

# explorē 8 (HC128)

Thank you for purchasing from RNIB. In the unlikely event the item is unsuitable, please contact us within 14 days of receipt to obtain your returns number. To ensure your return goes smoothly, the item and all components must be in as new condition and packed in its original, undamaged packaging. For further details and guidance on returning faulty items, please see the Terms and conditions of sale and How to contact RNIB sections of this instruction manual.

Please retain these instructions for future reference. These instructions are also available in other formats.

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## Special warning

Carefully read the operating and safety instructions described in this user guide prior to using your device. Please see the Appendix sections.

## General description

Thank you for purchasing the HumanWare explorē 8, the light and easy to use portable electronic handheld magnifier with a large, easy to read 8” screen. With your explorē 8, you’ll be reading those fine prints in a matter of seconds.

Being magnifier users ourselves, we at HumanWare know that in addition to the best available image quality, a good magnifier needs to be simple, portable, comfortable to use, and should always be ready when you need it, where you need it. Your explorē 8 was designed with just that in mind, for we take great pride in offering you a quality product that will meet both your needs and expectations.

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### Items included with the explorē 8:

* explorē 8 magnifier
* USB charger
* USB cable
* HDMI cable
* protective case
* LCD protector
* microfiber cloth
* user guide
* product registration card
* warranty card.

## Orientation

**Front face**

Turn the explorē 8 so the screen is facing yourself, there are three tactile buttons at the bottom of the screen: Zoom Out, Contrast and Zoom In respectively.

**Left side**

From the left of the side of the magnifier from left to right there is a round Power button, HDMI slot and USB charging slot.

**Top edge**

On the top edge on the right-hand corner, there is a Freeze button.

**Back side**

At the back of the explorē 8 are two LED lights towards the top, with the camera directly in the middle underneath. The stand is midway down covering the length of the explorē 8. The rounded edge at the bottom of the magnifier, adjoining to the screen is the hinge on which the stand rotates outwards.

## Getting started

* Connect the USB cable to the USB charger.
* Hold explorē 8 so that the screen side is facing you. Make sure the tactile USB symbol on the cable’s USB connector is on the opposite side of the screen. Carefully connect the cable to the USB port located on the left side of your device and plug the charger into an outlet.
* **Important:** Use caution while inserting the cable into the USB port. The cable will only insert one way up.
* Let your device recharge until your battery is full. The device will become warmer during the charge – this is normal.
* Once the device is fully charged, carefully disconnect the cable.

Press **Power** or unfold the reading stand to start using the device.

## Using the product

### Powering on

To start your magnifier, simply press the **Power** button on the left side of the device. The device can then be held by the sides, just like you would hold a tablet.

Alternatively, you can turn on your device by simply unfolding the reading stand behind the device and placing it over what you wish to read.

After a few seconds, the explorē 8 screen will turn on and display the image from the camera. This is the magnifier mode.

### Powering off

To turn off your device, simply press **Power**.

### Magnifier Mode

Magnifier mode is explorē 8’s main mode of operation. With the stand closed, you will be able to magnify distant objects. With the stand open, you will be able to magnify close objects or documents on a table.

### Zooming In and Out

To zoom in, simply press or press and hold the Zoom In button, **Zoom+**,until the image is of the appropriate size. Similarly, you can zoom out by pressing or pressing and holding the Zoom Out button, **Zoom-,** until you are satisfied with the image size.

Alternatively, you can enable the touch screen **pinch and zoom** gesture (decrease and increase the distance between two fingers), from the menu to zoom in and out of a live image. See the Menu section for more information.

### Changing Contrast

explorē 8 allows you to customise the contrast to better suit your needs and preferences. Simply press the **Contrast** button to change contrast, until you find one you are comfortable with.

The available contrast modes are listed below:

* full colour
* black on white
* white on black
* black on yellow
* yellow on black.

Other contrast modes are also available from the Menu (see the Menu section for more information.

### Turning off and on the lights

Press and hold **Zoom+** and **Zoom-** simultaneously to turn off the lights if necessary, and to turn them back on.

### Lines and blinds

With the explorē 8 you can add a horizontal line or blinds over your image for easier reading.

* To add or remove a line, press and hold **Contrast** and **Zoom+** simultaneously.
* To add or remove blinds, press and hold **Contrast** and **Zoom-** simultaneously.

### Autofocus

explorē 8 features an autofocus that can be set to **locked** or **unlocked** from the menu (see the Menu section).

When autofocus is set to **unlocked** (by default), explorē 8 will dynamically adjust its focus to the object currently being viewed.

When autofocus is set to **locked**, or you are using your magnifier in table top position, explorē 8 will maintain its current focus regardless of any movements or changes.

### Navigating on a frozen image

To zoom in on still images, simply press or press and hold **Zoom+** until the image is of the appropriate size. Similarly, you can zoom out by pressing or pressing and holding **Zoom-** until you are satisfied with the image size.

Alternatively, you can enable the touch screen **pinch and zoom** gesture (decrease and increase the distance between two fingers), from the menu to zoom in and out of a frozen image (see the Menu section).

To move around a frozen image, hold your finger down on the screen and slide it across the screen.

As for a live image, press **Contrast** to change contrast until you find one you are comfortable with.

### Gallery mode

To save a live or frozen image to your Gallery, simply press and hold **Freeze** for a half-second while in Magnifier mode. You should see a Save message displayed briefly on your screen, meaning your image is now saved inside explorē 8’s Gallery.

Alternatively, you can enable the touch screen **tap and hold** gesture (keep your finger down on the screen) from the menu to save an image in the Gallery (see the Menu section).

### Accessing the Gallery

To access your images in the Gallery, press **Contrast** and **Freeze** simultaneously. Swipe your finger left or right on the screen to select an image. You can also press the arrows on the screen to select an image.

You can zoom in and out of saved images by pressing or pressing and holding **Zoom+** and **Zoom-**. Alternatively, you can enable the touch screen **pinch and zoom** gesture (decrease and increase the distance between two fingers) from the menu to zoom in and out of a saved image (see the Menu section).

To exit the Gallery and return to Magnifier mode, press **Back** (on the screen)or press and hold the **Contrast** button.

### Deleting images from Gallery

To delete an image from the Gallery, access the Gallery and navigate to the image you wish to delete (by swiping your finger left or right on the screen or using the arrow buttons), then press and hold **Freeze**.

Alternatively, you can enable the **tap and hold** gesture (keep your finger down on the screen) from the menu to delete an image (see the Menu section).

You will have the option to Delete or Cancel. Press Delete to confirm deletion. To cancel deletion, press Cancel or **Contrast**.

You can delete all your images at once from the menu (see the Menu section). Press and hold **Contrast** and select **Delete Gallery**.

### Using an external screen

For a larger image, you may want explorē 8’s content to be displayed on an external screen, like a TV. To do so, simply connect your explorē 8 to an external screen using the included HDMI cable. Please refer to Appendix B for a list of supported HDMI formats.

## Exporting images to a computer

To export Gallery images saved on explorē 8 to your computer, connect your device to your computer with the USB cable provided. You should see a “PC connected” message appear on your device. You can now copy and paste the images from your Gallery to your computer using your computer’s file browser.

When connected to a personal computer, the device will act exactly like a USB thumb drive or an external drive. Gallery images are located in the Images folder on your explorē 8.

**Important:** When you are copying or deleting images from the device, never disconnect the USB cable as some images could be lost in the process.

## Menu

### Accessing the Menu and changing settings

Press and hold **Contrast** to enter the menu. You can navigate the menu by swiping up or down with your finger on the screen, pressing the up and down arrows on the screen, or pressing **Zoom+** to scroll up and **Zoom-** to scroll down.

To select an item, press on it. To go back to the previous menu, press **Contrast** or **Back**. Press **Contrast** again to return to Magnifier mode. To quickly exit the menu, press and hold **Contrast** or **Back**.

The menu contains the following items.

#### Gallery

Access Gallery images.

#### Autofocus

Unlocked (default setting),locked (locked in stand mode).

#### Screen brightness

Change the screen’s brightness level from one to nine. Eight is the default setting.

#### Touchscreen

Submenu, and tap to enable gestures and vibrations.

Submenu options are:

* **pinch and zoom** (decrease/increase distance between two fingers to zoom in and out),
* **vibrations**
* **tap and hold** (hold finger down in Magnifier mode to save image to Gallery).

#### Auto-off

Choose how long the device stays on: one minute, two minutes, five minutes (default setting) and 10 minutes.

#### Preferred zoom

Change the default zoom level when you open your device:previous - the zoom level you were at when you closed your device or 2x to 22x. 2x is the default setting.

#### Contrast

Contrast submenu options:

* **Preferred contrast** (select contrast in which your explorē 8 starts up), previous (last used contrast), Colour or enabled contrasts.
* **Menu** (change menu colours): Black on white, white on black, black on yellow, yellow on black, black on orange, orange on black, black on cyan, cyan on black, black on purple, purple on black, black on green, green on black, blue on yellow, yellow on blue, white on blue and blue on white.
* **Enabled contrasts** (select enabled colour pairs for magnifier mode): black on white, white on black, black on yellow, yellow on black, black on orange, orange on black, black on cyan, cyan on black, black on purple, purple on black, black on green, green on black, blue on yellow, yellow on blue, white on blue and blue on white.

#### Lines and blinds

Line, blinds or none (default setting).

#### Lights

On (default setting), low or off.

#### Menu Text Size

Small, medium (default setting) or large.

#### Language

English US (default setting), English UK, French (CA), French (FR), Spanish (US), Spanish (ES), German, Dutch, Danish Polish, Portuguese (PT), Portuguese (BR), Norwegian, Italian, Swedish, Finnish, Russian, Czech, Japanese, Korean, Icelandic, Estonian, Turkish, Lithuanian, Hungarian, Latvian, Arabic, Chinese (Simplified) and Chinese (Traditional).

#### Display

50Hz or 60Hz (default setting).

#### Delete Gallery

Delete the full gallery.

#### Factory Defaults

Return to factory settings and defaults.

#### About

(View information about your device): Software, hardware and serial number.

## Updating your system

Go to: <http://www.humanware.com/support/explore8>

Then download the latest version of the explorē 8 software. Connect your device to your computer using the provided USB cable. Using your computer’s file explorer, paste your downloaded file directly into your explorē 8 root. When the transfer is completed, unplug your USB cable from your computer. Restart your explorē 8. Your device should automatically update itself.

## Recharging your system

**Important:** the battery becomes warm during recharging. This is normal. Do not recharge the battery near a heat source.

### To recharge the battery using a household power outlet

* Connect the USB cable to explorē 8’s USB charger. Then, carefully connect the USB cable to your device and plug the charger to an outlet.
* Let your device charge until your battery is full. It should take approximately 3.5 hours to recharge an empty device.

During the recharge process, an image of a battery with a lightning bolt icon and a percentage inside it will show momentarily when the battery starts charging, or when the device is turned on. The lightning bolt icon means your device is being charged. The number to the right represents the percentage of battery charge remaining.

Due to lower voltage, charging from the computer USB may be slower. In some cases your device may not charge at all, depending on the amount of power supplied by the computer.

The most effective way to recharge the device is to use the supplied USB cable connected to the USB charger and recharge it from a household power outlet.

Although it may lengthen the charging time, the device can be used when it is recharging.

**Please note** that if the battery is fully discharged or hasn’t been used for a very long period, there will be a delay of up to a few minutes before the device shows any activity. This is normal. Also note that like all electronic devices, your explorē 8 will become warm when in use or when being charged – this is normal.

### Battery safety precautions

* Do not disassemble or modify the battery.
* Use only the specified HumanWare charger.

There is a risk of overheating, fire or explosion if the battery is put in a fire, heated, subjected to impact, put in contact with water, or if its terminals are shorted. Use of a different charger will void the warranty.

## Troubleshooting

### explorē 8 does not power on

Press and hold **Power**. If the unit still does not turn on, your device’s battery may need recharging.

Connect the provided USB cable with the USB charger into a power outlet or just the USB cable into a running computer. If the battery was completely discharged, it may take a few minutes before the device shows any signs of activity (see section, recharging your system).

### Screen is black

If the unit is lying on a table or any flat surface, the image may be black. Lift your magnifier to see whether this is the reason why your screen is black.

If this does not solve the problem, try restarting your device.

### Image is out of focus in magnifier

Make sure Autofocus is set to Unlocked in the menu. Move the device back and forth over the document you are viewing. This will make explorē 8 re-focus on the document.

### explorē 8 shuts down after inactivity

This is a normal behaviour intended to preserve the battery. By default, explorē 8 will shut down after five minutes of inactivity. It is possible to configure the default auto-off timer to one minute, two minutes, five minutes or 10 minutes. See Auto-Off under the Menu section.

### Colours are difficult to detect

First make sure there is sufficient ambient light around you.

Choose a different colour combination by pressing **Contrast** while in magnifier mode.

### There is a lot of glare

Tilt the object you are looking at in a different direction to reduce glare. You can also try turning off the lights by pressing and holding **Zoom+** and **Zoom-** simultaneously.

### explorē 8 does not respond

Make sure explorē 8 is not connected to power via USB cable; if it is, unplug it. Press **Power** for 10 seconds. The system will shut down. Then, press **Power** for one second to turn explorē 8 back on.

### Other problems

Restore to factory defaults in the Menu section.

Press and hold **Contrast**. Scroll down to Factory Defaults and select “yes”.

## Appendix A – Safety and maintenance

* You must not stare at the LED light source located on the back side of the magnifier.
* Keep away from water or high humidity. Do not submerge.
* Power off your explorē 8 before cleaning it.
* Use only cables provided with your explorē 8.

### Battery

The explorē 8 has an internal rechargeable Li-Ion battery. The battery must be replaced by a qualified HumanWare technician.

* Do not use or leave the unit near heat source and fire. Do not store in high temperatures.
* Only use USB-compliant power supplies to charge the battery.
* Do not disassemble or modify the unit.
* Do not immerse the unit in water, do not allow it to get wet.
* Do not strike or throw the unit.
* Do not pierce or strike the unit with sharp objects or a hammer.
* If the battery leaks and liquid gets into the eyes, do not rub eyes. Instead, rinse the eyes with clean running water and seek immediate medical attention to prevent injury.
* If the battery leaks and comes into contact with skin, immediately rinse area with clean running water to prevent injury.

**Important:** only use the charger supplied to charge the unit. Use of a different one will void the warranty.

### Cleaning the LCD screen

* Make sure your device is off and unplugged.
* Make sure you only use microfiber cloths to clean the LCD screen like the one included with your device.
* Carefully and gently wipe the microfiber cloth across the LCD screen.
* If you choose to clean your LCD screen with a liquid cleaner, make sure this cleaner is appropriate for LCD screens. Distilled water, isopropyl alcohol and a vinegar-water solution (no more than 10% vinegar) are safe cleaning liquids for your LCD screen.
* Use only the minimal amount of liquid to prevent spills inside the device. If liquid seeps in, damages to the device might occur. Make sure no liquids remain on your screen. Repeat the previous steps for spots that are harder to remove.
* Never use household cleaners to clean your explorē 8.
* Never spray any liquid directly on your LCD screen.
* Never use cleaning products that contain ethyl alcohol, ethyl acid, ammonia, acetone or methyl chloride.
* Never use paper towel to clean your LCD screen.

## Appendix B – Specification

**Size:** 24 x 204 x 153.2 mm

**Display:** eight’’ ISP LCD

**Weight:** 580 g

**Power Input:** USB Type C connector. Five volt at three amps, nine volts at two amps or 12 volts at 1.5 amps.

**Battery life:** 4.5 hours

**Charge Time:** two hours (when device is off).

**Supported HDMI formats:**

1280x720p 60Hz, 50Hz

1920x1080p 60Hz, 50 Hz, 24Hz

1920x1080i 60Hz, 50Hz

No support of DVI emulation.

**Operating conditions:**

Temperature: 10 ˚C to 40 ˚C / 50 ˚F to 104 ˚F

Humidity: 20 per cent to 80 per cent.

**Transport and storage conditions:**

Temperature: -20 ˚C to 60 ˚C / -4 ˚F to 140 ˚F

Humidity: 10 per cent to 95 per cent.

## Appendix C – FCC Info

### FCC Statement:

This device complies with part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (one) this device may not cause harmful interference, and (two) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

### FCC Warning:

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

**Note:** This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation.

This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

* Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
* Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
* Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
* Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

**Note:** This unit was tested with shielded cables on the peripheral devices. Shielded cables must be used with the unit to ensure compliance.

## Appendix D – Warranty

HumanWare warrants explorē 8, effective from the date of purchase, to be free of any defects in material and workmanship for a period of two years unless otherwise required by law in the country or region of purchase.

This warranty is non-transferable and applies to all cases where the damage is not a result of improper use, mistreatment, or negligence. Improper use is use of this device other than described in this manual. In no event shall HumanWare or its distributors be liable for indirect or consequential damages.

Use of a different charger from the one supplied will void the warranty.

No replacement or repair covered by the warranty will be carried out unless the system is accompanied by a copy of the original bill of purchase. Please keep your original receipt. If the system should be returned, please use the original packaging.

## How to contact RNIB

Phone number: 0303 123 9999

Web address: rnib.org.uk/shop

Postal address: RNIB, Midgate House, Midgate, Peterborough, PE1 1TN, UK

Email: [helpline@rnib.org.uk](mailto:helpline@rnib.org.uk)

RNIB Technology Team:

Telephone 0207 391 2280

Email [tfl@rnib.org.uk](mailto:tfl@rnib.org.uk)

## Terms and conditions of sale

This product is guaranteed from manufacturing faults for 24 months from the date of purchase. If you have any issues with the product and you did not purchase directly from RNIB then please contact your retailer in the first instance.

For indoor use only.

For all returns and repairs contact RNIB first to get a returns authorisation number to help us deal efficiently with your product return.

You can request full terms and conditions from RNIB or view them online.

Registered Charity No. 226227

CE-logo

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).

Date: July 2018

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