

Caring for your Receiver in the Canal Hearing Instruments with Dome Ear-pieces

After investing in your hearing aids, you will no doubt want to keep them performing to their optimum level and for as long as possible. This cleaning guide will help you keep your aids functioning exactly as they should.

It is essential that you have a daily cleaning routine. If you do not do this, the receiver (the component which provides sound into your ear) may become blocked with wax and will gradually become weaker, affecting performance. If not cleaned regularly, it will eventually stop working altogether, requiring repair or even replacement. Wax blockage is regarded by manufacturers as your responsibility so they are within their rights to reject any warranty claim for damage caused by wax blockage – so even more reason to prevent it.

At any time, if you have difficulty in changing domes or filters or need to go over the cleaning regime again, contact us and ask for help – we would prefer you to do this rather than have the aids block with wax and not perform as they should do.

There are three parts to your hearing instruments:

- The wire over the ear
- The receiver - the receiver may have either a custom tip or a dome covering it.
- The actual aid that sits behind the ear.



To care for your hearing aids effectively you will need:

- A microfibre cloth / tissues or antibacterial wipes if you prefer
- A hook
- A small brush

At night:

- Gently use the cloth supplied with the aid to remove anything on the outside of the aid
- Wipe the aid with some tissue or antibacterial wipes to remove any grease from the shell.
- Place the aids into the recharging unit
- Do not place hearing aids on a radiator or in an oven to dry!

In the morning:

Any wax will be hard and easier to remove. There are two areas you need to look at:

- Examine the rubber/silicone dome that you insert in your ear. If it has perforations round it, make sure these are clear, by inserting the hook or brush into the holes to dislodge any wax. If there are no holes just wipe away any wax.
- Periodically pull the dome off completely. Underneath you'll see the white coloured wax filter. If the centre of this is clear – it's fine. If the centre is clogged with wax, change it from the supply of new filters you were given and replace the dome with a new one.
- Please note: it is essential that the new dome the dome is firmly replaced or it may come off in your ear. Never put the old dome back again.

If you've forgotten how to change these items, please contact us.

General maintenance:

Check on domes – if they become damaged or blocked with wax they should be replaced immediately. If they become grossly mis-shapen (they start off circular) then replace them.

Every time you replace a dome, check on the wax guard underneath. If it is blocked with wax, replace it.

Check on the little wire connecting the receiver to the aid. If this becomes damaged see your Audiologist.

To replace the filter, use the removal and insertion tool that comes with the replacement wax guards. Press the tool end (without the new guard) on to the guard on the aid, and it should come away at the end of the tool. Turn the tool around and press the new wax guard on to the hole and it will stay there – just press lightly afterwards with your finger to make sure it is firmly fixed.

You will find further information and “how to” videos in the “Looking After your Hearing Aids” in the Hearing Aids section of our Services.

If you have any queries, please contact your Audiologist, Catherine McKinney.

A note on Wax guards:



The wax filter that fits onto the end of the speaker (if you are using a dome) is called Oticon ProWax Mini Fit. If you need replacement ones, please contact us.

These are inexpensive compared to the price of your aid, so it is a false economy not to regularly change the wax guard. If the wax guard has become clogged with wax, it is essential to replace it.

It is advisable, dependant on how much wax you experience, to change the wax guards at least every two weeks or even more often if you produce a lot of wax. Remember to replace the dome with a new one at the same time.