

# BrailleNote evolve



## Getting started guide

Welcome to your BrailleNote evolve. In this guide, you will learn how to begin with your new device, from the outboxing experience to your main screen after the device's setup.

### Unpacking the BrailleNote evolve

When you receive your unit, the box contains the following items:

- BrailleNote evolve device in its carrying case
- Nylon strap
- A power adaptor including a power cable and a type-C USB cable
- Printed/Braille Getting started sheet
- Command summary Print/Braille
- Printed Modifier stickers

Now, let's introduce the device.

### Physical description

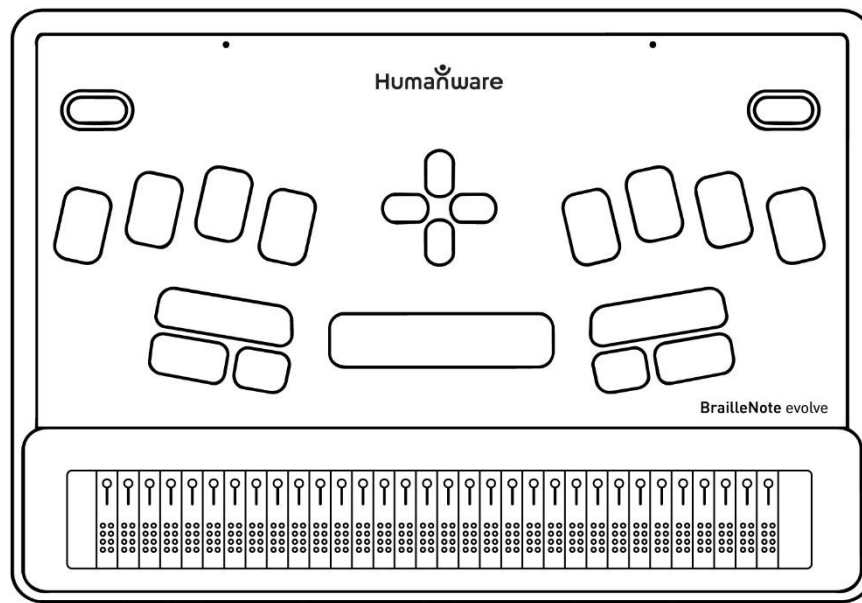
#### Carrying case

When you received your BrailleNote evolve, it will already be inside its sturdy carrying case. This case is made of sturdy, flexible plastic, with a microfiber foldable top.

On the right and left sides of your BrailleNote evolve, close to the front edge, are two attachment rings that can be used to attach a shoulder strap.

The carrying case is secured with magnets along the front edge of your BrailleNote evolve. To begin using your device, simply lift the cover to access the Perkins-style keyboard. This design allows you to operate the BrailleNote evolve safely and comfortably without removing it from the case.

## Top face of the BrailleNote evolve



On the top face of the BrailleNote evolve, you will find:

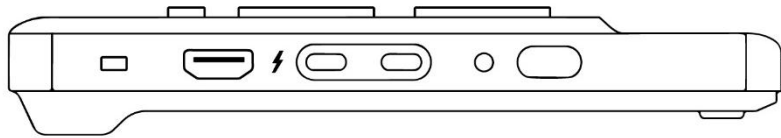
- The ESCAPE key, on the top-left corner;
- The DELETE key, on the top-right corner;
- A physical Perkins 8 dot Braille keyboard: the BACKSPACE key is on the left, also known as dot 7; the ENTER key is on the right, also known as dot 8; there are 6 modifier keys and four arrows in the middle (left, right, up and down);
- A 32-cells or 20-cells (depending on your configuration) refreshable Braille display, with their respective cursor-routing keys above each cell.

There are 6 ergonomically placed modifier keys on the unit. These keys have been designed to accommodate multiple key presses/commands. Included in the box are printed stickers that can be attached to the modifier keys to assist sighted users as they learn the device. From left to right, these keys are as follows:

- To the left of the spacebar: Shift, (long rectangular key), below shift on the left, is CTRL, and to the right of that is ALT
- To the right of the spacebar: Insert or NVDA key, (long rectangular key), below insert, to the right of the spacebar is the FN key, and to the right of that is WINDOWS.

To know more about the modifier keys and how they work, please refer to the User guide.

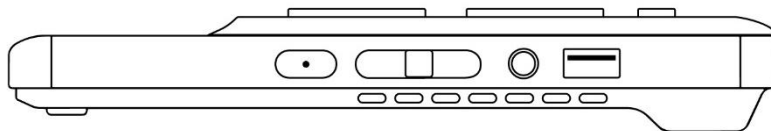
## Left edge of the BrailleNote evolve



On the left edge of the BrailleNote evolve, you will find, from front to back:

- The power button, oval-shaped, that is used to turn on the device.
- A LED to indicate if the device is powered on or off or if the battery is recharging;
- Two Thunderbolt / USB-C ports, both capable of charging the device and supporting video output;
- An HDMI port;
- A Kensington Nano locking port.

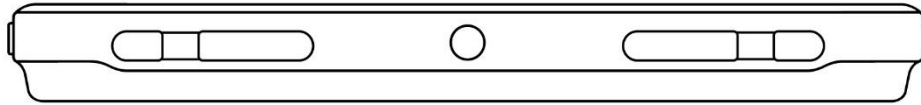
## Right edge of the BrailleNote evolve



On the right edge of your BrailleNote evolve, from front to back, you will find:

- A button with a tactile mark on it (this is the action button), and by default it is set to activate the dictation or voice typing option;
- Volume-down and volume-up keys;
- A 3.5mm Audio jack, which can be used to connect headsets or external speakers;
- A USB-A port;

## Front edge of the BrailleNote evolve



On the front edge of your BrailleNote evolves are 5 buttons. Four of these buttons are the BrailleNote's familiar thumb keys. From left to right, the thumb keys are Previous, Left, Right, and Next. In the middle, there's a round shaped button; it is your Home button, A great way to return to the main menu at any point.

## Shortcuts used through this document

Here is the list of shortcuts necessary to configure this device. For a thorough list of shortcuts while using your device, please refer to the User guide.

- Tab: RIGHT THUMB KEY + NEXT THUMB KEY, or SPACE + DOTS 4-5
- Shift + Tab: PREVIOUS THUMB KEY + LEFT THUMB KEY, or SPACE + DOTS 1-2
- Arrows: the four arrows in the middle of the Perkins Braille keyboard (left, right, up and down), or the PREVIOUS or NEXT thumb keys
- Pan Braille display left or right: LEFT or RIGHT thumb keys
- Read all the text in a window: SPACE + G
- Stop the TTS while reading content: CTRL
- Read a dialog or a window content: NVDA + B
- Launch or restart NVDA: BACKSPACE + ENTER + N
- NVDA Menu: NVDA + N

## First configuration

Now, let's configure your new BrailleNote evolve.

Place the device flat, with the front edge in front of you, on a table.

Before powering on the device and configuring it, connect the power adaptor to avoid any disruption during setup. Plug-in the USB-C part of your power adaptor to one of the USB-C ports on your device, then plug-in the power adaptor into a power outlet.

When your device is powered, the message “charging” with the battery charge percentage is shown on the Braille display, and a recharge LED will be visible just beside the Power key.

When you are ready to power on your device, press and hold the Power key for 2 seconds. A short vibration will be felt to let you know the device is starting. The message “Starting”, with a spinning wheel, will be displayed. After a short period of time, NVDA will start and you will begin the configuration process.

Note: NVDA should startup automatically at the first boot, but please be patient, a delay can be observed.

Note: below, we will describe, to the best of our knowledge, how to complete the first configuration of your device. When you read this guide, we cannot verify the accuracy of all parts in the setup process, as some steps may change or be added/removed. This is due to possible updates from Microsoft without advanced notice. Please consider this guide as a general tool to configure your device.

Note: for sighted users who are configuring the device, you can connect a keyboard, mouse, and monitor for easy set-up.

- Select the country or region where you are located. The default country or region for the installed language is selected. If it is not your current location, navigate through the countries or regions list with the Up and Down arrows. When positioned on the required country or region, press ENTER.
- Select your preferred Standard keyboard layout. Please note that if you do not intend to connect an external keyboard to the device, you can keep the default option. Navigate through the list with the Up and Down arrows; when positioned on the required layout, press ENTER to use this keyboard layout. On the following window, you can add a second keyboard layout if needed. You are positioned on the “Skip add another keyboard button”, press ENTER if you don’t intend to add another keyboard layout, or use SHIFT + TAB to be positioned on the “Add another keyboard” button.
- NVDA uses an automatic Braille table associated with the language you selected. To ensure a correct interpretation while typing passwords or other information that requires entering symbols and special characters, please change the Braille table for input and output, in the NVDA settings, under the Braille settings. (if using an external keyboard, these steps do not apply) (if using an external screen, the NVDA Settings window may not appear visually)
  - ❖ Press the shortcut NVDA + N to be directed to the NVDA menu.
  - ❖ Press the Down arrow to access the options available in this menu, then navigate through them with the Up and Down arrows.

- ❖ Press the Right arrow when positioned on the Preferences submenu, then press ENTER on the Settings.
  - ❖ In the categories list, navigate with the Up and Down arrows until reaching the Braille settings.
  - ❖ In the Braille settings, press Tab and select the Braille table for input and output that you use to read and type content.
  - ❖ Please note that your Braille configuration will apply only during the setup process. You will return to the default configuration when the setup is completed.
- Select your preferred Wi-Fi network. Navigate through the list of available Wi-Fi networks with the Up and Down arrows. When positioned on the network you want to configure, press ENTER to select. Then, follow the steps presented to connect. It could include entering the Wi-Fi password if the network is secured. When connected, press TAB shortcut several times until reaching the “Next” button, then press ENTER.
  - Windows will now check if any updates are available; if updates are found, they will be installed automatically. This may take a moment. Note: during this time, your Braille display may not show anything other than a cursor flashing. Please be patient until further prompts are given.
  - You will then be directed to the license agreement. To read all the text, please use the Right and Left thumb keys, or to listen to the text, press the “Read all” shortcut. To accept the agreement, press the TAB shortcut to be directed to the “Accept” button, and press ENTER to accept the license agreement. Accepting the license agreement is essential to complete configuring your device. You can read the license agreement with the Braille display and with the TTS.
  - Give a name to your PC. Type the desired name with no spaces, then press the TAB shortcut several times to reach the “Next” button, then press ENTER. You can also skip this step for now by doing the TAB shortcut once: a generic name will be given to your device. After pressing ENTER on the “Next” button, your device will reboot automatically and the message “Secure Desktop” will be written on the Braille display. Wait until NVDA restarts. This may take up to 5 minutes.
  - Once restarted, you will have to choose how to use your PC, for personal use or for work. Use the TAB shortcut to navigate through the options, use the ENTER key to select one of them, then use the TAB shortcut until reaching the “Next” button, and press ENTER. In this document, we assume you are using this device for personal use. Again, Windows will check if updates are available and will install them if any. This can take a moment.
  - You are now ready to sign into your Microsoft account. Press ENTER on the “Sign In” button that is displayed. To read all the information presented in that window, use the “Read dialog” command. Then, type your email address and select your

usual connection method to complete the authentication process and connect to your account.

- ❖ Please note: If you don't have a Microsoft account, to prevent any mistakes while completing this important step, we recommend you use another device that you are comfortable with to create your Microsoft account.
- Create a PIN. Type in the desired PIN, then use the TAB shortcut to enter the PIN again. Press TAB shortcut once again to reach the option to use letters or symbols. By default, this option is unchecked, meaning that your PIN will only contain numbers. Then, use the TAB shortcut to reach the "OK" button and press ENTER to create the PIN.
- Windows will now ask a few questions to help personalize your experience, such as location settings, Find My Device, diagnostic data, and typing and linking data for language recognition. For each of these questions, navigate through the options with the Up and Down arrows. When positioned on the option you prefer, even the default one, press the SPACE BAR to select. Then, use the TAB shortcut multiple times to go to the "Next" or "Accept" button, and press ENTER to go to the next question.
- If you have already used this Microsoft account on another computer, you can restore a backup of your configuration. By default, the most recent backup is selected. If you want to select this backup, press ENTER on the Continue button, on which you should be positioned. You can also configure this device as a new PC or choose another backup by pressing ENTER on the "More options" link that you can reach by using multiple times the SHIFT + TAB shortcut. The restore process will be done automatically if needed. Please note that you can use the "read dialog" command to read the content of this window.
- After the restore process, it will be necessary to restart NVDA manually with the shortcut BACKSPACE + ENTER + N.
- At the next step, you can answer some questions to customize your experience. Navigate through the options and buttons with the Up and Down arrows or the TAB or SHIFT + TAB shortcuts, then press ENTER when your selection is complete; it will direct you to the next question. Depending on your configuration, these questions may vary. You can always skip one of these questions by pressing ENTER on the corresponding option.
- When finished, your device will reboot and you will be directed to Windows desktop. NVDA will be launched automatically. The default automatic Braille table for your selected language will be applied, even though you had changed it during the configuration process. Finally, KeySoft Main menu is launched automatically but a delay can be observed. Please note that if the Main menu does not appear upfront, use the ALT + TAB shortcut to be directed to it.

- To install all our applications, in the KeySoft Main menu, navigate with the Up and Down arrows or first-letter navigation until you reach the “All apps” folder, then press ENTER.
- In the “All apps” folder, press the letter K to reach “KeySoft Control Center”, then press ENTER.
- KeySoft Control Center will check for any available application updates. A list of available application updates will be displayed. Use the TAB shortcut multiple times until reaching the “Update all” button, then press ENTER. Applications will be installed.

## Technical specifications

### General specifications

- Available with 32 Braille cells or 20 cells, including cursor-routing keys above each cell
- Includes Windows 11 Pro fully licensed
- Customized NVDA Powered by KeySoft user interface
- FREE 6 months JAWS trial available with optional subscription through HumanWare
- Battery autonomy: 5 hours performance continuous use

### Material specifications

- Processor : Intel Core Ultra 5 (10-cores processor)
- 32GB RAM (LPDDR5x)
- 512GB Internal storage
- Stereo Speakers
- Stereo Microphones
- X2 Bluetooth V5
- Programmable Near field Communication (NFC)
- Vibration Motor
- Wi-Fi 6 (802.11a/b/g/n/ac/ax)

### Applications

- KeySoft Core applications include:
  - ❖ Braille Editor : KeyBRF
  - ❖ File Manager : KeyFiles
  - ❖ KeySoft Control Center
  - ❖ Math Editor: KeyMath
  - ❖ Victor Reader

- Optional JAWS For BrailleNote (6 months free trial and subscription available from HumanWare)
- Office 365 (Subscription required)
- KeySoft Add-ins available with Word, Outlook, Excel and PowerPoint
- Microsoft Store
- Other windows applications are available on install

## Dimensions and Weight

- Width: 243mm (9.57 in)
- Depth: 175mm (6.89 in)
- Thickness: 20mm (0.79 in)
- Weight: 990g (2.18 lbs)

## Ports and Buttons

- Traditional 8-dot Perkins-style keyboard
- Up, down, left, right arrows
- ESCAPE and DELETE keys
- 6 Modifier keys (SHIFT, CTRL, ALT, INSERT, Fn and WINDOWS). These modifier keys can be customised through a third-party application.
- HumanWare signature Thumb keys
- KeySoft Home Button
- 2 USB-C Thunderbolt ports (Charging and Video out)
- USB-A 3.2
- Kensington Lock
- HDMI
- 3.5MM Jack
- Volume up and down
- Action button (Voice recording / Dictate)

## What's in the box

- BrailleNote evolve
- Carrying Case
- Nylon strap with shoulder pad
- Two-part Power Supply
- Modifier Stickers
- Command Summary Print / Braille
- Getting started guide Print / Braille
- Includes 6-months free trial of JAWS (optional)

## Warranty

- North America: 1 year
- Europe and Australia: 2 years

## Accessories Linked

- Carrying Case
- LCD Monitor
- Power Supply
- Modifier key Stickers