

Point-and-Chat® Quick Installation Guide

installing from the Internet or the latest CD

Point-and-Chat software consists of three separate software programs from Point-and-Read, Inc. They all work together with each other, and together with a separate software program from Saltillo Corporation named “DesktopChat.” The latest version of DesktopChat is called TouchChat (Windows® Editor). This is what you need to know about them.

DesktopChat is not included in this download. It is not included in the latest Point-and-Chat CD. DesktopChat is a separate program from Saltillo Corporation that can be used with Point-and-Chat. However, you do not need DesktopChat to run Point-and-Chat.

TouchChat (Windows® Editor) is not included in this download. It is not included in the latest Point-and-Chat CD. TouchChat (Windows® Editor) is a separate program from Saltillo Corporation that can be used with Point-and-Chat. However, you do not need TouchChat (Windows® Editor) to run Point-and-Chat. You can purchase TouchChat (Windows® Editor) from Saltillo’s e-store at www.silver-kite.com in the software section.

Point-and-Chat consists of three separate software programs: instant messaging (IM), twitter (Twitter), and email (Mail). All three programs run only on Windows computers (XP, Vista, or Windows 7). The three programs can each run independently (meaning you don’t have to download or install all three). The three programs complement each other, and share some helper programs. However, they must be downloaded and installed separately and one at a time.

Some people have indicated an interest in installing and learning only the Mail program. However we encourage learning IM first, then Twitter, and then Mail for a number of reasons. First, IM is perhaps the best place to start because it is most like the face-to-face conversations with which non-writers are comfortable. Second, email (Mail) has a cognitive load (number of commands and file structure) that may be daunting to many. It is at least twice as complicated as either IM or Twitter. Third, Twitter uses almost the same interface as IM, but has a Direct Messaging feature that is very similar to email but without the file structure or additional commands.

Point-and-Chat can automatically read incoming messages out loud, using the computer’s text-to-speech capabilities. You can create outgoing messages using either DesktopChat,

TouchChat, or your computer's keyboard. You can also create them using other AAC software and some stand-alone AAC devices that are programmed to send messages to the computer.

*If you already have DesktopChat or TouchChat on your computer, Point-and-Chat will find it. You do ***not*** have to install it again. But you may want to update it.*

*If you are ***only*** going to use your computer keyboard or a stand-alone AAC device to create text messages, you do ***not*** have to install the DesktopChat or TouchChat software.*

If you are currently using another stand-alone AAC device, it may be probably easier to have that AAC device control Point-and-Chat than to learn a whole new vocabulary file that will work with DesktopChat or TouchChat.

Installing a Point-and-Chat program on your computer from the latest CD:

Because there are three programs you have to do this with each program.

1. Insert the CD labeled "Point-and-Read" into your computer's CD-Rom drive. Wait a minute or two. If a box pops up that allows you to explore the folders in the drive, double-click on the explore folders option (otherwise exit that popup box). Otherwise, click on Start > My Computer. Then double-click the icon of your CD-Rom drive. The CD has a folder for each Point-and-Chat program: IM, Twitter, and Mail.

2. To install a program, double-click on its folder. Inside that folder, find the file named setup.exe. Run the setup program by double-clicking on it.

3. The installation program is InstallShield by Macrovision. Follow the wizard for each of the programs that are selected to be installed. They will appear automatically in sequence. You may have to wait a few seconds in between wizards.

4. Different versions of the software may offer different options. The installation wizard may ask if you want to install an AOL program and later choose an AOL option. We recommend that if you are just new to Point-and-Chat, do not do so now. **Make sure that they are *not* checked.** You can always install them later. *If you are a beginning user, do ***not*** check the AIM or AOL Start Page option.*

5. A message box will appear, either telling you that the setup was completed successfully, or that there were problems. You may now click the Finish button.

6. Print out the Point-and-Chat help files. The Point-and-Chat website includes help files that you may find useful to print out, especially if you are just learning Point-and-Chat. You can find

these help files at www.simtalk.com/PnC/UserGuide. Each of the three programs has its own User Guide.

- A. The file with a name like “Quick Reference Guide” includes basic information you need to set up Point-and-Chat after you have installed it. It also includes basic information on using Point-and-Chat (and using DesktopChat with it, if you so desire). The text in this file can be accessed directly from Point-and-Chat when it is running, by selecting the Help menu at the top of the Point-and-Chat window, then selecting “User’s Guide” from the drop-down list.
- B. For the IM software only, the Quick Reference Guide on the Internet includes a table of Standard Button and Keyboard Commands. This table includes pictures of all the icons used on Point-and-Chat IM buttons, tells what commands those buttons trigger, and explains which alternative keyboard commands do the same thing. (This table cannot be accessed directly from Point-and-Chat.)

7. To use Point-and-Chat IM, you first need an AOL Instant Message screen name. You can get a free one at www.aim.com . To use Point-and-Chat Twitter, you first need a Twitter account and name. You can get a free one at twitter.com . To use Point-and-Chat Mail, you first need an email account.

Installing a Point-and-Chat program on your computer from the Internet:

Because there are three programs you have to do this with each program.

1. For each program, follow the Download instructions at www.simtalk.com/PnC/FreeTrial.
2. The Download instructions will help you begin the installation process.

Steps 3 through 7 are the same as installing from the latest CD, as detailed above.

Having Point-and-Chat on a computer controlled by a nearby stand-alone AAC device:

1. We have created detailed instructions for using several AAC devices to control Point-and-Chat IM. We call these “integration kits”. When completed and tested, Integration Kits will be posted online at <http://www.simtalk.com/PnC/integration>. These instructions may help you use these AAC devices to control other Point-and-Chat programs as well.

2. Print out the Instructions for using the Integration Kit. The Point-and-Chat website includes one or more files for use with each Integration Kit that you may find useful to print out, especially if you are just learning to use Point-and-Chat with the stand-alone AAC device.

Activating Point-and-Chat on your computer:

Activation from Free Trial. If you installed Point-and-Chat from a 30 Day Free Trial download, you are allowed to use the software for free for 30 days. After that, you must purchase a license to use the software, or it will stop working. (You do not need a new disk.) You can purchase a license by clicking the menu heading Help > Purchase/Activate, and following the instructions on the web site. Alternatively, if you wait until the license expires, a popup box will appear when you try to log in. You can click the hyperlink on that box and follow the instructions on the web site. Alternatively, you can also visit the activation web site at www.simtalk.com/PnC/activation.

To share this purchased license with another installation, you must run Point-and-Chat and go to the Help menu. Go to menu item labeled “About Point-and-Chat”. A window will pop up. Click on the “Share License to Another Installation” button and write down the share code. Then install Point-and-Chat on the new computer and run it. Then go to Help menu item labeled “About Point-and-Chat” and click on the “Share License From Another Installation”. Then enter the share code where directed and click “OK”. You may have to do this with each of the three programs.

You may share the license among up to 3 computers. In order to share it with still another computer you must un-install Point-and-Chat from one of the first 3.

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