

Why Utter Command?

In this section you'll learn

- how Utter Command is different from the interface portion of the NaturallySpeaking speech engine
- how UC compares to existing speech interface methods and the keyboard and mouse
- how UC can speed your computing beyond the keyboard and mouse

Intro 1.1 UC in a nutshell

Utter Command for NaturallySpeaking requires NaturallySpeaking Professional speech recognition software, which includes a speech recognition engine that translates your spoken words into information the computer can interpret as text and commands.

NatSpeak allows you to dictate text to a computer and provides some speech commands that allow you to control the computer. UC works with NaturallySpeaking Professional versions 5 through 9.5 and replaces NatSpeak's commands with a comprehensive, consistent set of commands and tools that work across all programs. Though not recommended, you can use a mix of UC and NatSpeak commands.

Speech commands work in harmony with the keyboard and mouse, meaning you can mix and match speech, mouse and keyboard commands as you wish. UC also allows you to control your computer hands-free.

The UC System

UC commands follow a succinct, consistent grammar that makes commands easy to remember. The consistent grammar also makes it possible to combine commands, which speeds your work and is easy on your voice.

UC commands work across all programs. No matter what programs you use, you'll be able to do everything by speech that you can using the keyboard and mouse, in many cases more quickly.

You can use a single speech command to, for instance,

- open the UC documentation directly to any section or subsection (**UC Lesson 1.7**)
- go directly to a section or subsection of any document (**UC Lesson 10.1**)
- open any Windows or program dialog box (**UC Lesson 2.7, 3.3**)
- move and size a window or dialog box (**UC Lesson 2.12**)
- move down a page in one document while your cursor remains in another document (**UC Lesson 2.14**)
- open a menu (including right-click menus) and click a menu item buried levels deep (**UC Lesson 2.19, 3.3**)
- open any dialog box for a few seconds to check a setting then close it (**UC Lesson 3.4**)
- move and click the mouse arrow (**UC Lesson 4.2**)
- go directly to any file or folder (**UC Lesson 5.6, 5.7**)
- hit any key many times in a row!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! (**UC Lesson 6.7**)
- hit any key combination (**UC Lesson 6.9**)
- hit several keys or key combinations in a row (**UC Lesson 6.13**)
- format many elements at once by hitting as many as four keys in a row, then repeating the cycle as many as 10 times (**UC Lesson 6.14**)
- edit text in any program (**UC Lesson 7**)
- open and address an email message to as many as four recipients (**UC Lesson 8.4**)
- go directly to any Web site (**UC Lesson 9.2**)
- find any keyword in any program (**UC Lesson 10.1**)
- copy a selection to any program (**UC Lesson 10.2**)
- number existing lines (**UC Lesson 10.8**)
- set break reminders to go off every half-hour (**UC Lesson 10.12**)
- set a reminder to "call John" in 45 minutes (**UC Lesson 10.13**)

UC also includes a set of productivity tools that leverage the power of the speech interface.

See **UC Appendices 5** for details on the Human-Machine Grammar that underpins UC.