Tips for Making Print More Readable for Someone with Vision Loss

Most people can easily enlarge the font size is to make print easier to read for someone with vision loss. But, this is not the only thing you can do. For higher readability, follow the following eight steps:

1. The smallest font size you should use is 16-point. However, some people won’t be able to read even that size. We recommend 20- or 24-point may be preferred. This document is in 24-point font.

2. Use sans serif fonts, such as Arial or Helvetica. If can also use APH font, but this must be downloaded to your computer (available online through www.aph.org).

3. Avoid using all caps. Most people find it easier to distinguish letters when they are upper and lower case.
4. Use bold type.

5. Increase the spacing between lines. The most recommended spacing is 1.5. This document is set at 1.15. This setting can be found in the Paragraph settings.

6. Limit the use of italics and underlining.

7. Only use simple graphics with high contrast and use them sparingly.

8. If printing for a group, use black font. If possible, check with the intended audience to determine preference. Some people will prefer light type on dark background.