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How Do Hearing Aids Work?



Hearing aids work by amplifying sound through a three-part system:

- The microphone receives sound and converts it into a digital signal.
- The amplifier increases the strength of the digital signal.
- The speaker produces the amplified sound into the ear.



There are many options in digital hearing aids today. Performance in background noise is the number one complaint of most individuals with hearing loss and that of most previous hearing aid wearers. The following techniques can help manage background noise:

1. Multiple listening programs
2. Directional microphone technology





1. Multiple listening programs:

Digital hearing aids are equipped with more than one listening program. Settings include situations where there is a lot of background noise as well as situations where there is little to no background noise. Hearing aids with multiple programs may automatically change between programs or can be manually changed by the individual. Some hearing aids may also come with remote controls.

2. Directional microphone technology:

This is also a strategy for better hearing in background noise. Hearing aids that come with just one microphone function in an omnidirectional mode (meaning sound is picked up from all around). Hearing aids with directional microphone capabilities typically have two microphones and have the ability to focus (or direct) one microphone toward the sound source while the other attempts to decrease some of the background noise.

An audiologist will help guide individuals to determine which circuitry is better for their specific hearing needs.



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with our Expert Audiologist Today.

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