BlindShell Lite User Guide

BlindShell Lite is a fully vocalized phone for visually impaired and blind users. The main features of the phone are its simplicity and its physical keyboard, by which the phone can be fully controlled.

Getting started

Package content

- BlindShell Lite phone
- Battery - the flat-shaped rectangular object. It has a notch on its bottom edge.
- USB charger - one side of the charger goes into a wall socket, the other side has a USB connector for the USB cable. Input 110V~240V, 50Hz~60Hz, output DC 5V.
- USB cable - one side of the cable plugs into the USB charger, other side of the charger plugs into the phone's USB slot.
- Earphones - one side of the earphones has a jack connector which plugs into the phone, the other side has two earbuds.

Phone's description

Front side of the phone

Upper part of the phone is occupied by a LCD screen - a smooth area covering about half of the front side of the phone. The notch right above the LCD screen is an earpiece, which is used as speaker during phone calls. Below the LCD screen is a keypad.

LCD screen - displays information in large font with high contrast. Keypad - controls the phone; used for inputting text and numbers. Earpiece - used as a speaker during phone calls.

Rear side of the phone

A round indentation in the middle of the upper part of the phone is an SOS emergency button. On the right hand side of the SOS emergency button is a grill, covering the loudspeaker.

SOS emergency button - used in emergency situations to call a previously assigned emergency contact. Speaker grill - used for voice and audio output.

Edges of the phone

Upper edge of the phone is occupied by a USB slot and audio jack connector. The bottom edge of the phone hosts a microphone. Opening slit for the back cover is placed in the left bottom corner of the phone (When the rear side of the phone is facing upwards).

Audio jack - earphones plugs into this connector. USB connector - used for charging the phone. Microphone - used as voice input during a phone call. Opening slit - used for taking the back cover off the phone.

Taking off the back cover

On your new BlindShell Lite phone the back cover is loosely attached to the phone. There is a paper insole protruding from the base of the phone, which will help you with taking the back cover off for the first time; you can dispose of the paper insole afterwards. If you need to remove the back cover in the future, hook your fingernail into the opening slit located on the bottom right edge of the phone and pull the back cover away from the device until you hear clicks. Move your finger around the phone through the little gap that has now appeared between the phone and its cover and remove the back cover completely. Ensure that all the clips around the edge are fully engaged when refitting the back cover.

Inserting a SIM card

To insert a SIM card into the phone first take off the phone's back cover. Afterwards position the phone in front of you in a way, that the screen and keypad of the phone are facing downwards. A rectangular hollow space which is a housing for a battery should now be in front of you. The phone's SIM card slot is located in the bottom right corner of this hollow space. To the left of the SIM card slot there is an indented space. Put the SIM card in this space such, that the SIM card contacts are facing downwards, and its bevelled edge is its upper right corner. Push on the SIM card lightly with a tip of your finger and carefully slide it all the way to the right.

Removing a SIM card

To remove a SIM card from a SIM card slot place a tip of your finger on the edge of the SIM card, push down on it and slide your finger with the SIM card to the left.

Inserting and removing a battery

To insert the battery first locate a notch on the edge of the battery. Position the battery in such way, that this notch is pointing towards you and is facing upwards. Slide the battery from top to the bottom into the battery housing, it should fit snugly. To remove the battery use your fingernail to hook it from the top and pull upwards.

Switching on the phone

To switch on the phone, press and hold the power button, until the phone vibrates.The power button is the second button from the top on the right side of the phone's keypad. After a while a start-up melody will be played. The phone will be ready to be used once it starts speaking. If your SIM card is protected by a PIN code, you will have to input the PIN code every time you switch on the phone. Registration to the mobile network may take up to a minute after the phone is switched on.

Controlling the phone

Volume buttons

The two topmost buttons located on the sides of the phone control the volume of the voice feedback. Pressing the left volume button will decrease the volume. Pressing the right volume button will increase the volume.

Control buttons

Control buttons are the two buttons below the volume buttons. The one on the left

side is a confirm or a dial a button, the one on the right side is a back or a cancel button.

- long pressing the cancel button will take you to the main screen of the phone.

Directional pad

Upper part of the keypad, in the middle, is occupied by a directional pad. The directional pad has a button in each cardinal direction (up, right, down, and left) and an extra button in the middle. The middle button is a confirm button. When the phone is locked, pressing the middle button will tell you current time.

The directional keys are used for navigation in menus. The down button will get you to the next item in a menu. The up button will get you to the previous item in a menu. The menu movement buttons can be changed to left and right buttons in the settings of the phone.

When inputting text the function of the directional pad changes and includes all four directional keys.

- Left and right buttons are used to move back and forward in the text.
- Long pressing the left and right buttons will move the cursor to the beginning or the end of the text.
- Up button changes the mode of movement in the text (by word or by character).
- Down button will read back the input text, long pressing the down button will spell the input text.

Numeric keypad

Layout of the numeric keypad is identical to layouts which were used in older button phones. There are four rows of three buttons each. First row contains buttons one, two, and three. Second row contains buttons four, five, and six. Third row contains buttons seven, eight, and nine. Last, fourth row, contains buttons asterisk (star), zero, and hash (number sign).

- Pressing any of the number buttons from a menu will bring up a dialing screen with the input number.
- Long-pressing any number from a menu will initiate a phone call via the quick dial function to a previously assigned contact.
- Long pressing the asterisk key (bottom left key) locks the screen of the phone (modes of locking the screen can be set in the settings of the phone).
- Long pressing the hash key (bottom right key) changes sound profile of the phone.

Using the keypad to input text

In an input mode the numeric keypad buttons are used to input text, numbers, and special characters. Each button, except the hash button, which changes capitalization of the letters, contains a group of characters. You can cycle through the group of characters by pressing the respective button multiple times. For example: button two contains characters A,B,C, and number 2. To enter the letter B – press the button twice. To enter the number 2 – press the button four times.

- Button one contains punctuation and special characters.

- The asterisk button contains the rest of the special characters.
- Button zero contains number 0, space and a newline character.
- The hash button changes the capitalization of the letters, and switches between numeric and alphanumeric keyboard.
- Long pressing a key will input a number.
- The cancel button erases a single character.
- Long pressing the cancel button erases all the input text.

SOS emergency button

SOS emergency button is located on the rear side of the phone. Pressing the button for at least 3 seconds will initiate an emergency call to a previously assigned contact. This outgoing call has to be confirmed by the confirm button. Emergency call can be initiated even when the phone is locked.

If no contact is assigned to the SOS emergency button, then long pressing the button will bring up a menu for assigning a contact to it.

During a phone call

- During a phone call you can use the numeric key to input numbers.
- Pressing the confirm button will switch the sound output from the earpiece to the loudspeaker of the phone.
- Volume buttons changes volume of the phone call.

BlindShell Functions

This section of the user guide describes each item in the menu and its function.

Main screen

The main screen of the phone contains all the important information about the status of the phone. All the information are read back to you every time you land on the main screen. To interrupt the voice feedback short press the cancel button.

- Time and date - shown in the middle of the screen.
- Battery level - shown in the upper right corner of the screen.
- Unread messages - shown in the bottom right corner of the screen. Absence of the icon indicates no new messages.
- Missed calls - shown in the bottom left corner of the screen. Absence of the icon indicates no new messages.
- Signal strength - shown it the upper left corner of the screen.
- Phone carrier - show above the information about time.

To access the features of the phone from the main screen press either the confirm button, or the back or forward keys on the directional pad.

Call

The call menu item allows you to make calls to contacts from your contact list or directly to phone numbers. In the call menu you can also check your call history - incoming, outgoing, rejected, and missed calls.

Dial contact

Selecting the dial contact menu item will produce a list of contacts. To find the contact you want to call move in the list by pressing the back and forward keys on the D-pad. Alternatively you can use the find function to locate the contact faster (this is especially useful for contact lists containing a lot of entries). The find menu item is the last item in the list and you can get to it quickly by moving backwards in the menu by one item when being on the first contact in the list. Another alternative to speed up going through the contact list is typing a letter on the keypad. This will move you to the first contact, whose name is starting with that letter. Afterwards you can move in the list normally. After finding the contact you want to dial press the confirm button and select dial to initiate a call.

Dial number

Selecting the dial number menu item will produce a dialing screen. You can now type the phone number you want to call. After typing the number press the confirm button to initiate the call.

Call history

Menu item call history contains all incoming and outgoing calls and their details. Selecting an entry by pressing the confirm button will bring up a menu with following options:

- Dial - to call the contact/number.
- Write SMS - to send a message to the contact/number.
- Length of the call - to check the length of the call.
- Save as a new contact - in case the phone number is not saved in your contact list already, you can save it to it by selecting this option.
- Add to contact - in case the phone number is not saved in your contact list already, you can add it to an existing contact.
- Delete from history - delete the call from the call history.
- Delete all history - to erase every single call in the call history list.

Messages

The messages menu item allows you to write messages to contacts from your contact list or directly to a phone number. You can also check your past conversations - your incoming and outgoing messages.

Write SMS to contact

Selecting the write SMS to contact will bring up a list of your contacts. You can move in the list the same way you move in your contact list. After finding the contact you want to send message to, select it by the confirm button. Write the text of the message and send it by pressing the confirm button and confirming the dialog message.

Write SMS to number

Selecting the write SMS to contact will bring up a dial pad. Once you input a number and confirm it a text input field will be brought up. Write the text of the message and send it by pressing the confirm button and confirming the dialog message.

Conversations

The conversations menu item contains all incoming and outgoing messages, which are grouped under a corresponding contact or phone number. Selecting a specific contact or a phone number will bring up a list of all messages belonging to that contact or a phone number. You can navigate through those messages to read them. If you select a single message, following options will be presented:

- Reply - write a message and send it to the contact by pressing the confirm button.
- Forward - forward the message to another contact or a phone number. (The message can be edited before forwarding)
- Call - dial the contact or the phone number.
- Save as a new contact - in case the phone number is not saved in your contact list already, you can save it to it by selecting this option.
- Add to a contact - in case the phone number is not saved in your contact list already, you can add it to an existing contact.
- Delete - deletes the message.
- Delete conversation - delete all incoming and outgoing messages corresponding to the contact or the phone number.

Contacts

The contacts menu item allows you to access, edit, and add contacts. You can also assign contacts to speed dial buttons.

Contacts list

Contacts list contains all your contacts from the phone's memory and your SIM card. You can move in the list of contacts by entries. Alternatively you can use the find function to locate the contact faster (this is especially useful for contact lists containing a lot of entries). The find menu item is the last item in the list and you can get to it quickly by moving backwards in the menu by one item when being on the first contact in the list. Another alternative to speed up going through the contact list is typing a letter on the keypad. This will move you to the first contact, whose name is starting with that letter. Afterwards you can move in the list normally.

When you select a contact following options will be presented:

- Dial - dials the contact.
- Write SMS - opens a text input field which content, after being confirmed, will be sent to the contact.
- Edit contact - edit name, surname, phone numbers, or a postal address of the contact.
- Assign ringtone - opens a list of possible assignable melodies. Selecting one will assign it to the contact. This melody will be played during an incoming call from that contact.
- Send contact as a business card - opens a menu to select either a contact or a phone number, to which you want to send the original contact.
- Delete contact - deletes the contact. This action requires a confirmation.

SIM card contacts

Contacts stored on your SIM cards are displayed in the contact list. If you delete such contact, it will be also deleted from your SIM card (with the exception of

persistent service contacts). When you edit a SIM card contact it will be saved as a new contact to the phone and the original one will be removed from the SIM cards.

Add new contact

New contact can be added to the contact list through the add new contact menu item. You can store following information about the contact - first name, surname, mobile number, home number, work number, other number, or a postal address. When all the desired fields are filled, you can save the contact by selecting the save contact menu item.

Single button dialing

Single button dialing, or a speed-dialing, is used for easy and quick dialing of up to 11 selected contacts. You can dial them from the main menu by long pressing a number, to which a contact or number is assigned, and confirming the choice by the confirm button. SOS emergency contact is assigned in this menu as well.

List of the currently in use numbers and contacts assigned to the speed dial can be found in the single button dialing menu item. Each item in the menu will announce the currently assigned contact or phone number, or whether there is anything assigned at all.

- Unassigned - the number does not have a quick dial assigned. By selecting this item you can assign a phone number or a contact to it.
- Assigned - there is a contact or phone number assigned to the quick dial number. You can either remove it, or change it to another contact or phone number.

Sort contacts

This menu item allows you to change the display order and sort order of contacts in the contacts list. You can chose to display the contacts either with first name first or with surname first.

Tools

The tools menu item contains these applications:

- Alarm
- Minute timer
- Stopwatch
- Calculator
- Notes
- Calendar

Alarm

The alarm application , allows you to utilize multiple alarms at once. For each of those alarms you can set time, and days of a week on which the alarm should go off. To dismiss an active alarm press either the confirm button or the back button.

Creating an alarm
To create a new alarm select the menu item new alarm.

- Set time - accepts 4 digits as a time. The first pair of digits represents hours and the second pair of digits represents minutes.
- Set repeating - governs the days of the week on which the alarm will go off. If you do not select any day the alarm will go off daily. Otherwise the alarm will ring only on the selected days.
- Save alarm - saves the alarm and activates it.

Editing an alarm

After selecting a previously created alarm you can activate/deactivate the alarm and change the alarm settings. An inactive alarm will be still stored in the phone, but it will not go off on its set time. The change alarm menu item contains following options:

- Set time - changes the time of an alarm.
- Set repeating - sets the days on which the alarm will go off.
- Save alarm - saves the changes to the alarm (to discard the changes press the back button).

Minute timer

The minute timer is a basic countdown which plays a notification melody after a specified amount of time. It runs on a background, so you do not need to have the screen with the countdown timer active. To dismiss the countdown alarm press either the confirm button or the back button.

Setting the countdown time and activating the countdown

You can only set a countdown time when timer is not active (neither running or paused).

- Selecting the timer will show activate and set time options.
- The activate option will start the countdown with currently set time.
- Selecting set time option will produce menu to set minutes and seconds of the countdown.
- After minutes and seconds are input, the save menu item will store the information to the timer.

Activating, pausing, and canceling the countdown
- Select the Activate menu item to start a countdown.
- While the countdown is active, you can either pause it (the timer will freeze on its current time) or cancel it (the timer will reset to its initial time).
- While the timer is paused, you can either resume it (the timer will continue counting down from its current time) or cancel it (the timer will reset to its initial time).

Stopwatch

Stopwatch allows you to measure elapsed time. The time is counted from zero by seconds until the stopwatch is paused, stopped, or nulled. Stopwatch can run on the background, so the phone can be used while stopwatch is on.

Starting resuming and zeroing the stopwatch
- Start stopwatch - starts measuring the time from zero. You can stop the stopwatch by pressing confirmation button. Pressing the confirmation button again will bring up a menu with following options:

- Resume stopwatch - resumes the stopwatch from the time where it was stopped.
- Restart stopwatch - starts running the stopwatch from zero.
- Zero stopwatch - resets the stopwatch and sets the time to zero.

Calculator

Calculator allows you to perform basic arithmetic operations - addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. You can enter an arbitrary long expression with as many numbers and operators as you want. Once the confirm button is pressed the result of the expression is presented. The result of the previous expression can be used in the next expression as the first number, if after pressing the confirm button you continue with a mathematical operator. The mathematical operators are stored under the asterisk button and the decimal point is stored under the hash button.

Notes

The notes application allows you to take written notes.

- To create a new note select the add note menu item, write the content of the note, and save it by pressing the confirm button.
- To access the created notes select the notes list menu item.

If you select a note in the list of the created notes, you will be able to perform following actions:

- Edit - opens the note for editing.
- Send via SMS - opens a dialog to select a contact or enter a phone number, to which the note will be sent.
- Delete - deletes the note.
- Delete all - deletes every single note in the list.

Calendar

Calendar is simple application which allows you to check what days of the week are on certain dates. To browse the calendar first select the Year and month of that year, afterwards you can move within a month by days.

Settings

This section of the main menu allows you to customize behavior of the phone.

Sounds

This section contains various settings of the sounds and voice output of the phone.

Profiles

Allows you to set the sound profile used for incoming calls and messages. Alternatively you can access this setting by long pressing the hash button from any menu.

- Normal - Sounds and vibrations will be used for incoming calls and messages.
- Vibration - Only vibrations will be used for incoming calls and messages.
- Silent - No sound or vibration will be used for incoming calls and messages.

Volume

This menu item allows you to set the volume levels for alarm, incoming calls and notifications, and feedback sounds.

Melodies

This menu item allows you to set a melody for incoming calls, notifications, and alarms.

Feedback

Allows you to set methods which the phone uses to provide you with feedback (other than the speech output). You can select to be provided only with sounds. Those are beeps and sounds, which are played when moving through a menu, writing a text, or locking the phone. Other possible provided feedback are vibrations, which are used in the same circumstances as the beeps and sounds. You can also choose to be provided with both types of feedback at the same time.

Voice output

This menu item allows you to set the speech rate of the phone's voice, the voice's variant, and the level of intonation. You can try various combinations of those to find out which fits you the best.

- Speech rate - sets the speed of the voice feedback.
- Voice variant - allows you to choose from different variants of the voice.
- Level of intonation - You can select an intonation of the voice feedback.

Display

This section contains settings regarding displaying information on the device screen and the screen timeout.

Brightness setting

This menu item allows you to set the level of brightness of the screen, the screen can also be turned off entirely.

Color scheme

This option allows you to select from four different colour schemes, first colour denotes the colour of the text and the second colour denotes the background colour. There are following options:

- White on black
- Black on white
- White on blue
- Black on yellow

Text size

This option allows you to enlarge the font used in the menus. Be aware that this will break the word wrapping and thus a single word might be stretched over multiple lines.

Time and date

Time and date are usually automatically set from the network, when SIM card is inserted in the phone. However the time and date can be also set manually.

- To enter a custom time and date first disable the automatic time and date setting. This option might not be displayed, when date and time were not able to be obtained from the network.
- Set time menu item accepts 4 digits as a time. The first pair of digits represents hours and the second pair of digits represents minutes.
- To set date first select the set date menu item, afterwards enter day, month, year, and select the save date menu item.
- You can always revert back to the time and date from the network by selecting the enable automatic time and date menu item.

Keypad lock

Selecting this menu item enables or disables the possibility to lock the phone using the asterisk key. The keypad lock is mainly intended for prevention of unwanted presses of the phone's keys.

- When the keypad lock is set to automatic or manual, the phone can be locked and switched to a sleep mode by long pressing the asterisk key. The phone will be also automatically locked after one minute of inactivity. To unlock the phone long press the asterisk key.
- When the keypad lock is set to manual, the phone can be locked and switched to a sleep mode by long pressing the asterisk key. But it will not be locked automatically after one minute of inactivity. To unlock the phone long press the asterisk key.
- When the keypad lock is disabled, the phone will also automatically switch to the sleep mode after one minute, but the keyboard won't automatically lock. To wake the phone up, press any key. This key will only wake the phone and will not be interpreted by the phone in other way.

Menu navigation

Menu navigation enables you to change the style of navigation in the menus. Default navigation is set to the Up and Down buttons on the directional pad. This can be changed to the Left and Right buttons.

PIN Code

In this menu item you can enable or disable the PIN code of your SIM card. You need to enter the PIN code each time you change this setting.

Changing PIN Code

It is possible to change the PIN code of your SIM card. When the PIN code is enabled select the PIN enabled menu item and afterwards the Change PIN code menu item. To change the PIN code, you need to enter the PIN code first, afterwards you will be requested to enter the new PIN code twice, for confirmation.

PUK Code

If you enter the PIN code incorrectly 3 times, the phone will be locked and it will require you to enter a PUK code. Once you enter a correct PUK code your PIN code will be reset to 1234.

About phone

This menu section offers you technical details about your phone such as the software version or an IMEI number. There is also an option to restart the phone into

the Service menu, which can be used to perform advanced operations, like backup or factory reset of the phone.

Turn off the phone

By selecting this menu option the phone will be switched off after a confirmation.

Technical specification

- Mobile networks frequency bands:
    - GSM: 900/1800/1900MHz
    - WCDMA: 2100MHz
- CPU: Dual core 1.2GHz
- Memory:
    - RAM: 512MB
    - Internal storage: 4GB
- Screen: 2.8 inch QVGA TFT colour screen
- SIM card: micro SIM card
- Battery: 1800mAh
- SOS emergency button

This product is CE marked and fully complies with all applicable EU legislation.

At the end of the product's life you can return it to the supplier or manufacturer for free of charge disposal. This is to comply with 'The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive' (WEEE).

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