

Make phone text easier to read

Try one small change together.

Applies to: iPhone: text-size steps checked against iOS 26 and iOS 27 documentation. Android: some steps need Android 13 or later; Samsung menus vary. Text-size changes do not affect every app.

1. Choose one familiar screen. Ask what is hard to read. Let your parent handle the phone where possible. Use a harmless message, with no passwords or codes.
2. Record the starting point. Note the current text-size slider position before moving it. Change one setting at a time.
3. On iPhone, change text size. Open Settings > Accessibility > Display & Text Size > Larger Text. Move the slider a little. Larger Accessibility Sizes offers more choices.
4. On Android, change font size. Open Settings and search for Font size. Select the setting and move its slider a little. Check the preview.
5. Practice in the real app. Ask your parent to read the message, identify the sender, type an unsent reply and find the back control. Check the keyboard too.
6. Keep it, or undo it. Keep the change only if your parent prefers it. To undo it, return to the same setting and restore the recorded slider position.

If buttons also need to be larger, use the full guide to check display-size options separately. September 25, 2026: iPhone text-size steps checked against Apple's iOS 26 and iOS 27 documentation; no hands-on device test.

Full guide

<https://havenandsignal.com/guides/make-smartphone-easier-to-read-aging-parent>

Apple: text size, iOS 26: <https://support.apple.com/en-ie/guide/iphone/iph3c076905a/26/ios/26>

Apple: text size, iOS 27: <https://support.apple.com/en-ie/guide/iphone/iph3c076905a/27/ios/27>

Google: font size: <https://support.google.com/accessibility/android/answer/11183305?hl=en>

Help family calls ring through

Use an ordinary, agreed family call.

Applies to: iPhone (iOS 26) and Android/Samsung. Some Android steps need Android 12+ (sound) or 14+ (Modes). Menus vary by model and software.

- 1. Agree on people and times.** Verify the relative's actual number in Contacts. Note the current sound level and quiet-mode settings before changing them.
- 2. Check ring volume first.** iPhone: Settings > Sounds & Haptics > Ringtone and Alerts; check Silent mode is off. Android: select ringing and adjust Ring volume in expanded volume controls. Galaxy: check Sounds and vibration > Sound.
- 3. On iPhone, check the active Focus.** Open Settings > Focus > the relevant mode > People. Use Allow Notifications From for agreed contacts; check the separate call allowance too.
- 4. On Android or Galaxy, check quiet mode.** Android: Settings > Modes > the active mode > Notification filters > People. Galaxy: Notifications > Do not disturb > Calls and messages. Choose the agreed caller allowance.
- 5. Keep useful scam protection.** Do not switch off all unknown-call or spam controls. Investigate the verified family number; use the full guide if menus differ.
- 6. Practice both directions.** Lock the phone in its usual place with the relevant quiet mode active. Make the agreed call; answer, end it and call back. Never call emergency services to test.
- 7. Keep an undo and a backup.** Restore the recorded sound level or caller allowance if unwanted. Agree on a second contact method if the call still fails.

A Focus or Do Not Disturb exception alone does not guarantee an audible ring.

Full guide

<https://havenandsignal.com/guides/aging-parent-phone-not-ringing-family-calls>

[Apple: sound](#) | [Apple: Focus](#) | [Google: volume](#) | [Google: Modes](#) | [Samsung: calls](#)

Official sources checked 10 September 2026

Help remotely, with permission

Keep the device owner in control.

Applies to: Quick Assist: Windows app. Chrome Remote Desktop: computer support session. FaceTime control: iOS/iPadOS 18+ on both devices; helper saved in Contacts. Unavailable in the EU; other limits may apply.

- 1. Start through a known contact.** Your parent calls a trusted helper using a saved number. Agree on one task. Never grant access because an unexpected caller or pop-up demands it.
- 2. Use the least access needed.** Try talking through the steps first. If viewing or control is needed, explain the access and ask permission. Stay together throughout the session.
- 3. Close private information.** Close email, banking, health, messaging and password-manager screens. Keep passwords and ordinary login codes private.
- 4. Practice ending access first.** With harmless content open, find the exit. Quick Assist: Leave. FaceTime: end the call. Chrome Remote Desktop support: Stop Sharing.
- 5. End BOTH before a private login.** Stop remote control AND screen sharing. Confirm neither remains active on your parent's device. Quick Assist's Cancel control alone can leave the screen visible.
- 6. Resume only with fresh agreement.** Your parent signs in privately. Share again only if the remaining task needs it, after private screens and account information are closed.
- 7. Finish while still talking.** End both sharing and control using the exit above. Quit the support app. Note settings changed and how to undo them; never record passwords or codes.

Check current platform requirements in the full guide before arranging screen control.

Full guide

<https://havenandsignal.com/guides/remote-tech-support-aging-parents-safely>

[Microsoft: Quick Assist](#) | [Apple: FaceTime](#) | [Apple: eligibility](#) | [Google: support](#)

Official sources checked 10 September 2026