



Speech APIs

Speech technologies offer an **intuitive**, seamless, and natural interface to the personal computer. With Apple's Speech Recognition and Speech Synthesis application programming interfaces (APIs), you can now create **speech-savvy** applications that engage your customers and draw them into a rich, immersive environment. Apple's Speech APIs let you **quickly and easily** incorporate speech recognition and synthesis into your applications with maximum efficiency and performance. Differentiate your products with minimal impact on production schedules,

**Now,
let's**



PlainTalk® is a collection of software components that enable Macintosh computers to speak written text and respond to spoken commands. The PlainTalk software development kit includes the Speech Recognition Manager; the Speech Synthesis Manager; application programming interfaces, extensions, sample code, libraries, and documentation.

and no impact on your budget because the speech software development kit is available free.



Speech APIs

You don't have to be a *Star Trek* fan to know that the computer of the future will talk and listen. Macintosh® computers have already been talking for a decade—making Apple® a leader among speech technology providers for personal computers. Today, with Apple Speech Recognition and Speech Synthesis APIs, developers can easily create applications that actually recognize and respond to voice commands spoken by users. On a simple level, a user could say “Open the quarterly forecast,” and Apple Speech Recognition software will automatically launch the appropriate applications, open that document, and convert the text to an audible format with Speech Synthesis.

Some of the important features of the Apple Speech Recognition engine are:

- Speaker independence—Users don't have to “train” the software
- Continuous speech—Users can talk naturally without pauses between words
- Flexible vocabulary that can be customized by users
- Ability to function accurately in real-world environments via the push-to-talk feature

All these speech recognition features work in conjunction with the high-performance PowerPC™ hardware.

Add a new dimension to the user experience with Apple Speech APIs.

Key Features of Apple Speech Technologies

Speech Recognition

- Makes it easy for developers to add speech recognition to an application.
- Has built-in capabilities that allow it to function in real-world environments, with a tolerance for the typical noises found in everyday environments.
- Allows you to talk naturally without pausing between words.
- Is optimized for Apple's integrated hardware and software.

Speech Synthesis

- Provides high-quality concatenative voices, based on recordings of natural speech.
- Scales to any Macintosh development platform.
- Includes customization features that give you unprecedented control over how words are pronounced, where emphasis and pauses are placed, and how voice pitch changes over time.
- Generates not only the correct words, but also the correct pronunciations.
- Provides a wide variety of voices including voices that are not only highly natural and intelligible, but also fun and entertaining—and it speaks Spanish, too!

Ordering Information

Apple's Speech Recognition and Speech Synthesis software development kits are available on Apple's web site via the following pathway:
<http://dev.info.apple.com/sdk.html/>

For more information on Apple Speech APIs, visit the Speech home page at the Internet World Wide Web site: <http://www.speech.apple.com/>