

Frequently Used Icons in Technology

Part II

Why are icons important in technology use?

In technology use, icons are symbols or graphic representations that carry out a specific action. Learning the purposes of different icons is beneficial because most icons carry the same purpose across different websites or apps on your device (smartphone, tablet, laptop).

This handout includes some of the most frequently used icons in technology. This handout will also include icons that have design variations. Each page includes a different icon, its purpose, and examples from a variety of different apps, websites, and programs.

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Icons

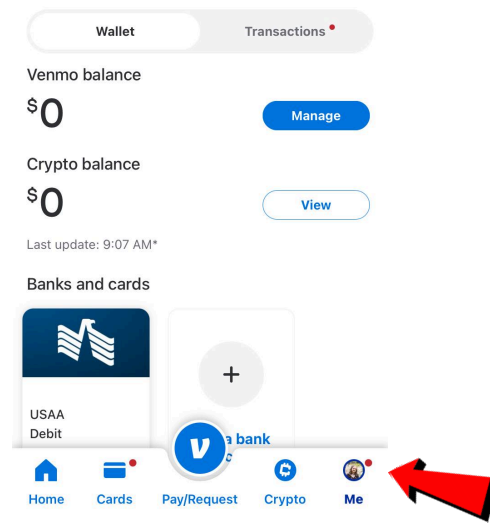
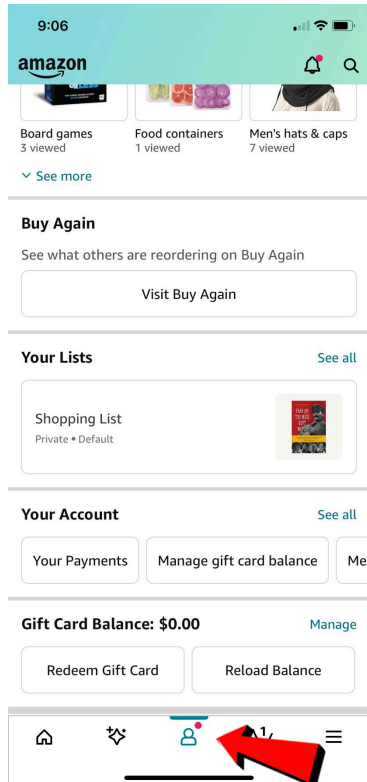
Profile: To view settings and information associated with the user's account. Sometimes, apps and websites may use a profile picture in place of the profile icon.



Examples

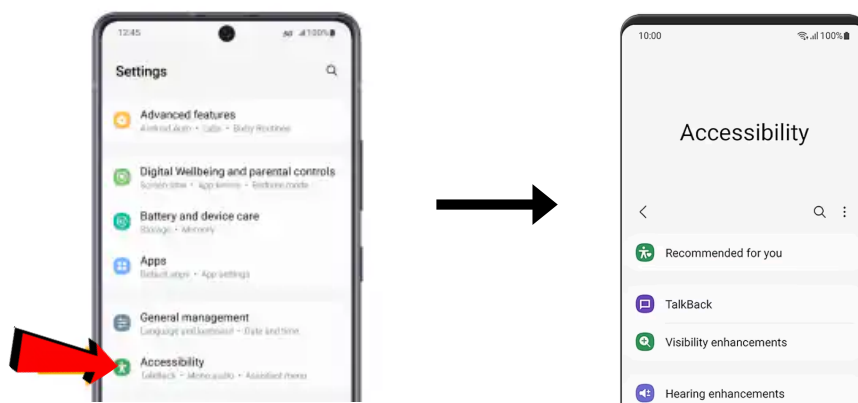
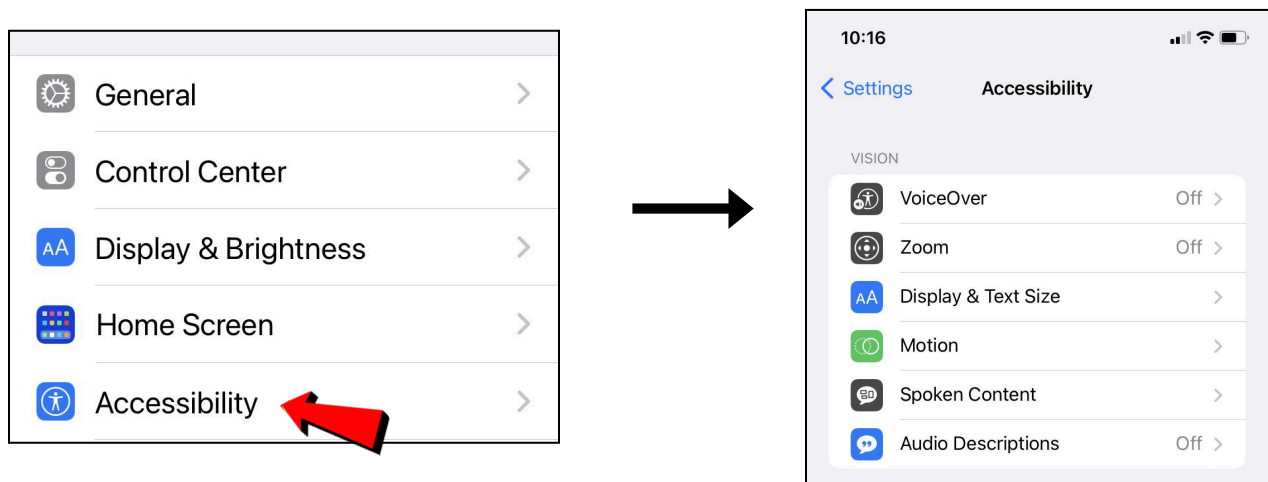
Venmo app: Tapping on the profile picture will allow the user to view how much money they have in the Venmo app, add a credit or debit card, and view past transactions (pictured right).

Amazon app: Tapping on the profile icon will allow the user to view their past purchases, gift card balance, and payment methods.



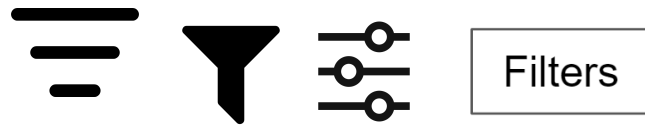
Icons

Accessibility: To view options that can modify how the device appears and functions. Accessibility options often include increasing the text size, keyboard size, connecting hearing devices, text reader and more.

*Examples***Settings app (Samsung)****Settings app (iPhone/iPad)**

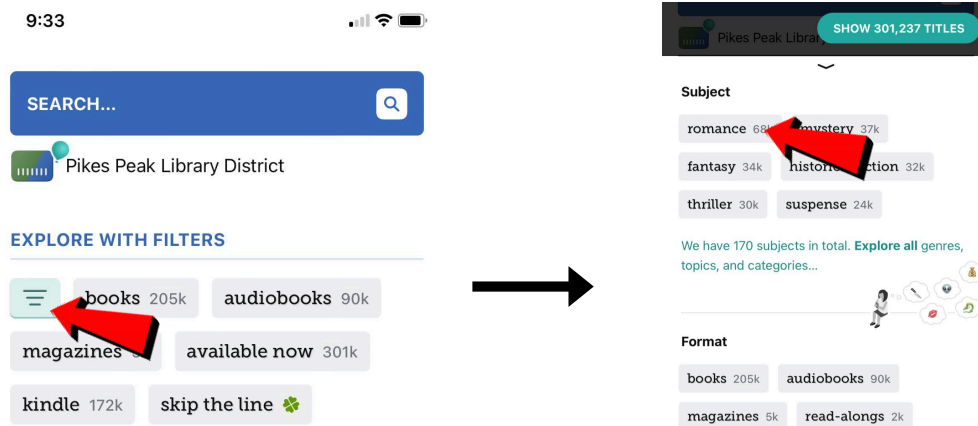
Icons

Filter: To increase the specificity of content generated when searching for something.

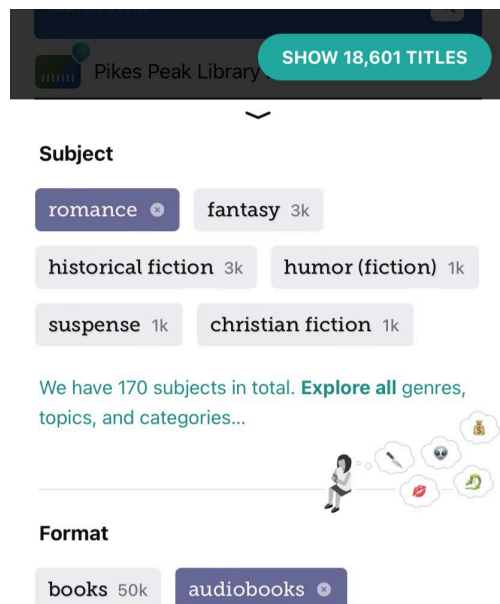


Examples

Libby app: Tapping on the filter icon will allow the user to sort by genre, availability, and audience.



Each filter box contains written text of a category that can be tapped on to refine your search. Notice the number of book titles decreases when more filters are selected.

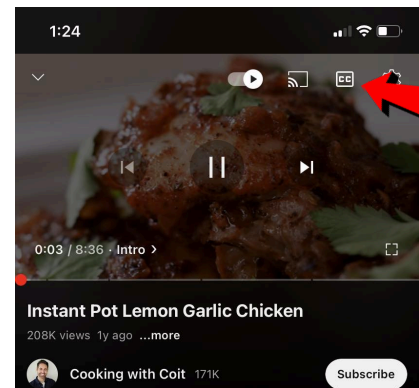


Icons

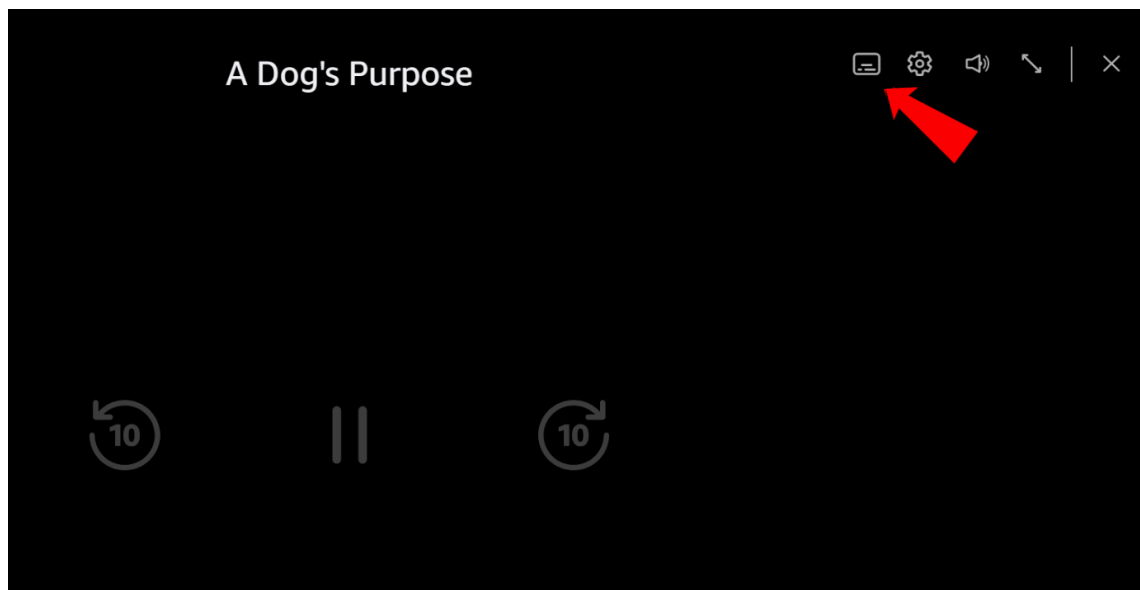
Subtitles / Closed captioning: To add subtitles to a video

*Examples*

YouTube app: Tapping on [CC] on YouTube may generate captions using machine learning or artificial intelligence. Some YouTube captions were added manually by the video creator (pictured right).



Prime Video website: Tapping on subtitles will start to generate captions and will also allow the user to change the language the captions are in.

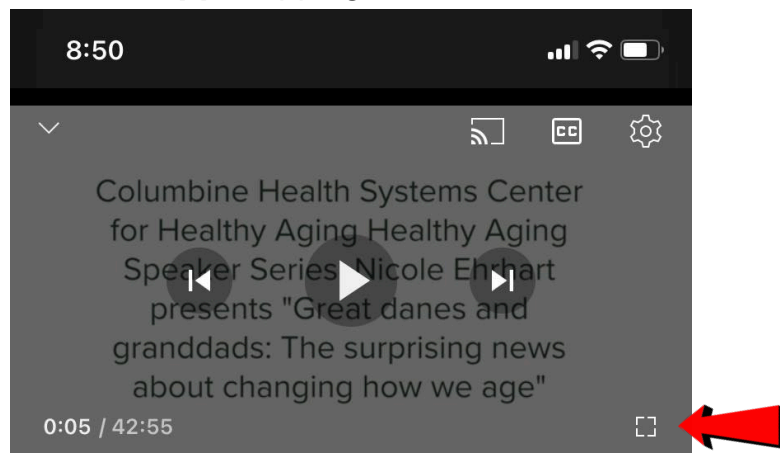


Icons

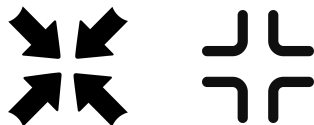
Full screen: To enlarge the size of the video to take up the entire screen.

*Example*

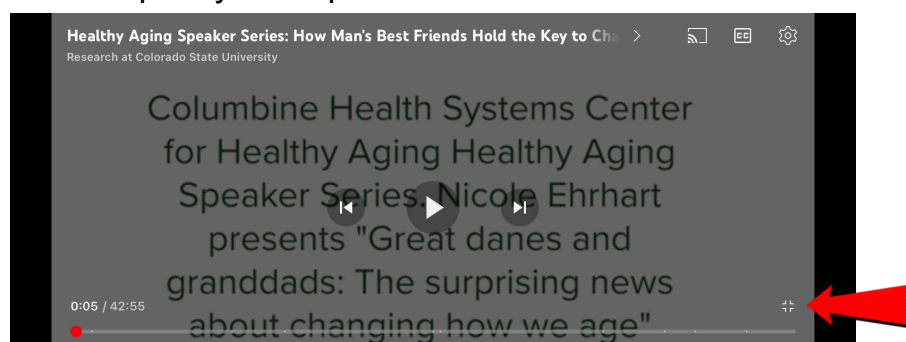
YouTube app: Tapping on the full screen icon will rotate the video horizontally



Exit full screen: To reduce the size of the video to take up only a portion of the screen.

*Example*

YouTube app: Tapping on the exit full screen icon will rotate the video vertically to take up only the top third of the screen

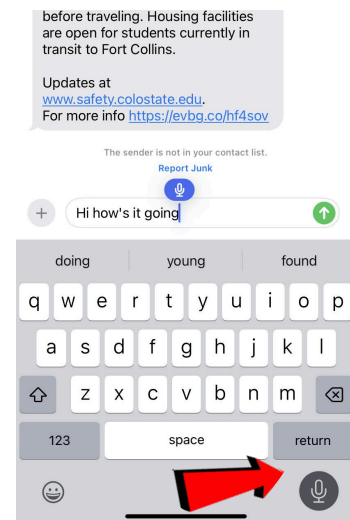


Icons

Microphone: To generate text by talking out loud

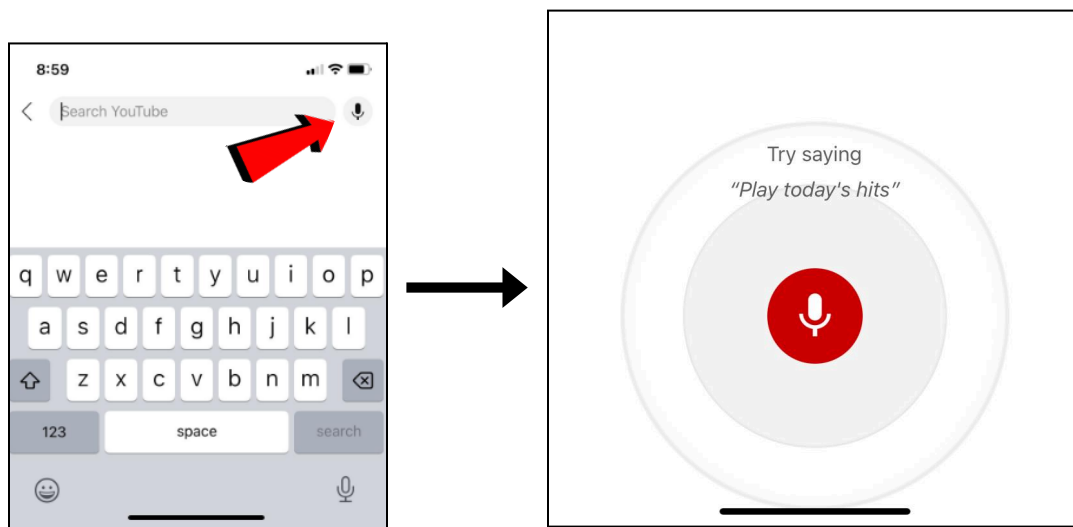
*Examples*

Keyboard: Tapping the microphone icon will allow the user to talk to generate text on any app. Most brands of smartphones and tablets have a microphone for the speech to text function.



YouTube app: Tapping on the microphone will allow the user to talk out loud to search for a video.

Notice the microphone app is located on the search bar. Most search bars across different apps usually have a microphone located on the search bar.



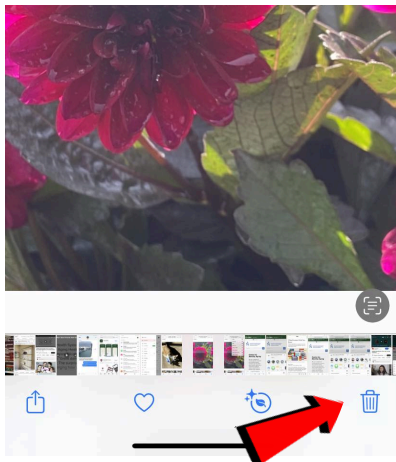
Icons

Trash: To delete a digital file such as a picture, document, audio recording, or app.



Examples

Photos app on iPhone: Tapping on the trash icon will delete the picture



Amazon app: Tapping on the trash icon will remove the item from my cart or potential purchases.

