Extended audio description (EAD) player plugin

Last Modified on 09/01/2026 3:02 pm IDT

This article is designated for all users.

About

Enabling the **Extended Audio Description (EAD)** plugin provides spoken descriptions of the visuals and actions happening on screen. Using words to describe locations, people, actions, and body language makes your content more accessible.

Depending on the player configuration, descriptions can be played as audio narration, displayed as on-screen text, or both.

The EAD plugin is not supported on live entries.

Setup

To learn how to configure your player with EAD, see Enable Extended audio description in the player.

Features

When playback reaches an EAD cue, the player pauses and presents the description. Depending on the player configuration, the description is played as audio narration, displayed as on-screen text, or both.

After the audio narration finishes, the description overlay remains available for up to **5 seconds**, giving you time to replay the description or resume playback immediately.

If **Keep video paused** is enabled, playback remains paused until you resume playback or skip the description.

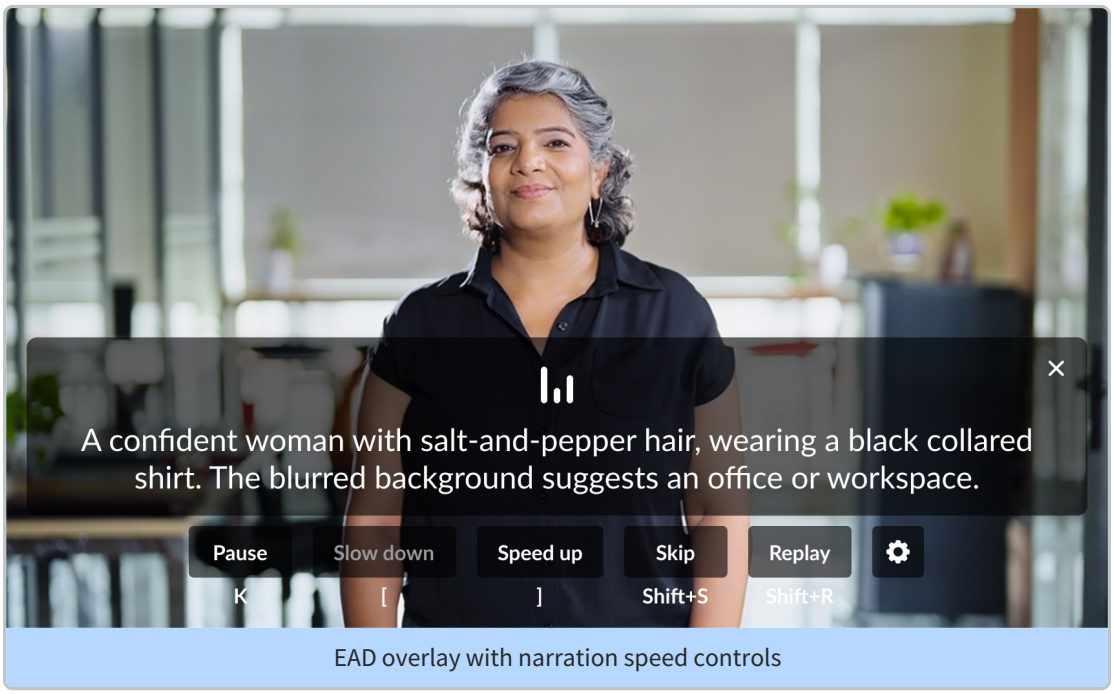
While the description is active, an overlay is displayed on the player with the following controls and information:

- A moving indicator (vertical lines animation) shows that the description is active.
- If enabled, the description text is displayed on the screen. If the description is longer than the available space, you can scroll to read it.
- Click **Pause** (or press K on your keyboard) to pause the audio narration.

Copyright © 2025 Kaltura Inc. All Rights Reserved. Designated trademarks and brands are the property of their respective owners. Use of this document constitutes acceptance of the Kaltura Terms of Use and Privacy Policy.

- Click **Skip** (or press Shift + S on your keyboard) to skip the description and resume playback.
- Click **Replay** (or press Shift + R on your keyboard) to replay the description.
- Click **Slow down** to decrease the audio narration speed.
- Click **Speed up** to increase the audio narration speed.
- Click the **X** button to close the description overlay. The **Pause**, **Slow down**, **Speed up**, **Skip**, and **Replay** controls remain available.

Your display will differ depending on whether **Full screen overlay** is enabled. When enabled, the description overlay is displayed in full-screen mode.

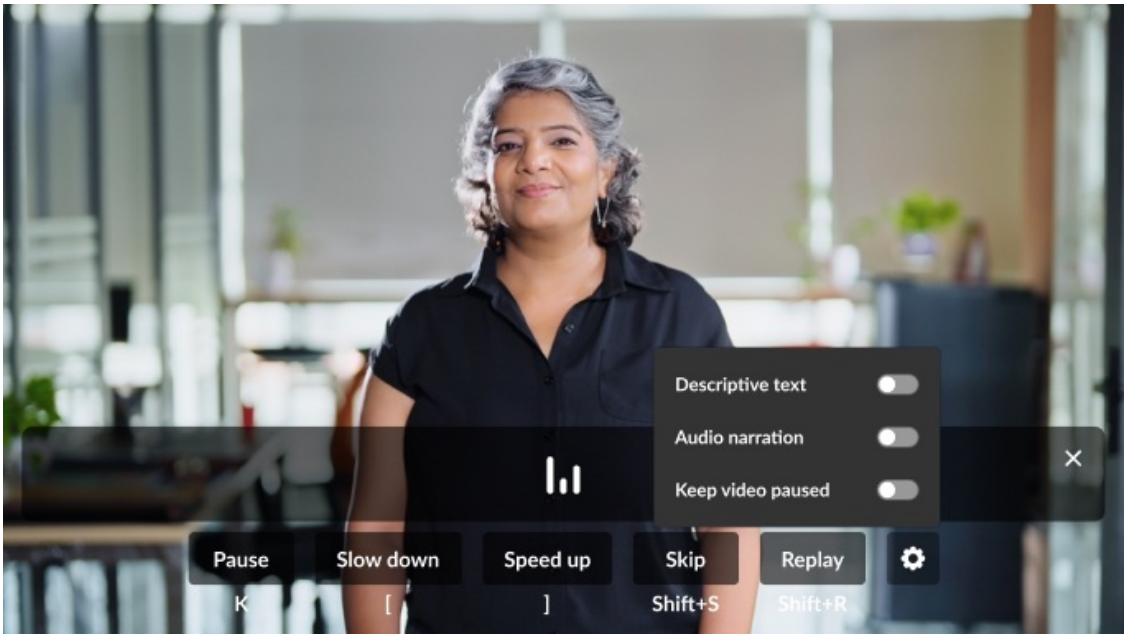


EAD overlay with narration speed controls

Click the **gear icon** in the lower-right corner to access the following options:

- **Descriptive text** – Show or hide the description text.
- **Audio narration** – Turn audio narration on or off.
- **Keep video paused** – Keep the video paused after the audio narration finishes until you resume playback or skip the description.

Copyright © 2025 Kaltura Inc. All Rights Reserved. Designated trademarks and brands are the property of their respective owners. Use of this document constitutes acceptance of the Kaltura Terms of Use and Privacy Policy.



- You can upload EAD files in WebVTT format through the Rich Media Content Management System. See Upload and manage captions in Rich Media CMS .
- When uploading EAD files, only time-based cues are supported. HTML tags and other markup (such as `<b>` , `<i>` , or `<div>`) aren't supported and may cause playback issues.

Try it out

You can edit the EAD with the Captions editor, but only if the track is received from the REACH vendor as a captions asset, not as an attachment (legacy).

Copyright © 2025 Kaltura Inc. All Rights Reserved. Designated trademarks and brands are the property of their respective owners. Use of this document constitutes acceptance of the Kaltura Terms of Use and Privacy Policy.