

Frequently Asked Questions about Hearing Aids

Do hearing aids restore my hearing to normal?

Hearing aids are not a “cure” for hearing loss. Although they do not restore your hearing back to normal, hearing aids make communication easier by making most sounds available to you. They are designed to maximize hearing potential, and in turn, improve quality of life.

How much do hearing aids cost?

The cost of a single hearing aid ranges from approximately \$1000 to \$4000. Contrary to popular belief, the size of the hearing aid does not determine its cost. The technology or the sophistication of the computer chip inside of the hearing aid dictates its price. Your audiologist will work with you to determine the level of technology that is most appropriate for your lifestyle.

You may be responsible for additional fees which include the cost of the professional services associated with selection, fitting, and follow-up of the devices. All hearing aids come with both a repair and loss/damage warranty. The length of the warranty varies depending on the product you select.

Do hearing aids eliminate background noise?

Even the most expensive hearing aids do not have the ability to completely eliminate background noise. Often, “background noise” is speech, which is exactly what a hearing aid is intended to amplify. Some hearing aids can lessen the effects of noise by boosting the speech signal in front of you and decreasing the speech signal that is coming from behind you. You must remember that even people with normal hearing sensitivity have difficulty understanding speech in the presence of background noise.

Does it take time to adjust to new hearing aids?

New users of hearing aids often describe their ability to hear sounds that they have not heard in years. These sounds- footsteps on a hardwood floor, the refrigerator motor, doors squeaking, birds chirping- may seem annoying at first. You must keep in mind that before your hearing loss, you heard these sounds, but eventually you learned to tune them out. This process of adjusting will begin again once you are fit with hearing aids. Keep in mind that it may take several weeks to adjust to these new sounds.

What if hearing aids do not work for me?

There is a 30-day trial period with all hearing aids. If you are unsatisfied with their performance, you may return your hearing aids within this period. You (or your insurance) will receive a refund for the cost of the devices. The evaluation fee and the fitting fee are non-refundable.

Does insurance cover the cost of hearing aids?

Insurance providers sometimes cover all or part of the cost associated with hearing aids. While we make every effort to assist you, it is your responsibility to verify coverage with your insurance provider.

What if my hearing gets worse? Do I have to obtain a new set of hearing aids?

We recommend that you have a hearing test every year so that we can keep the programming in your hearing aids consistent with your most recent hearing test. It is expected that you may have small changes in your hearing over time, and your hearing aids can generally be adjusted for these changes.

I am interested in pursuing hearing aids. What should I do next?

Following medical clearance from a physician, you may schedule a hearing aid evaluation with your audiologist. This appointment is typically one hour long.

The audiologist will discuss hearing aid styles and price and work with you to determine which hearing aid is most suitable for your lifestyle.

An audiologist is an expert who diagnoses and treats hearing and balance disorders.

Disclaimer: This document is for informational purposes only and is not intended to take the place of the care and attention of your personal physician or other professional medical services. Talk with your doctor if you have Questions about individual health concerns or specific treatment options.

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