



## Getting Started on Alexa

- Get an **Alexa Smart Speaker**
- Get a **RealSAM BookClub** subscription
- Get your unique **activation code** (received when you subscribed)

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### How to Start

1. Say: “**Alexa, open RealSAM**”
2. **First time only:**

You'll be asked to say your **activation code**. This code:

- Links your subscription to your speaker
- Can only be used once

You'll also be asked to **grant permissions** to allow us to access your email and name. You will need to grant these permissions from the Alexa app on your phone.

### Using RealSAM BookClub

- You're interacting with **Alexa**, not directly with RealSAM. The speaker decides where your commands go
- Respond within **15 seconds** or the session will end
- To **pause without exiting**, say: “**Wait**” or “**Later**”

# Quick Start Guide

July 2025



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## Finding and Playing Content

### Books

Say things like: “Alexa...

- Find books by John Steinbeck”
- Find book called *Conclave*”
- Find book titled *The Penguin Lessons*”
- List books with title *The Island*”
- Find book called *The Island by Victoria Hislop*”
- List books with title *Harry Potter*”
- List books by author Agatha Christie”
- Find books about Christmas”
- List books about apples”
- Go to my recent books”
- Go to my bookshelf”
- What books do you have?” (this lists options to select your recent books, your bookshelf or specific library sources such as librivox, RNIB library etc)

To go back and start a new conversation say:

- “Alexa, Clear dialogue” or “Alexa, Clear conversation”

**NB ‘Cancel’ will exit the skill rather than cancel your previous command!**

To select a book:

- Choose the option from the list by saying the number of the book you want
- You can interrupt the dialogue at any time and select the book by saying “Alexa, Number ..”

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Once you have selected a book from the list of options:

- Follow the prompts to either “play” the book or “add to your bookshelf”, to read later or “go back”, to return to the previous list (NB If you say “go back” during playback, you will jump backwards in the book)

During playback:

- To navigate a book during playback, first say “Alexa, pause” or “Alexa, Stop” to pause narration, then say “Jump forwards/backwards 5 minutes” or “Jump forwards/backwards 1 chapter” or “Jump forward/backward 1 section”
- To go back to the Options list or start a new search during playback, first say “Alexa, pause” or “Alexa, stop” to pause narration, then say “Clear dialogue” or “Clear conversation” to go back
- To exit the skill during playback, first say “**Alexa, Pause**” or “**Alexa, Stop**”, then: “**Cancel**” or “**Exit**”

## Podcasts, Radio & Newspapers (coming soon!)

Say things like:

- “Find podcasts about black holes”
- “Play The Archers”
- “Play BBC Radio 4”
- “Listen to radio about rock music”
- “Listen to BBC Podcasts”

## Tips

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- If your device has a screen, some spelling or grammar might look unusual - this helps Alexa pronounce things more clearly
  - Explore your smart speaker's other features like setting up **voice profiles**
  - Don't forget to join our [RealSAM BookClub facebook community](#) for book discussions, sharing thoughts and tips
  - Remember:
    - you can interrupt Alexa at any time by saying **"Alexa..."**, followed by your command
    - you need to say **"Alexa, pause"** during playback before issuing the next command
    - saying **"cancel"** will exit RealSAM BookClub
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## Need Help?

- Say: **"Alexa, user guide"** anytime
  - Visit our website at [realsam.co.uk](https://realsam.co.uk) for a full user guide and list of commands
  - Or call our Help Centre (Mon–Fri): **0333 772 7708**
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Enjoy listening with RealSAM BookClub!