

Telecoil Instructions

The “Mighty Telecoil”

For clear sounds with minimal background noise, switch your hearing aids or cochlear implants into the telecoil program.

A telecoil is an inexpensive, small, yet powerful technology that provides clarity for people with hearing loss when they visit public places, such as places of worship, theaters, events, lectures, and meetings.

A telecoil augments the effectiveness of your hearing aids, cochlear implants, and bone-anchored devices – and provides access to ADA assistive listening systems (hearing loops, FM/RF, and infrared).



How Do You Add a Telecoil Program to a Hearing Aid or Cochlear Implant?

Work with your audiologist or hearing instrument specialist.

1. **Determine** if you have a telecoil in your hearing aids or cochlear implant. The telecoil might be included in the instrument itself or in a remote accessory.
2. **Activate**. Your hearing healthcare provider needs to program your devices.
3. **Learn** how to:
 - a. *Move* into your **T** or **telecoil** program by pressing a button on your device, a setting on your smartphone app, or adjusting an accessory.
 - b. *Adjust* the mixture of the telecoil and microphone.
 - **100% telecoil**. Noisier environments when you wish to focus only on the speaker or performance.
 - **Mixture of T and M or microphone**. When you wish to visit with a person and still listen to the PA system. Example: waiting for a performance to begin.
 - c. *Use a hearing loop*. Your provider may have a portable service counter hearing loop, or one connected to a TV for you to practice with.
 - d. *Use a neckloop* for FM/RF and infrared systems.
4. **Try**. There are hundreds of assistive listening systems in your state and thousands worldwide. Try one out. You'll be amazed at the clarity.



Further telecoil info
<https://tinyurl.com/telecoils>

Information for Audiologists and Hearing Instrument Specialists

1. *For open-ear RIC fittings*: Set up a manual **Telecoil-only** program.
2. *For closed/occluded fittings*: Most users benefit from a manual **M + T** program
3. **Provide written instructions and a practice session** on how to change the M/T mix in the app

Reviewed by Juliëtte Sterkens, AuD

About the Center for Hearing Access

Founded in 2024, the nonprofit Center for Hearing Access is a national advocacy and education initiative of The John G. Shedd Institute. We champion and educate users, sites, audiologists, and hearing instrument specialists about all ADA-compliant assistive listening systems and other strategies to increase access to theaters, libraries, conferences, government offices, courtrooms, places of worship, and other public and private spaces. Effective hearing access can be life-changing for people with hearing loss to maintain community engagement.

The “Mighty Telecoil” term from *Hearing Loss for Dummies*, Drs. Lin and Reed. AARP, 2022.

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