

Hearing Aid Styles

Hearing aids are available in four to five basic styles designed to meet most hearing needs. The first three are referred to as custom hearing aids because an impression is taken of the ear opening and the shell of the hearing aid is manufactured according to this impression.



Completely-in-the-Canal (CIC).

The smallest of the hearing instruments, these are custom-made to fit deeply inside your ear canal so that they are practically invisible



In-the-Canal (ITC).

These are also custom-made and small enough to fit almost entirely in your ear canal. They can be hardly noticeable.



In-the-Ear (ITE).

These are custom-made hearing aids made to fit within the external ear. They are the most widely recommended style.



Behind-the-Ear (BTE).

These fit comfortably behind the ear and are attached to either a custom earmold or special tube and tip that directs sound from the instrument into the ear. BTE models are versatile and can fit a variety of hearing losses.



Open Fit BTE.

These are miniature behind the ear hearing aids, designed to allow some sounds to enter the ear canal naturally while others are enhanced by the hearing aid(s). This style is most appropriate for mild to moderate high pitch hearing loss when low pitch hearing is still normal.