

15. How can I care for my hearing aid?

- A. Proper maintenance and care will extend the life of your hearing aid. Make it a habit to:
- Keep hearing aids away from heat and moisture.
 - Clean hearing aids as instructed. Earwax and ear discharge can damage it.
 - Avoid using hairspray or other hair care products while wearing hearing aids.
 - Turn off hearing aids when not in use.
 - Replace dead batteries immediately.
 - Keep replacement batteries and small aids away from children and pets.

16. What should I do after I start wearing the hearing aid?

- A. The user should consult the doctor or audiologist regularly as per their advice after s/he has been fitted with a hearing aid.



Body-worn hearing aids: These aids use an external box worn by the user. The user wears an ear piece which is attached to the box by a wire.

**HEARING AID
HELPS US TO
RECONNECT**

HEARING AIDS

Frequently Asked Questions



Different types of hearing aids:

Behind-the-Ear (BTE): Sits behind your ear and is connected to an ear mold placed inside your ear via tubing. BTE devices are fastened on the ear with an ear hook and the ear molds are custom made to fit the user's ear.

In the Ear (ITE): These are placed in the ear.

In the Canal (ITC) and Completely in the Canal (CIC): With ITCs and CICs, the whole hearing aid is placed inside the canal. ITCs are often larger than CIC devices. CICs are extremely tiny in size and are almost invisible.



Society for Sound Hearing

www.soundhearing2030.org

FAQS ABOUT HEARING AIDS

1. When should hearing aid be used?

A. Hearing aid is used in those cases of hearing loss which cannot be successfully managed by medicine or surgery.

2. What are the different types of hearing loss?

A. There are two types of hearing loss. Conductive hearing loss is caused by interference with sound or transmission through the outer and/or middle ear. Sensorineural hearing loss is often called nerve loss and is caused by disorders of the inner ear or auditory nerve itself. One can also suffer from mixed hearing loss which involves both conductive and sensorineural hearing loss.

3. Are hearing aids only for the elderly?

A. The hearing aid will benefit anyone who needs it, irrespective of age.

4. Can an infant be fitted with a hearing aid?

A. Yes, even infants (child less than one year of age) can be fitted with a hearing aid. In fact, the earlier hearing aid is fitted, the better it is for the child. The child will have better chances of learning to speak and develop language skills at par with normal hearing children.

5. Can hearing aid cure deafness?

A. Hearing aids make sounds louder to make listening easier. They improve the quality of life of affected persons. The person needs to use it for her/his entire life.

6. Should hearing aids be used only when needed?

A. Initially, wearing hearing aid will seem cumbersome. Start by wearing it only for a few hours every day. Gradually increase the duration of usage till you are comfortable wearing it throughout the day.

7. Does someone with moderate hearing loss require a hearing aid?

A. If advised to wear a hearing aid; a person should not wait for hearing loss to deteriorate further. Even if the hearing loss is mild, a hearing aid will help. The person will be able to understand speech better. In case of children, the need is even greater.

8. Are hearing aids very costly?

A. The cost of hearing aid ranges from a thousand rupees to more than a lakh (USD 20 to more than 2000). There are government schemes where people can get it for free. There are also agencies that sell hearing aids at a discounted price.

9. Should both ears be fitted with hearing aid simultaneously?

A. Since we listen from both our ears, it is beneficial to use hearing aid in both the ears. Users can enjoy better hearing with good sound quality and better understanding of speech.

10. What is a disposable hearing aid?

A. The disposable hearing aid has in built battery. After the allotted hours or time usage, user simply replaces the entire aid.

“HEARING AID? A MUST, IF ADVISED”

11. What about the size of the hearing aid?

A. Hearing aids come in different sizes and shapes.

12. What type of battery is needed in my hearing aid?

A. Every hearing aid takes a specific size battery. Companies now have a new-color coded system to help customers to remember and match their battery with their aid.

13. How long do hearing aid batteries last?

A. This depends on how much energy and power the hearing aid needs, how often you use it and what type of hearing aid it is. Some batteries may last days while others can last weeks. Consult your hearing professional and read the information supplied by your battery manufacturer to ensure that you follow the steps to maximize the life of the batteries.

14. What are the problems associated with first time use of hearing aid?

A. Hearing aids take time and patience to use successfully. Wearing your aids regularly will help you adjust to them. You may experience these problems initially:

- Hearing aids feel uncomfortable.
- Own voice sounds too loud.
- Whistling sound can be heard from the aid
- Background noise can be heard.

These problems can be solved by consultation with doctor or audiologist.

