

TD Navio Feature Matching and Clinical Rationale



This rationale support guide is intended to assist the AT prescriber in understanding features and why they may or may not be important to a particular user. The points listed in this document are examples only and will not apply to every user. Emphasis has been placed on identifying individual and environmental factors that may lead to choosing one device over another, supporting long-term and sustainable use.

How to Use This Guide

Use this guide throughout the AAC trial process. From the list of features, select a device feature to explore what it is and why it may be important for the user.

Assess

During the assessment phase, use this guide in conjunction with the [Feature Matching Framework](#) and product comparison charts, including the [Touch Device Comparison Chart](#). This guide provides practical examples of how features may apply in real-world use.

Compare

When comparing devices, prescribers and users can identify examples relevant to their needs. These examples may highlight why one device is more suitable than another for achieving communication goals.

Fund

During the AT prescription and funding application process, use this guide to build a clear rationale for device recommendations. The AT prescriber can highlight relevant examples to help build their rationale for recommending a particular device when completing applications.

Features of the TD Navio

Select a device feature to explore what it is and why it might be important for the user.

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Dedicated Device

Specifics

TD Navio devices are designed to function as dedicated iOS-based communication solutions. One of their key features is that they do not require an iTunes or Apple ID account to operate.

Although it is possible to use an iTunes account on the Navio, it is not necessary. The preinstalled TD software means that users can start using their communication devices without downloading anything from the Apple Store, and updates occur automatically, making it a truly dedicated iOS communication system.

Why this feature may be important for the user

Simplified Onboarding

- Users can begin using the device immediately out of the box, without needing to create or log into an Apple ID.
- Removes a common technical barrier for families, therapists, and support staff who may not be familiar with Apple's ecosystem or who wish to avoid linking personal accounts to a clinical device.

Reduced Risk of Misuse

- Without an Apple ID, users cannot easily download unrelated or recreational apps (e.g. games, YouTube), which helps maintain the device's identity as a dedicated communication tool.
- This reduces the likelihood of the device being repurposed or misused, contributing to the long-term success of the device.

Immediate Access to Communication

- Users can begin communicating as soon as the device is powered on—no need to download or configure software from the App Store.

Automatic TD updates via MDM

- TD software is managed through Mobile Device Management (MDM), which allows for automatic updates and remote support without user intervention.
- Device remains up to date and secure, reducing the risk of technical issues.

Consistency Across Devices

- Preinstalled software is part of the broader Tobii Dynavox ecosystem, allowing for syncing and sharing of pagesets across devices using a myTobiiDynavox account.
- Supports continuity of use across environments (e.g., home, school, therapy), which is a key factor in long-term success.

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Operating System

Specifics

- iOS dedicated AAC device

Why this feature may be important for the user

Compatibility with School and Work

- If the individual uses iOS at school or work, the device will integrate seamlessly with other apps and platforms commonly used in those environments.
- Compatibility supports participation in educational and professional tasks without additional complexity.

Familiarity and Ease of Use

- iPadOS is widely familiar to users, families, and professionals, reducing the learning curve.
- Many people already use iPads in daily life, meaning less training is required for successful implementation.

Support Network Confidence

- Because iPads are mainstream devices, support networks (family, educators, therapists) can easily assist with troubleshooting, updates, and app management.
- This familiarity promotes long-term use and encourages support networks to learn about AAC and the device.

Intuitive Navigation

- Familiar gestures, layout and app navigation reduce cognitive effort, making the AAC system more intuitive and accessible.
- Users can focus on communication rather than device operation.

Flexibility for Alternative AAC Apps

- Alternative communication apps can be installed, allowing users to access the hardware benefits of TD Navio even when non-Tobii Dynavox AAC software is recommended through feature matching and trials.

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Weight and Portability

Specifics

- Comes with inbuilt carry handle and carry strap
- Slim design
- Navio Mini: 0.86kg (with case 1.05kg)
- Navio Midi: 1.27kg (with case 1.55kg)
- Navio Maxi: 1.54kg (with case 1.85kg)
- TD Navio is designed for mobile, active users, with an inbuilt carry handle and the ability to use the included shoulder strap.
- Particular attention has been given to keeping weight as low as possible whilst ensuring other features such as battery run time and protection levels are optimal.



Why this feature may be important for the user

Enhances Contextual Communication

- A lightweight, portable device is easier to carry and use across multiple environments—home, school, work, and community.
- Users can choose when and where to use AAC based on their needs and surroundings.

Reduces Physical and Emotional Barriers

- Heavier or bulkier devices can be physically fatiguing or socially stigmatising, leading to reduced use.
- TD Navio's discreet, tablet-based form factor supports comfort and dignity, which are essential for sustained engagement.

Enables Greater Support from Others

- Portability makes it easier for family members, carers, and therapists to assist with setup, transport, and use, supporting sustained long-term use.

Promotes User Autonomy and Choice

- The ability to carry the device independently gives users greater control over their communication - choosing where, when and how to use their AAC.

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Screen Size

Specifics

- Navio Mini 8" screen
- Navio Midi 10.9" Screen
- Navio Maxi 13" Screen



Why this feature may be important for the user

Supports Visual and Access Needs

- Provides an 8", 10.9", or 13" screen to suit individual requirements for ease and accuracy of access and visual needs.
- Larger screens can accommodate bigger targets for access and improve visibility for users with visual impairments.

Encourages Early Adoption

- Smaller screen sizes (e.g. TD Navio Mini) offer greater portability and ease of handling, which may encourage early adoption and consistent use.

Supports Alternative Access

- Screen size options provide flexibility for users who rely on alternative access methods such as switch scanning or head tracking. Larger targets improve accuracy while maintaining efficient access to vocabulary, reducing the need for excessive navigation and ensuring communication remains quick and effective.

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Volume

Specifics

- The inbuilt 2 x 5W speakers have been built specifically for clarity of voice output, minimising distortion at louder volumes.
- Wired speaker connection
- The speaker position on the device has been purposefully designed to ensure voice output is directed towards the communication partner when the device is being used. A standard iPad has speakers on the side that are directed towards the user.
- Tested to ensure it can reach all volumes of human speech across a range of environments.

Why this feature may be important for the user

Improved Social Interaction

- Loud, clear speech output helps users participate in conversations without frustration or repetition. For example:
 - Busy household with multiple people engaging in conversation
 - Regularly attends social functions in large spaces / multiple people with potential background noise (church, pub, clubs, meetings etc)
 - Attends school, work, voluntary work with louder environments

Increased Confidence

- Physical speaker connections to the iPad eliminate common Bluetooth issues such as connectivity problems, audio delays, and battery drain. When users are confident they will be heard clearly, they are more likely to initiate communication.

Environmental Flexibility

- Whether indoors or outdoors, the device remains functional—supporting consistent use.

Reduced Reliance on Caregivers

- Users can operate volume controls independently, promoting autonomy.

Enhanced Accessibility

- Clear audio benefits users with hearing impairments or auditory processing challenges.

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Battery Life

Specifics

- 18 hours of battery life
- With a single USB charging port, the device has a 2-hour fast charge from 0 – 100%

Why this feature may be important for the user

All-Day Reliability

- Users can communicate without worrying about mid-day power loss, especially in school, work, or social settings. Lower-cost options, such as a standard iPad in a protective case, only have the standard iPad battery, resulting in significantly shorter run time, which often will not last a full school or work day.

Reduced Anxiety

- Reliable power throughout the day minimises concerns about unexpected shutdowns, enhancing user confidence and supporting consistent engagement in communication.

Greater Independence

- Long battery life means less reliance on caregivers for charging or troubleshooting.

Environmental Adaptability

- Whether indoors, outdoors, or on the move, the device remains functional—supporting multimodal communication across contexts.

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Durability

Specifics

- The TD Navio is a dedicated communication device built into a rugged protective case specifically to ensure it can keep up with active users.
- It has an IP42 rating and has been drop tested to 0.8 metres.
- The device comes with an additional shockproof case, providing a higher level of protection if required.

Why this feature may be important for the user

These durability features directly support sustained and long-term use:

Reliability in diverse settings

- Busy environments where there can be high risk of accidents (home, school, work). Durable enough indoors and outdoors so that the device remains functional—supporting consistent communication.

Reduced repair anxiety

- Users and caregivers are less likely to worry about damage, encouraging regular use.

Increased independence

- Durable design means fewer interruptions and less reliance on technical support.

Enhanced user confidence

- Knowing the device can handle daily wear builds trust and encourages engagement.

Long-term investment:

- The combination of robust build quality and comprehensive warranty demonstrates that the device is designed for durability, supporting sustained use with minimal wear and reduced risk of breakage.

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Access Options

Specifics

- Keyguards are available for all TD Snap page sets as well as custom keyguards for non-TD AAC apps.
- The unique keyguard system allows for keyguards to be well secured to the device, yet quickly able to be moved out of the way for editing.
- The devices provide 2 x wired switch ports allowing switch users to utilise switch scanning access options
- The device can be accessed using a range of alternative access options connected via Bluetooth or the USB-C port, including a head mouse, joystick, or controller.



Why this feature may be important for the user

Personalised Access = Increased Usability

Users can interact with the device in a way that suits their motor, sensory, and cognitive profiles. This flexibility:

- Improves comfort and efficiency, making communication more intuitive.
- Reduces frustration, a common cause of device rejection.
- Supports evolving needs, allowing users to transition between access methods as their abilities change over time.

Supports Participation Across Contexts

Whether at home, school, or in the community, users can rely on their preferred access method. For example:

- A user might use touch at home but switch scanning at school.
- Keyguards can be tailored to specific page sets or motor needs, ensuring accuracy and reducing errors in high-demand environments.

This adaptability promotes consistent use, a key factor in long-term success.

Reduces Technical Barriers for Communication Partners

Features like guided access and secure keyguards simplify the experience for families and support staff, reducing the risk of accidental settings changes or app exits. This:

- Builds confidence among communication partners.
- Encourages more frequent and effective modelling, which is essential for AAC learning and retention.

Future-Proofing and Sustainability

The ability to integrate new access tools (e.g., headmouse, joystick) via USB-C or Bluetooth ensures that the device remains relevant and usable even as user needs evolve. This future-proofing:

- Extends the device's lifespan.
- Reduces the need for replacement, supporting sustainable use and better return on investment.

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Robust Vocabulary

Specifics

- TD Snap is included as a perpetual license (no monthly subscription)
 - TD Snap: symbol and text based pageset options
 - Core First
 - Motor Plan
 - Express
 - Aphasia
 - Text
 - PODD (included in Australia)
- TD Talk: Text based

Why this feature may be important for the user

Robust and Flexible

- TD Snap is considered robust in vocabulary because it offers a comprehensive, flexible, and customisable communication system designed to support users across all stages of language development.

Multiple Page Sets

- Includes Core First (and High Contrast), Motor Plan, PODD, Express, Text, Scanning, and Aphasia – each tailored to specific communication styles and needs.
- The Motor Plan page set ensures each word has a unique and consistent location, helping users build muscle memory for faster access. The Vocabulary Filter allows therapists or caregivers to control which words are visible, making it easier to focus on specific targets during therapy or gradually expand vocabulary
- Words are organized so they can be found in three selections or less, reducing cognitive load and increasing speed

Languages

- TD Snap supports a wide range of languages, including bilingual page sets (e.g., Spanish/English), making it accessible to diverse users.

Supports Progression

- Users can transition from symbol-based communication to text-based as their literacy skills grow.
- This flexibility supports long-term language development and independence.

Personalisation

- Every page set includes space for personalisation, allowing users to add names, interests, and context-specific vocabulary.
- This empowers users to express themselves authentically and adapt the system to their evolving needs.

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Distance Communication

Specifics

iOS Shortcuts

- iMessage – Create shortcuts to:
 - Send a predefined message to a contact.
 - Open the Messages app directly.
- Email Apps – Shortcuts to:
 - Compose an email with recipient and subject pre-filled.
 - Open Mail app for quick access.
- Social Media Apps – Shortcuts to:
 - Open Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp, or other social platforms instantly.

TD Snap AccessIT Integration

TD Navio supports Tobii Dynavox's *AccessIT* accessory, which is a small USB device that plugs into a Windows computer and allows the user to control the computer using TD Snap via Bluetooth. It translates AAC selections into standard computer functions such as keystrokes, mouse movements, and clicks.

- Access IT -Web Browser
 - Access email and social media accounts via a web browser.
- Access IT- Gmail
 - Access Gmail from TD Snap Access IT Gmail page to send emails
- Access IT WhatsApp
 - Access WhatsApp from the TD Snap Access IT WhatsApp page for messages and calls.

Share Message Window Text

- Use TD Snap's Share feature to:
 - Share to Apps: Share directly to iMessage, social media apps, or email apps from TD Snap.

Why this feature may be important for the user

Promotes Social Connection and Participation

- Enables users to maintain relationships and participate in conversations with family, friends, and peers, reducing isolation and supporting emotional wellbeing.

Supports Independence and Autonomy

- Provides direct access to calls, messaging, and social media through eye gaze or alternative access methods, allowing users to initiate and manage communication without relying on others.

Enhances Safety and Wellbeing

- Reliable access to phone and messaging tools ensures users can request help, share urgent information and stay connected in critical situations.

Consistency Across Environments

- Allows communication at home, school, work and in the community using familiar platforms, supporting participation in everyday life.

Skill development and Progression

- Supports growth from early face-to-face communication using symbols or simple messages to advanced tasks such as composing and sending text messages or emails.
- Flexible tools adapt as the user's skills, needs, and preferences change.
- Promotes independence and confidence by enabling progression from basic communication to complex social and functional exchanges, ensuring the device remains relevant throughout life stages.

Alternative Access

- Offers multiple alternative access methods (e.g., switch scanning, head tracking, touch, and eye gaze) to ensure users with physical or motor challenges can independently engage in distance communication.
- Customisable settings allow each user to select the most efficient and comfortable access method, supporting autonomy.

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Computer Access and Recreation

Specifics

TD Snap AccessIT Integration

- Compatible with Tobii Dynavox's *AccessIT* accessory, a small USB device that plugs into a Windows computer and allows the user to use standard computer functions such as keystrokes, mouse movements, and clicks via Bluetooth.

iOS Shortcuts:

- Provides quick access to frequently used apps and automates actions from within TD Snap. Through iOS Shortcuts, the user can:
 - **Play Music or Videos**
Shortcuts can launch Spotify or YouTube playlists for leisure.
 - **Open Entertainment Apps**
Quick access to games or streaming services via TD Snap buttons.
 - **Open Camera for Photos or Video**
Quick access for capturing moments

TD Snap – Boardmaker Player

- Access to a range of interactive activities that support both recreational engagement and the development of access method skills for symbol-based communicators.
- The content is highly customisable, enabling therapists and support teams to design activities that reflect the user's interests, goals, and current developmental and access skill level.

Why this feature may be important for the user

Facilitates Enjoyment and Motivation

Access to recreational activities—such as browsing the internet, watching videos, and playing games—can significantly boost enjoyment and motivation. This encourages users to engage with the device regularly, making it a familiar and positive part of their daily routine.

Meets a Range of Personal Needs

TD Navio allows users to seamlessly switch between communication, productivity, and leisure applications. This versatility supports personal, educational, and professional goals while promoting social connection and independence. By meeting diverse needs across environments, the device fosters consistent and meaningful use.

Supports Skill Development

Interactive recreational activities provide opportunities for errorless learning, which helps users practise and refine their access method skills in a low-pressure, motivating context. This reduces the cognitive load often associated with communication tasks, making skill acquisition more engaging and sustainable.

Enhances Access and Independence

TD Navio supports a variety of alternative access methods—such as touch, switch scanning, and head tracking—ensuring that users with complex physical needs can independently navigate both communication and recreational activities. This flexibility empowers users to control their device without relying on others, increasing autonomy and confidence across daily routines.

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Mounting and Positioning

Specifics

- Kick Stand and carry strap included
- Ability to mount when mount plate is added on. This is compatible with Rehadapt, Daessy, and other industry-standard mounting systems.

Why this feature may be important for the user

- **Stable Access Across Environments**
The strong, adjustable kickstand provides stability on flat surfaces, making it easy to use in various environments such as school, home, or therapy sessions.
- **Enhanced Portability**
The included carry strap makes it easy to transport and use the device across settings, increasing the likelihood of consistent use.
- **Optimal Positioning for Comfort and Access**
Proper positioning ensures the device is within reach, reducing fatigue and frustration. Ease of access contributes to increased use and improved communication outcomes.
- **Supports Engagement and Communication**
When users are comfortable and supported, they can focus on communication rather than struggling with posture or device handling. This increases engagement and promotes long-term success of the device.

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Technical Support and Warranty

Specifics

- Tobii Dynavox dedicated devices, including the TD I-Series, come with a full 5-year care package, including coverage against accidental damage. This minimises ongoing costs and provides certainty that the client will have a reliable long-term solution.
- The devices arrive ready to set up, minimising the amount of setup time required.
- The devices are set up under a Tobii Dynavox MDM system, which allows them to be reset and apps reinstalled, minimising the risk of users being locked out of the device.
- Direct company presence in Australia and an accredited repair centre in Australia allows for faster access to repairs and support.

Why this feature may be important for the user

5-Year Warranty

- Minimises financial risk for families and organisations by covering repair or replacement costs for five years.
- Ensures continuity of use, as devices can be repaired or replaced without significant delays or unexpected expenses.
- Encourages adoption by reducing concerns about long-term viability and maintenance costs.

Faster Turnaround

Having an authorised repair and service centre in Australia means:

- Quicker repair times, reducing the duration a user is without their communication device.
- Less disruption to communication routines, which is critical for users who rely on AAC for daily interaction.
- Increased trust in the device's reliability and the provider's commitment to local support.

Ongoing Assistance

Technical support is available via phone, email, and online booking through the Adelaide Head Office. This includes:

- Device setup and troubleshooting for both trial and purchased devices.
- Support throughout the full warranty period, ensuring users and support teams are never left without help.

Flexible access to support via multiple channels, including scheduled sessions that allow for better preparation and efficiency.

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Clinical Support

Specifics

- Each TD I-Series device includes a 1-hour remote setup session with a clinical team member.
- This session provides personalised assistance to set up the device to meet the user's individual communication and access needs.
- Clinical team members can share relevant resources, training, and implementation materials to ensure both the user and their therapist can confidently use and maintain the device.
- Tobii Dynavox provides a wealth of training materials through:
 - The Learning Hub, which offers curated content for communication partners and professionals.
 - MyTobiiDynavox professional accounts, enabling therapists to access software, customise pagesets, and prepare for trials.
 - On-device guides and training cards, ensuring users and carers can access help even offline

Why this feature may be important for the user

Efficient Setup

- The initial setup session ensures the device is set up and ready to use as soon as the user is ready, reducing delays in access to communication and any technical barriers. Early support helps users and teams feel confident and prepared, encouraging immediate engagement with the device. Access to training materials and guides from the start promotes smoother onboarding and skill development.

This early support:

- **Builds confidence** in using and supporting the device.
- **Promotes consistent use** by reducing the learning curve.
- **Enables proactive troubleshooting**, reducing frustration and increasing ongoing functional use of the device.

Increased Independence

- Clinical support empowers users and their teams to confidently operate and maintain the device, reducing reliance on external technical assistance.
- Access to training and implementation resources enables users to troubleshoot and adapt the device independently, supporting autonomy in communication.

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Companion License

Specifics

- The TD I – Series comes with two companion licences for TD Snap®, allowing the software to be installed on additional devices such as a family member’s iPad or a therapist’s tablet. These licences are part of the broader Tobii Dynavox ecosystem and are designed to extend access to communication tools beyond the primary AAC device.

Why this feature may be important for the user

Consistency Across Environments

- By allowing TD Snap to be installed on multiple devices, users can access the same communication tools at home, school, and in therapy. This consistency reinforces learning and reduces confusion, which is critical for users who rely on routine and predictability.

Enhanced Support from Communication Partners

- Family members, educators, and therapists can install the same software on their own devices. This enables them to model language, customise vocabulary, and provide real-time support, which is essential for successful AAC implementation and user engagement.

Ease of Programming and Customisation

- Professionals can use companion licences to pre-program and personalise vocabulary sets without needing the primary device in hand. This reduces downtime and ensures the device is always ready for the user, increasing the likelihood of sustained use.

Empowerment and Confidence

- When communication partners are equipped with the same tools, they are more confident and proactive in supporting the user. This collaborative environment fosters a sense of shared ownership and reduces the likelihood of the device being underutilised, leading to long term success.

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Hardware Design

Specifics

Built-in iOS communication system that does not resemble a recreational device such as a tablet or iPad because of the design of the outer case and speakers. The tablet cannot be removed from the case.

Why this feature may be important for the user

Visual and Functional Identity as a Communication Aid

- The integrated protective case and built-in speakers give the device a distinct, professional appearance that clearly communicates its purpose as an AAC device.
- This helps reduce the stigma often associated with using a “toy-like” or recreational device, especially for older users or those in educational or workplace settings.

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