Knife guides can assist safe cutting in the kitchen.

Liquid level sensors can help people fill cups and glasses without over filling them. They work by giving an audible signal to indicate when a cup or glass is full.



GENERAL HOUSEHOLD AIDS

Big button phones and finger guides to assist accessing dial buttons are available. These can provide larger surface for the visually impaired person to feel the correct buttons when dialling.

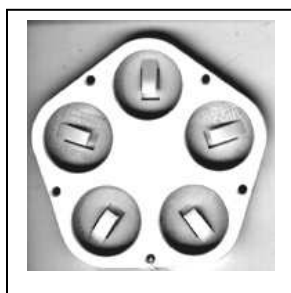
Coin and cash identifiers provide a template to sort money by touch and can assist people being organised.



These products, as well as many others, are available from the Royal Blind Foundation

Ruled writing pads, felt pens, and signature guides can assist with writing, as can different colour contrasts.

Control settings on computers can be changed to give high contrast colours, to assist with visual focusing.



GETTING OUT AND ABOUT

Mobility instructors can provide advice and training regarding access and mobility with the community as well as advice regarding mobility aids such as white canes.



NEED TO KNOW MORE?

Telephone, fax or email your enquiry to obtain further information from one of the therapists about products. Alternatively, you can make an appointment to trial the equipment at our display centres or through our outreach service. Please phone LifeTec Queensland for further details.

Last Updated: March 2009