

Page Turners

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Introduction

Reading Aids are Assistive Devices that enable a person with a Disability to be able to enjoy books & the hobby of reading. Page Turners are one of these Assistive Devices. Many individuals who have Mobility Impairments, may find it difficult to turn pages of a book due to limited or no finger movement. Page Turners assist with this. & can also sometimes be used as typing sticks & called by that name.

There are a variety of different types of page turners & you will need to select one to meet your needs so that you can still enjoy books without having to call someone to turn the pages.

They include:

- Hand-Strapped Page Turner/Typing Aid - *For those with arm movement*
- Mouth Stick/Page Turner - *For those with no arm movement*
- Head Pointer/Page Turner - *For those with no arm movement*

Hand-Strapped Typing Aid/Page Turner

Hand-strapped typing aids are pencil sized sticks with rubber tips that strap around the palm area of the user's hand (right, left, or both). These provide the user with a rigid point option they can control with the gross motor movement of their hands and arms. These typing aids are primarily used by people who's disability has affected the fine motor control of their fingers, causing an inability to accurately target or press keys on a standard keyboard or to turn pages.

Mouth Stick - This can also double as a Page Turner

Mouth sticks are a similar concept to hand-strapped typing aids. They provide the user with a rigid pointing device that, due to the user's disability, is easier for the user to control than their finger. A mouth stick is roughly 8"-12" long and attaches to a retainer-like bite plate that the user holds in his or her mouth to operate the stick. To effectively use a mouth stick, the user must have good head control. A typical user typically has little or no arm control due to his/her disability. Another benefit of this Mouth stick, is that it does not need to be strapped on, so can be used without any assistance.

Head Pointer - This can also double as a Page Turner.

A head pointer is similar to a mouth stick except instead of holding the device in one's mouth, it is strapped to the user's head. Control with a head pointer is dependent on the tightness of the strap, thus good head pointer control usually correlates with discomfort. Head pointers also have a degree of dependency because most people who use head pointers rely on someone else to put it on. Those who have used both find greater control and comfort with a mouth stick. A typical head pointer user is similar to a mouth stick user with the added difficulty of unreliable mouth control, a need to breath.