

Frequently Asked Questions  
NLS Braille eReader HumanWare

1. I'm looking at a grammar book and I want to look for something that was in a chapter I read last night. How can I search backwards to find it?

**You can search backwards by pressing the letter p (dots 1-2-3-4) plus the Spacebar.**

2. I'm reading a book that has a lot of short pages which means a lot of blank lines on each page. Is there a way to skip those?

**Yes. To set your display to skip blank lines go to Settings, then User Settings, then Condense Blank Lines. Press a cursor routing button, the Enter key, or the Select key to change the setting. (See section 7.1 of the user guide.)**

**You can also skip to the next nonblank line by pressing dot 4 plus the Enter key. You can skip back to the previous nonblank line by pressing dot 1 plus the Enter key.**

3. I loaded a puzzle book from Bookshare on my eReader and I really need to look at it in uncontracted braille? Is there a quick way to go from contracted to uncontracted braille?

**Yes. Toggle between contracted, uncontracted, or computer braille by pressing the letter g (dots 1-2-4-5) with Spacebar.**

4. I was reading a book and all of a sudden the line of braille started moving on its own. Why is it doing that and how can I stop it?

**If your braille is moving on its own, you have most likely accidentally activated autoscroll. Press any key to stop autoscroll. To avoid accidentally turning on autoscroll, go to Settings, then User Settings, and disable Autoscroll Active. (See section 7.1 of the user guide.)**

5. The book I am reading has 10 volumes. I want to go from volume to volume without having to go into the File Manager. How can I do this?

**You can navigate through a document or book by a selection of levels. Press the letter j (dots 2-4-5) with a spacebar key to access the available navigation options. Select the level you want to navigate by from the list. Then use the Up and Down Thumb keys on the front panel of the eReader to navigate through the book by the selected level.**

6. I have a Chromebook or Android smartphone and I want to use the display with my screenreader. How can I do this?

**The NLS Braille eReader Humanware does not work with Chromebook or Android devices at this time.**

7. Is there any way to increase the volume of the beeps?

**No. You cannot change the volume of the beeps at this time.**

8. I hate the beeping and buzzing on my eReader. How can I turn all of that off?

**You may turn the beeping and buzzing (caused by unit vibrations) off by going to Settings, User Settings, and then setting Beep to off and Vibration to off. (See section 7.1 of the user guide.)**

9. I hear that there is a software update for the eReader. How can I see what software version mine is running and if there is an update available?

**If your eReader is connected to Wi-Fi, it will regularly check for software updates and let you know when one is available. You can see what software version your eReader is running in the settings menu. Go to Settings, then About. Additionally, you can manually check for software updates in the settings menu. Go to Settings, then About, then Check for Update. Press the Enter key and the eReader will tell you if an update is available. If a software update is available, it will ask you if you want to download it. Select ok to initiate download. Once the download is complete, it will ask if you want to install the update. Select ok to install the software update. (See section 9 of the user guide.)**

10. Can I read MS Word documents with the eReader?

**You can read .docx files on the eReader by placing them on an SD card or USB thumb drive. You can also move them into the eReader's memory by navigating to the file you wish to move and then pressing the Backspace key with the letter c (dots 1-4) to copy the file to the clipboard. Navigate to the Book List and paste the file by pressing the Backspace key with v (dots 1-2 3-6).**

11. I was able to download a few books from BARD, but when I look at my book list I see the name of the book but I do not see each volume. When I open the book I see the first volume. How do I access other volumes in this book?

**Books downloaded from BARD are contained within a ZIP file and treated as one entity. You can navigate through all of the volumes in a book by pressing the Spacebar**

**key with j (dots 2-4-5) to access the Navigation Menu. Choose to navigate by volume in order to access the next volume in this book. Once you've selected Volume, pressing the Up or Down thumb key will take you to the Next or Previous volume.**

12. I downloaded a book from BARD and I want to copy it to an SD card or USB drive. How can I move it to the other places?

**You can copy books from the device to an external drive using the File Manager. Open the File Manager from the Main Menu. Navigate to the file you want to copy using the Up or Down thumb keys, then press the Backspace key with c (dots 1-4) to copy the file to the clipboard. Paste the copied files or folders by navigating to the desired location and pressing Backspace with v (dots 1-2-3-6). (See section 4.2.5 of the user guide.)**

13. These books are clogging up my system. I don't want to keep them after I've read them. How can I get rid of them?

**You can delete some or all of your books at any time by using the delete function in the File Manager or Book List. To use the File Manager, navigate to the file using the Up or Down thumb keys, then press Backspace key with d (dots 1-4-5). To delete multiple files or folders, navigate to each file or folder you wish to delete using the Up or Down thumb keys. Press Backspace with dots 1-6 to mark the file or folder. Once all files or folders you wish to delete are marked, press Backspace with d (dots 1-4-5) to delete. The eReader will ask you if you are sure you want to delete the files and/or folders. Navigate to Yes using the Up or Down thumb keys and press Enter to confirm deletion. (See section 4.2.4 of the user guide.)**

**To use the Book List, select a book using the Up or Down thumb keys, then press Backspace with m (dots 1-3-4) to open the Book Management Menu. Select Delete. The eReader will ask you if you are sure you want to delete the files and/or folders. Navigate to Yes using the Up or Down keys and press Enter to confirm deletion. (See section 3.2 of the user guide.)**

14. I found the section in the User Guide about how to connect my iPhone to the eReader, but I don't really understand it. Can you explain it to me?

**To connect your iOS device to the eReader, select Add Bluetooth Device from the Braille Display Menu. The display may read "activating Bluetooth" for a few seconds and then it will read: "Activate your device in your host device's settings: NLS eReader," followed by your device's serial number. To pair with an iPhone or iPad, select Settings > Accessibility > VoiceOver > Braille from your iOS device. At the very**

bottom of the screen, after the text “Choose a Braille Display,” you will find “NLS eReader,” followed by your device’s serial number with the indication “not paired.” Double tap this and VoiceOver will say the name of the device followed by “pairing...” If you do not see NLS eReader on your iPhone or iPad, power off both devices, turn the eReader back on, and then turn your iOS device back on. Once the connection is complete, return to your eReader and press the Up thumb key until you reach Bluetooth Connection, then press Enter. The connected device will appear in the list. Press Enter to connect to your device. Wait for the connection to be established. When the connection is successful, the content of your host device will show on your braille display.

15. Is there a way that I can order my book list so that it shows the most recent books I downloaded instead of showing them alphabetically?

**You can sort your files by name, size, date, and type using the File Manager. From the File Manager, press the letter s (dots 2-3-4) with the Backspace key to bring up the sort menu. Scroll through the list using the Up and Down thumb keys. Press the Enter key to activate the sorting option of your choice. (See section 4.1.5 of the user guide.) You can also go to the Recently Read item in the Book Reader menu to see your five most recently read books or magazines.**

16. How do I type an asterisk in uncontracted UEB?

**An asterisk is a two-cell character in uncontracted UEB. Type dot 5 followed by dots 3-5. To find a list of other commonly used UEB symbols, see the document “Commonly used UEB Symbols” produced by NLS (stock number TB004B). For more detailed information about UEB access [The ABC’s of UEB](#), from the Braille Authority of North American’s website.**

17. Last night I put several books on my BARD wish list with my computer. This morning, when I look at the wish list on my eReader the books are not there. Why can’t I see them when I look at my BARD wish list on my eReader?

**When accessing BARD from the braille eReader the device will only display materials in braille format. If the books you added were audiobooks, you will not be able to see them in your wish list when accessed from the eReader.**

18. Is there a limit to the number of braille books that I can download from BARD?

**The eReader has 16GB of memory. It can hold thousands upon thousands of braille books. There is no limit to the number of braille titles you can download from BARD beyond the memory space limitations of the device.**

19. I was using my eReader and I got a message that said “book reader stopped.” Now I can’t do anything. How do I get my eReader to work again?

**The quickest way to handle this is to restart the unit. Press and hold the power button until you see “shutting down...” on the braille display. Then, navigate to “okay” using the Up or Down thumb key. Press Enter. The device will shut down. Press and hold the power button to start the device. You should be able to use your eReader again once it starts up.**

20. How can I tell how much battery power my device has?

**You can access information about the battery level by accessing the Battery Info item on the Main Menu. Additionally, you can press the Enter key with p (dots 1-2-3-4) to briefly display the battery level.**

21. How can I check the date and time on my device?

**You can access date and time information from the Main Menu. To quickly access the date and time, press Enter with t (dots 2-3-4-5) for the time and Enter with d (dots 1-4-5) for date from anywhere on the eReader.**

22. How can I get rid of the cursor in the book reader?

**You can get rid of the cursor in the book reader by going to settings, user settings, and cursor visible. Set cursor visible to off to get rid of the cursor in the book reader only. It will still appear in text boxes for entering a search string, password, and so forth.**

23. How do I quickly switch between books?

**From within a book, you can return to the Book Reader menu with an e-chord. From there, you can select Book List to see all the books on your device. Or, if the book you want to switch to is one of the last 5 books you opened, you can access the Recently Read list by pressing the Enter key with r (dots 1-2-3-5).**