

# TECHPP How to Use the Apple Watch as a Translation Tool

## Quick and Hands-Free Translations

By [Ramesh Reddy](#) Updated on Feb 11, 2025

Apple Watch has been a useful gadget for many people, from detecting early symptoms to calling emergency contacts and saving lives. I have been using the Apple Watch for the past two years. Since then, the watch has become my everyday companion, from tracking my [fitness activities](#) to [reminding me to drink water](#) and, most usefully, using the watch as a translation tool. With [WatchOS 11](#), Apple has added a new translation app that supports up to 20 languages for real-time translation.



You can use the app and the watch as a translator, which lets you speak and translate the voice in real-time. If you use Apple Watch and often travel and are looking for an easy-to-translate feature without picking your smartphone out every time, this can be handy. This guide will teach you how to use Apple Watch as a translator tool.

## How To Use the Apple Watch as a Translation Tool



If you are using an Apple Watch with WatchOS 11, you can use the built-in translator tool or third-party translator apps (listed below, along with their features and limitations). Similar to the translation apps on your smartphones, you can download the language you want to translate and save it locally on your device. It will help if your Apple Watch loses its internet connection and is not connected to your smartphone.

**Step 1:** Open the translator app on your Apple Watch.

**Step 2:** Click on the three-dot menu in the top left corner, scroll down, and click on download languages. Here, download all your preferred languages.

**Step 3:** Select the languages you want to translate and



communicate once you have downloaded it.

**Step 4:** Tap the Mic icon and start speaking on the Apple Watch. The translator will translate your voice into text in real time.

**Step 5:** Tap the same icon to let the other person speak; it will translate in real-time

**Step 6:** Tap the play icon once the

translation is complete to enable voice mode.

**Step 7:** Apple Translate currently supports a limited number of languages. Currently, it supports 20 languages, including Chinese, Dutch, English (US and UK), French, German, Hindi, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Polish, Portuguese (Brazilian), Russian, Spanish (Spain), English and more.

## Best Third-party Translation Apps for Apple Watch

There are plenty of free translation apps for Apple Watch; after testing them, here are my top three picks:

### Dialog App



#### Highlights:

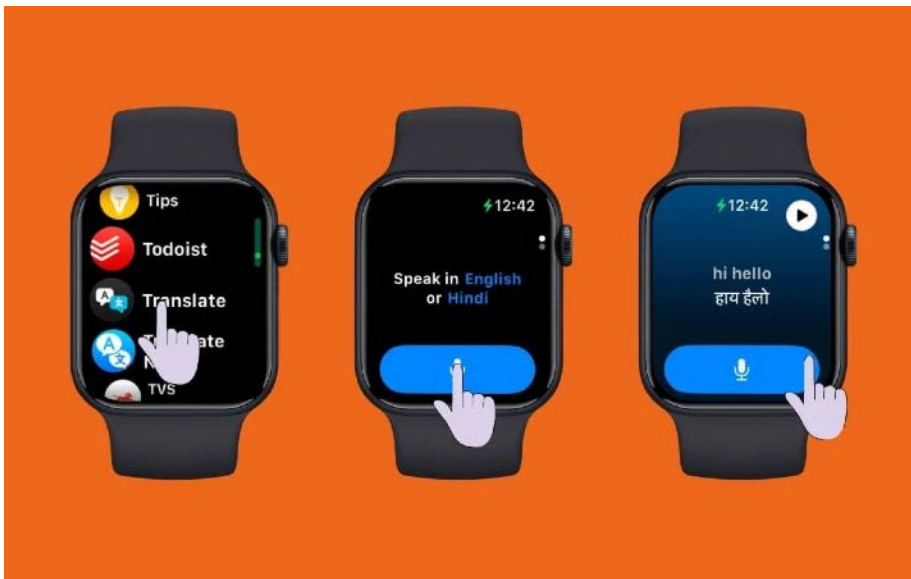
- Reliable alternative to Apple iTranslate app
- Supports more than 80 languages
- Works offline
- However, it is restricted to limited conversations for free users.

If you are looking for an alternative to the Apple Translate app, the **Dialog app** is the most reliable option you can depend on. The app supports more than 80 languages, offering much better language support than Apple Translate. It [works offline](#), which is often the biggest limitation of third-party translation apps, and it supports all the

necessary features, such as voice mode, automatically converting voice into text and then translating it into your desired language, and converting the text into voice. Like the Apple Translate app, the Dialog app is generally faster and more accurate.

However, the interface is very similar to other translation apps. To convert, you must interact with multiple elements by tapping the speaker icon, selecting the format, and more. The app comes in both free and premium versions. Free users are restricted to a limited number of conversations per month.

## Translate Now



### Highlights:

- Supports more than 110 languages
- Works offline

**Translate Now** is another great alternative to Apple Translate, which supports more than 110 languages. Like the Apple Watch Translate app, the app lets you translate voice in real time and has a similar interface. You can tap on the speaker, record your voice, and then the app outputs the voice and text in the desired language you want to translate. The app also works offline, allowing you to translate selected language voices even if you are not connected to your iPhone or an internet connection.

However, compared to Apple Watch or other translation apps, the app is slow and takes time for offline and online conversations. However, in most cases, the translation is accurate. Like most third-party apps, the iTranslate app comes in free and premium versions with additional benefits.

## iTranslate Converse



### Highlights:

- It offers a better interface that is easy to use
- Supports 38 languages
- Automatically detects the language you are speaking

If user experience is your highest priority, I highly recommend **iTranslate Converse**, which is popular for its interactive language conversation feature on iPhones. The app's full-screen interface makes speaking and translating the language in real life easy without interacting with buttons or specific elements found in most translation apps.

Moreover, the app automatically plays the translated text in voice without requiring you to tap a separate icon. You can tap on the speaker and start speaking. The app converts your words into text and translates them to your desired language, then automatically outputs a voice prompt.

You can choose up to 38 language translations. It comes in both free and paid versions. However, the biggest limitation of the app is that it doesn't allow offline translation in the free version, meaning if you are hiking or in places without an internet connection, you cannot use it as a translator.

### Quick and Easy Translation With a Simple Tap

The Apple Watch as a translation tool can be handy and does not require you to pull your iPhone out every time. It works on the go and is more interactive for real-time conversations. With WatchOS 11, Apple has added native support for translation apps, which currently support limited languages. Also, many alternative free translation apps for Apple Watch support more languages and work offline. I hope you find this guide helpful. If you have any suggestions, let us know in the comments below.

## **FAQs on Using Apple Watch as a Translator**

### **Can I use Apple Translate for offline translation or download a language first?**

You need to download the language first to use Apple Translate offline. However, most supported languages are pre-loaded when you install the app on your watch. To download, you can use your Translate app on your iPhone: Go to Settings > Translate > Downloaded Languages.

### **Does Apple Translate support dialects or regional language variations?**

No, Apple Watch Translate doesn't support automatic language detection. You must manually select the language you are speaking and the language you want to convert to use this feature. For automatic language detection, you can use a third-party app like iTranslate, which automatically detects the language and converts it into your desired language.

### **Will Apple add more languages to Apple Translate in future updates?**

Yes, the Apple Watch will likely get more support for more languages.

### **Which third-party translation app is best for real-time conversations?**

iTranslate Converse is the best app for real-time conversation. It supports automatic language detection, eliminating the need for language selection when you want to convert the language and is also fast. However, the only downside is that the free version does not support offline mode.

### **Do these translation apps drain the Apple Watch battery quickly?**

Yes, these translation apps directly rewrite your voice input and use the speaker for voice output, the two biggest reasons for battery life usage. Also, additional network resources are needed if you use them offline, contributing to future battery drain.



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Ramesh is a technology enthusiast with a passion for gadgets and product management. He is always looking for ways to improve users' lives through various helpful guides and product recommendations.