

# Comcast remote lets people with physical disabilities control the TV with their eyes

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captioning.

Customers can also "type out" voice commands with their eyes to request, for example, "action movies" or a specific TV channel.

A promotional video features 30-year-old Philadelphian Jimmy Curran, a [research analyst](#) and author who has Spinal Muscular Atrophy, which is a condition that affects the part of the nervous system that controls muscle movement. He says eye-tracking means, "I don't need to depend on others to use the remote, and that is a liberating feeling. Technology is enabling me to be more independent."

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Most TV viewers take for granted the ability to change the channel from their couches with a remote control. That task may be near impossible for viewers with the most severe physical challenges.

On Monday, Comcast launches a free web-based remote on tablets and computers that lets Xfinity X1 customers with [spinal cord injuries](#), ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease) or other disabilities change channels on the TV, set recordings, launch the program guide and search for a show with their eyes.

The free X1 eye control works with whatever eye gaze hardware and software system the customer is using, as well as, "sip-and-puff" switches and other assistive technologies.

Comcast customers pair the web-based remote with their set-top box after which the person can gaze at a button to send a corresponding command to the television. Users might visit an accessibility menu with their eyes to summon voice guidance, video descriptions and closed

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