

# NVDA Web Browsing Commands

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## Introduction

In a lot of ways, NonVisual Desktop Access (NVDA) works the same as Job Access with Speech (JAWS) for Windows when browsing the web. However, there are a few differences to be aware of when planning to use NVDA. The biggest difference to be aware of, aside from some browsing command differences, is between NVDA's browse mode compared to JAWS' virtual mode. JAWS' virtual PC cursor helps people browse websites, as well as web-based applications. Although NVDA's browse mode does the same thing, it also has a feature called "focus mode," which is essentially like JAWS' "forms mode" feature.

To toggle between browse mode and focus mode, press NVDA + space key. The NVDA key is usually assigned to your numpad 0, or your caps lock key. If you press tab to move through the elements of a webpage, NVDA should enter focus mode automatically, if your cursor lands on a form field like a text box. It will return to browsing mode when tabbing out of the text box and finding an element such as a link or a button. However, if you switch to focus mode using the NVDA + space key, you will need to manually return to browse mode by pressing the same key command.

## Navigation Shortcuts

Note: pressing shift with any of these commands will take you backward based on the command you use. For example, pressing shift + H will move you to the previous heading.

- **Tab:** Reads the next focusable item. This can include links, buttons, checkboxes, and other form fields.
- **H:** Jumps you to the next heading.

- **1-6 on the number row:** Goes to the next heading of level 1-6 (e.g., 1 will jump you to the nearest level 1 heading, 2 will jump you to the next level 2 heading).
- **NVDA + F7:** Brings up a list of elements you can filter by including headings, links, and landmarks.
- **D:** Goes to the next landmark/region.
- **T:** Moves you to the next table on a webpage.
- **L:** Goes to the next list.
- **K:** Moves to next link.
- **U:** Goes to the next unvisited link.
- **V:** Goes to the next visited link.
- **B:** Moves to the next button.
- **X:** Moves forward to the nearest checkbox. You can select or de-select a checkbox with the spacebar.
- **C:** Moves to the next combo box.
- **R:** Moves to the next radio button.

## Other Keyboard Commands

- **NVDA + Control + F:** Search for a word or a phrase.
- **NVDA + F1:** Toggles keyboard helps on and off.
- **NVDA + F2:** Makes the next command you enter a normal command and not a browse command. This is especially useful on websites that have built-in shortcut keys that cannot be used while browse mode is active.