

Comparing Speech Recognition Technology Tools PACER Simon Technology Center 2009

The PACER Simon Technology Center has compared the four speech recognition software programs to help consumers and families choose which program best suits their needs. This information is current as of May 2009, but is subject to change. It is not intended to endorse one product over the other. A reminder to always evaluate a program on the features required for the intended user.

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FEATURE	DRAGON NATURALLY SPEAKING	SPEAK Q	WINDOWS SPEECH RECOGNITION	Dictate
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GENERAL INFORMATION				
Vendor	Nuance Communications, Inc.	Quillsoft Ltd.	Microsoft	MacSpeech Dictate
Website	www.nuance.com	www.wordq.com	www.microsoft.com	www.macspeech.com
Price Includes Microphone	✓		✓	✓
Version	Preferred 10	1.5	Microsoft Speech Recognizer 8.0 for Windows	1.5.1
Price	\$199.00	\$99.00	Free	\$199.00
Minimum Windows System Requirements	Windows 2000, XP, Vista 1 GHz processor 512 MB RAM or 1 GB RAM for Windows Vista 1 GB free hard disk space Noise-canceling headset microphone Sound Card with Speakers	WordQ 2 software preinstalled (\$199) Windows XP, Vista 1 GHz processor 1 GB+ MB RAM Noise-canceling headset microphone Sound Card with Speakers	Windows Vista Noise-canceling headset microphone	Not available
Minimum Mac System Requirements	Not available	Not available	Not available	Mac OS X 10.5.6 or greater "Leopard"; internet required for product registration; Requires a MacSpeech certified microphone
Technical Support	407-241-1822 FAQ Online	support@wordq.com FAQ Online	http://support.microsoft.com	410-568-3645 FAQ Online
Upgrade Options	\$149	Free	None	\$55
Demo Availability	View Demonstration Online	30 day - Download Online	View Demonstration Online	No Demo Available

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SPECIFIC FEATURES				
Claimed Accuracy	Up to 99% accuracy	Highly Accurate	Highly Accurate	Amazingly Accurate
Uniqueness	Printable Training Text	No speech commands	Built into Vista	Mac Program
Recommended Training Time	5 to 15 min	15 min (800-1000 words)	6 to 10 min	5 minutes
Application Compatibility	Internet Explorer, AOL, Word, Outlook, WordPerfect, Excel, Lotus Notes, Mozilla Firefox	Internet Explorer, Netscape, Word, Outlook, WordPad, WordPerfect	Word, Outlook, Most Vista Applications	Any application. Command sets for Finder, TextEdit, Safari, Mail, iChat, and iCal
Multiple Languages	English (U.S./ U.K./ Australian/ Asian/ Indian), Dutch, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Spanish	English	English (U.S./U.K.), German, French, Spanish, Japanese	English (U.S./ U.S. Inland/ U.S. Southern/ U.S. teen/ U.K./ Australian/ Indian/ Latino/ Southeast Asian)
Continuous Speech	✓	✓	✓	✓
Discrete Speech		✓ w/ word prediction		
Speech-enabled word prediction		✓		
Speech Playback	✓	✓		
Speech Editing	✓		✓	✓
Text-to-Speech	✓	✓		✓ Mac OS X built-in text-to-speech
Automatic Punctuation	✓			
Mouse Navigation	✓		✓	✓
Menu Navigation	✓		✓	✓
Navigate Internet	✓		✓	✓

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CUSTOMIZATION				
Training Options	None, Short, & Special Trainings, 3 Levels, Visual Support, Printable, Tutorials Built in	Choice of Dictation Text, 3 Levels, Audio-Visual Support, Create your own	One Dictation Text, Speech Recognition Tutorials Built in	Choice of Dictation Text, Visual Support
Speech Macros	✓		✓	✓
Add Words to Speech Vocabulary	✓	✓	✓ via importing documents	✓ via importing documents
Train Individual Words	✓	✓		✓
Restore Speech Profile	✓	✓	Microsoft System Restore	✓
Additional Versions Available	Standard, Professional, Legal, Medical, SDK		Windows XP Microsoft Speech Recognizer 6.1 for Windows	
Handheld Devices	Supports .wma and .mp3 format for deferred transcription			