

Alexa Skill Blueprints: Creating games to enhance learning for children and/or adults.

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Learning Objectives

- Be able to name the website address for the Alexa Skill Blueprints.
- Be able to name at least three of the most popular templates available to create accessible games for their target population.
- Be able to name the steps required to create, complete and share a game.

How to create Alexa skills

Step 1:

Go to the website [BluePrints.Amazon.com](https://blueprints.amazon.com)

Step 2:

Select a skill template such as:

- Trivia
- Flashcards
- Facts
- Question and answer

Step 3:

Once the skill template is selected click or push enter on the button "Make your own"

Example of the Trivia game the website will show:

“Customize the questions and answers”

“Using your skill”

“Each turn, Alexa asks one player a random question from this list. Once they answer, Alexa judges and keeps score.

Write your questions, add 2-4 answers and check the correct choice.”
(Optional: follow-up facts.)

Example:

Question: Who won the academy award for best actress in the year 2010?

Meryl Streep

Sandra Bullock

Penelope Cruz

Add answer

Follow-up fact:

She won best actress for her role in the movie The Blind Side, which told the story of football player Michael Oher.

Example of how to Customize:

Who is the current governor of Arizona?

Donald Trump

Doug Ducey

Joe Arpaio

Michael Jackson

Example of Flashcards

“Study, test yourself, and master any subject by voice

Using your skill

Terms are shuffled:

In 'review mode', Alexa says all terms and definitions.

In 'test mode' Alexa says the term, you say the definition, then Alexa confirms.

You need to customize these cards. Add your term, definition, and hint (optional).”

Example of Flashcard questions

Topic name:

Capitals

Term:

Alabama

Definition:

Montgomery

Hint:

This second-largest city in Alabama is located on the Alabama River, in the Gulf Coastal Plain.

Replacing question and answer

Example 1

Topic:

Math

Term:

Eight times eight

Definition:

Sixty four

Example 2

Topic:

Geography

Term:

Largest and more dangerous volcano in United States

Definition:

Yellow Stone

Replacing question and answer

Example 3:

Topic:

History

Term:

First president of the United States of America

Definition:

George Washington

Example of Facts:

“Each time you open the skill, Alexa picks two random facts from your list.”

“The temperature on Venus is at least 462 degrees Celsius, which is about 864 degrees Fahrenheit.”

“Chameleon tongues can be as long as 28 inches.”

“The world's fastest land animal is Sarah, a cheetah that ran 100 meters in 5.95 seconds.”

“It is estimated that over 100 billion people have lived on the earth so far.”

Karla’s example of Replacing Facts

Title:

Braille Facts

Braille is a system of raised dots that can be read with the fingers.

Braille is not a language. Rather, it is a code by which many languages—such as English, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, and dozens of others—may be written and read.

A full braille cell consists of six raised dots arranged in two parallel columns each having three dots.

The dot positions are identified by numbers from one through six. Sixty-four combinations are possible using one or more of these six dots.

A sample of Custom Q&A:

Customize Alexa's response to your questions. Write the questions you want to ask and the answers you want Alexa to say. When you're ready, ask Alexa your questions exactly as you wrote them.

Example of questions

When you say: "Alexa, shortcut to save a document"

Required: ctrl plus s

Add another way to ask this question:
"How do you save a document in word?"

Alexa will say:
"CTRL + S"

Saving your skill

Once you finished editing the given examples and/or adding your own questions, the next step is to save the skill.

- To do it, click/push enter on "Next"
- The system will ask for a name
- Follow directions regarding the name you select and push enter.
- Test the skill

Now is time to get your echo device or open your app on the smart phone.

Ask Alexa to open the skill you created

Example:
"Alexa open Geography Flashcards"

Make it public

Once you are satisfied with your skill share it with your students. Students need to have the Alexa app or an echo device.

Summary of Steps

1. Go to the following website: [BluePrints.Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/blueprints)
2. Select a skill template
3. Edit the given examples
4. Add your own questions
5. Save and finish
6. Test the skill
7. Make it public