

Clevertouch & interactive screens | Medium | 2 min read

Spotlight, screen shade, ruler and protractor tools

Please note: independent guidance. Vision Tech is not affiliated with the maker. Menus differ between models and software versions, so check the manual or on-screen help.

Many interactive screens include teaching tools that help you focus attention or measure things. Which tools you get depends on the software and version, so look for them in your toolbar rather than expecting a fixed list.

Where to find them

Look in the toolbar of your whiteboard app, or in a **Tools** or **More** menu. Icons are normally small pictures of the item: a circle with a dark area for spotlight, a blind for screen shade, and a ruler or set square for measuring tools. If you cannot see them, they may not be in your version.

Spotlight

A spotlight darkens most of the screen and leaves a small area bright. It is good for drawing attention to one part of a diagram or paragraph. Drag the bright area to move it. Many versions let you resize it or change its shape.

Screen shade

A shade covers part of the page, and you drag it away to reveal what is underneath bit by bit. Use it for reveal activities, such as hiding answers until pupils have had a go.

Ruler and protractor

Measuring tools appear as shapes on the page. Drag to move them, and many versions let you rotate them with two fingers. You can draw along the edge of a ruler to get a straight line. For accuracy, remember that digital tools are only as exact as your touch, so do not rely on them for measured work that needs precision.

Making the most of them

1. Prepare a page with your diagram or question.
2. Turn on the tool and test it before pupils arrive.
3. Switch it off when you are done, or it may get in the way of the next activity.

If a tool is missing

Some tools may need a different app, or a software update. They are not always in every version. If you rely on a tool for lessons, find out whether it is available before planning around it.

When to get more help

Ask IT if tools you were shown in training are missing, will not move, or leave a dark shape on the screen that you cannot remove. Mention the app you use and what you tried.

Still stuck? Email admin@visiontech336.com and tell us what you can see on the screen. Menus and button names can differ slightly between versions and makes. If something does not match, stop and ask rather than guess. Please never send passwords or card details.