

VOX

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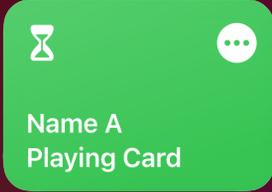
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SHORTCUTS APP:

You will first need to make sure you have the **Shortcuts** app installed on your iPhone. You most likely do as it has come pre-installed since iOS 13. If not, it can be download here: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/shortcuts/id915249334>

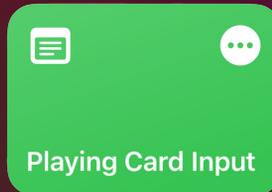
Below are the various Shortcuts that will be used across the variety of versions of VOX. It is recommended that you watch the tutorial video before installing any Shortcuts. Once you have settled on your preferred handling, then install the required Shortcuts for that version.



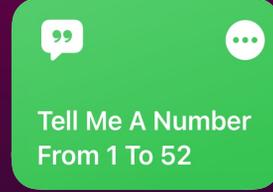
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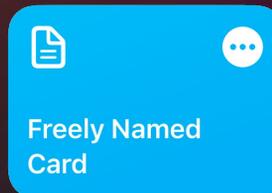
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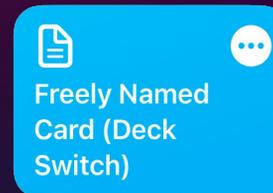
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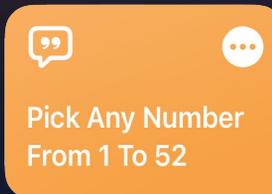
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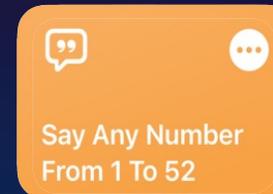
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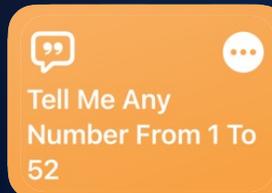
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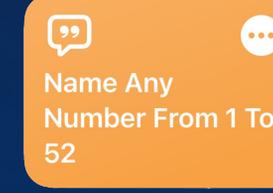
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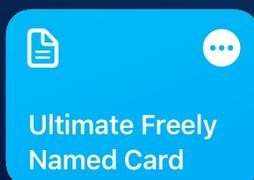
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SUMMARY OF SHORTCUTS USED IN EACH VERSION:

TIMER VERSION

Three green shortcut cards for the Timer Version:

- Hourglass icon: Name A Playing Card
- List icon: Playing Card Input
- Speech bubbles icon: Tell Me A Number From 1 To 52

BACK TAP VERSION

Three green shortcut cards for the Back Tap Version:

- Hand icon: Name Any Playing Card
- List icon: Playing Card Input
- Speech bubbles icon: Tell Me A Number From 1 To 52

FREELY NAMED CARD VERSION

Four shortcut cards for the Freely Named Card Version, with an "OR" separator:

- Blue card with document icon: Freely Named Card
- Green card with speech bubbles icon: Tell Me A Number From 1 To 52
- OR
- Blue card with document icon: Freely Named Card (Deck Switch)
- Green card with speech bubbles icon: Tell Me A Number From 1 To 52

STAGE VERSION

Five shortcut cards for the Stage Version, with an "OR" separator:

- Hourglass icon: Name A Playing Card
- List icon: Playing Card Input
- Speech bubbles icon: Tell Me A Number From 1 To 52
- OR
- Blue card with document icon: Freely Named Card
- Green card with speech bubbles icon: Tell Me A Number From 1 To 52

SIMPLE VERSION

Two shortcut cards for the Simple Version:

- Green card with hand icon: Name Any Playing Card
- Orange card with speech bubbles icon: Name Any Number From 1 To 52

ULTIMATE VERSION

Five shortcut cards for the Ultimate Version, with an "OR" separator:

- Green card with hand icon: Name Any Playing Card
- Orange card with speech bubbles icon: Pick Any Number From 1 To 52
- Orange card with speech bubbles icon: Name Any Number From 1 To 52
- Orange card with speech bubbles icon: Tell Me Any Number From 1 To 52
- Orange card with speech bubbles icon: Say Any Number From 1 To 52

OR

- Blue card with document icon: Ultimate Freely Named Card

SHORTCUTS SETUP:

- Some of the Shortcuts will require you to check or modify a few things to function correctly. Go into your Shortcuts app and find the ones you have just installed.
- For the **“Name A Playing Card”** Shortcut, please tap the **3 Dots** in the upper right of the Shortcut to open the editing interface. Scroll all the way down to the very bottom of the commands and you will hopefully see **“Run: Playing Card Input”**. If so, you are all set – that is what we want to see! However if you see **“Run: Input Test”** instead, then click on **Input Test** and select the **“Playing Card Input”** Shortcut, then hit **“Done”** in the upper right which saves the edit.
- Activate Siri and speak **“Name A Playing Card”**, which will trigger that Shortcut to run. In the first run through, you will receive pop-ups asking for permissions to allow the Shortcuts to copy to the clipboard and for permission to open another Shortcut. Each time you are prompted, tap **“Allow”** and proceed (there will be 3 or so pop-ups). The Shortcuts app will remember your responses and it will not prompt you again. You may need to tap **“Allow”** if prompted the first time you run some of the other Shortcuts as well. The good news is this is only a one-time set up, it wont ask for permissions again.

APPLE WATCH USERS:

- Since we are triggering the Shortcuts verbally, your Apple Watch can hear the command and try to activate the Shortcut itself, and in turn cause some unwanted pop up error notifications on your wrist. To avoid this, we need to make sure the Shortcuts do not activate on your Apple Watch, and there are TWO options to prevent this:
 - Activate Siri by only long pressing the power button (not saying **“Hey Siri”**) in performance. This will not activate the Shortcuts on the Watch.
 - Open the Apple Watch App on your iPhone, select **Siri**, then toggle off **“Listen for “Hey Siri”**. Now when you say **“Hey Siri”**, only your iPhone will run the Shortcut.

IPHONE 14 USERS:

- Dynamic Island will display the Shortcut icon to indicate a Shortcut is being run, which is not desirable. Thankfully, there are a few ways to resolve this:
 - Performing the effect from your Lock Screen disables Dynamic Island when Face ID is activated. Look at your device to unlock it via Face ID, but do not swipe up and stay on the Lock Screen. Activate Siri and trigger the Shortcut verbally to begin the effect - Dynamic Island will be disabled!
 - Hold the phone near the top of the device and cover the icon with your thumb.
 - Select your Shortcut and tap the **3 dots** to edit it, then touch the **down arrow** after the Shortcut name and select **Choose Icon** from the menu. You can change the icon to a **microphone** so it will appear to be related to Siri to your audience.

IMPORTANT POINTS & TROUBLESHOOTING:

- It is strongly recommended that you turn on Do Not Disturb mode to silence notifications when you perform as these could interfere with the Shortcuts' actions.
- Make sure your phone is not muted and that Siri's volume is turned up high so your audience can hear her clearly. There is actually a separate volume setting just for Siri – when she is mid-sentence, press the volume up side button to raise her volume level. If you prefer, you can also go to **Settings**, then **Accessibility**, tap **Siri** and turn select **Prefer Spoken Responses** – this always makes Siri speak, even if Silent Mode is on.
- If using the Timer version, do not tap on the screen to close Siri – it ends the Shortcut!
- Don't be afraid to make any edits to these Shortcuts as you play around with them. If something gets screwed up, you can delete the Shortcut and download it again.

ESSENTIAL VOICE RECOGNITION TIPS:

- It is crucial that you confirm that Siri is properly understanding your verbal commands accurately, and in turn, is launching the necessary Shortcuts. Test this by going to **Settings**, then **Siri & Search**, touch **Siri Responses** & toggle on **Always Show Speech**.
- Next, activate Siri and speak each Shortcut name (aside from "**Playing Card Input**" and "**Freely Selected Card**" which are never launched via voice command) to confirm that she is transcribing you correctly (and triggering the necessary Shortcut in response).
 - When asking Siri to name a number from 1 to 52 via the various Shortcuts, if she pulls up the calculator at the top of the screen, the Shortcut did NOT register and she answered the question for real. You will know the Shortcut ran if she responded "*The Answer is XX.*" at the bottom of the screen.
 - When asking Siri any of the name a playing card Shortcut commands – if she does not respond with "*OK... It's the [value] of [suit]*", then the Shortcut did not register.
- In the event a Shortcut is not activating, try the following actions to resolve this:
 - Help Siri learn your voice by going to **Settings**, then tap **Siri & Search** and toggle on **Listen for Hey Siri** until it asks you to say a few prompts to analyze your voice.
 - If the problematic Shortcut contains numbers (e.g. "**Name Any Number From 1 To 52**"), the phone may be transcribing the number in text form. To resolve this, **long press** on the affected Shortcut until the menu pops up and tap "**Duplicate**". Now **long press** the new copied Shortcut, then hit **Rename** and change the name to "... One to 52" instead of the initial "... 1 to 52". You will now have two versions of the same Shortcut, the only difference being the spelling of the numbers in the title. Now no matter how your voice is transcribed, one of these Shortcuts will run!
 - If none of the above works, try renaming the Shortcut to a similar command.

THE DECK STACK:

Now that you have your phone set up, it's time to grab a deck of cards and arrange it in to **Mnemonic** stack (see below). Depending on the handling you prefer from the tutorial video, you may want to use a marked deck, but this also works with a standard deck as well.



FREELY NAMED CARD SHORTCUT SETUP:

This particular Shortcut requires a minimal additional setup as in performance, it will need to be launched manually from the Home Screen without the use of Siri. This means we will be adding this Shortcut to your Home Screen and disguising it so it doesn't raise suspicion.

Head into your **Shortcuts App** and long press on the "**Freely Named Card**" Shortcut until the pop up menu appears. Press **Share**, then choose **Add To Home Screen**. Under "Home Screen Name And Icon", select the text and rename the Shortcut to something generic that you might see on a Home Screen and not call attention to itself (I personally rename it "To-Do List"). Now press **Add** in the upper right corner.

SAMPLE SCRIPT:

"I often get asked who I think the best mentalist is, and the truth is... it's Siri. I know that sounds a bit crazy, but I'll try to show you why. This deck has been shuffled into a random order [do any false shuffles and cuts if you like], but in a moment you are going to randomize it even further. So you're going to cut the deck as much as you like and I want you to keep in mind that every time you cut the pack, you change the position of every single card in the deck. [Demonstrate this, then hand the deck to the participant]. So take the cards, start cutting them and I will NEVER touch them again."

"As you are doing that, I'm going to ask Siri to "Name A Playing Card". Siri responds "OK, it's the Five of Hearts". So if you were to give the pack another cut, the Five of Hearts would then be at a completely different position. Its up to you, are you satisfied or do you want to cut it again?"

[Once they are satisfied, note the key card, then tilt the phone screen towards yourself to access the card input menu. You will need to avoid burying your face in your phone as you make the inputs as this would raise way too much suspicion. Instead, rehearse making the inputs as you naturally converse with your participant. Here is how I achieve that...]

"OK. So that card is lost somewhere in the deck at a position nobody can know. But that's where the phone comes in..."

[As I say "that's where the phone comes in", it provides a natural justification to look at the phone briefly enough to enter the Value of the card. In this case, since it's a Five, I know in advance that I will be tapping towards the middle of the screen before I even glance at the phone. To that end, if it were an Ace or Two, I know I will have to tap near the top of the screen - higher value cards will be towards the bottom. Picture cards require a minimal scroll down, which can be done before I deliver that line without looking at the phone. Knowing in advance where the location of the input will be on the screen makes the tap quicker and easier.]

"Because Siri is not human - she's an advanced AI capable of things we cannot even imagine. It's crazy to think that we carry such a powerful tool right here inside our pocket every day."

[As I say "right here", I glance at my phone and input the Suit. This scripting motivates this action and feels very natural and conversational in performance.]

"So now we will ask Siri... "Tell me a number from 1 to 52". [She responds "The answer is 12"]. Alright, go ahead and deal down to the 12th card in the deck.

[When they get to the card before the number named (in this case 11) I interrupt and tell them to stop dealing.]

"OK, stop there. You cut the pack anywhere you wanted many times. I even gave you a choice to cut it one final time - had you done that, this 12th card would be different. But that's what you decided... we're looking for the Five of Hearts, with any luck, please turn that card over."

[This presentation and framing helps re-enforce that it was their actions that made the effect possible. They feel empowered, rather than thinking that the phone did a trick for them.]

VOX DISCUSSION GROUP:

Please join the VOX Users Facebook Group, where the VOX community will share further ideas, tips, performances, updates, etc.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/voxusers>

SHORTCUTS USER GUIDE:

Apple has put together a comprehensive guide on Shortcuts on their website. I encourage you to read through it if you plan on exploring what else can be done with this amazing tool.

<https://support.apple.com/en-gb/guide/shortcuts/welcome/ios>

Thank you so much for supporting this project - I truly appreciate it and I cannot wait to hear your thoughts. I hope you will love performing this as much as I do! I would also like to thank my team of Beta testers for their help with QA, troubleshooting and contributing some great ideas. I also have to give a special shoutout to Andrew Neiner for his massive help behind the scenes. Lastly, I'm incredibly grateful to everyone on the Murphy's team for their exceptional work and support in helping to bring this project to fruition.

David Jonathan

December, 2022