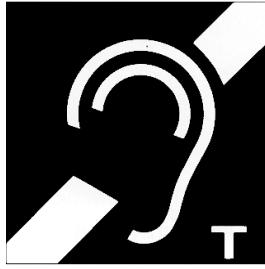


# Loop systems



Your hearing aid instruction sheet will tell you if the aid has a loop setting to pick up signals from a transmitting device called an induction loop or telecoil.

Many public buildings (post offices, banks, theatres, churches, and train station booking offices) have an induction loop. The loop is advertised by a written notice, or by an 'ear' symbol like the one shown above. It will help you to hear the cashier or the person on stage better. Sound collected by a special microphone is sent directly to your hearing aid, giving you clearer sound without background noise and room echoes.

The loop programme on your hearing aid will only work near to a loop system: right in front of the cashier who has the loop symbol displayed, or in the seating area covered by the building's loop system. Outside these areas, if you still have your hearing aid on the loop programme it will sound dead or it will buzz. If you are in the correct area and are still getting no sound on your loop programme, ask if the loop system in the building has been switched on.

You can get loop systems for your radio or TV at home, and portable loop systems can be hired for meetings.

All public payphones and motorway emergency telephones have a loop system as they are often situated in noisy areas. This means that you can put your hearing aid onto the loop programme. Most home telephones do not have a loop system but you can rent or buy specially adapted ones.

To use a telephone with the loop programme, hold the telephone receiver towards the back of your ear, so that it is close to the loop connection in the hearing aid.

Some mobile phones can be connected to a loop system that hangs around your neck. You may find one of these useful if you often have to make phone calls in noisy surroundings, or if your hearing aid gives interference when you use it with a mobile phone.

For further information on acquiring home or portable loop equipment, ask for our 'Useful Contacts for Audiology Patients' leaflet, or we can give you details of the Communication Rehabilitation Service for Adults (this service provides both appointments and drop-in sessions for information).

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