

Over the counter (OTC) vs prescription hearing aids



There are two categories of hearing aids on the market, so let's compare the differences.

OTC Hearing Aids

No professional fitting
or support provided

For ages 18+

No hearing evaluation
is required

One size fits most

No state requirements
for return policy

For perceived mild to
moderate hearing loss

Come with self-guided
instructions

Prescription Hearing Aids

Hearing aid programmed and
supported by a professional

For all ages

A hearing evaluation
is required

Standard and customized
options are available

Return policy is
mandated by the state

For any degree of hearing loss;
hearing aid is programmed to
the individual hearing loss
profile (audiogram)

Follow-up care and
instructions provided
by a professional