

What is a telecoil?

A **telecoil** (or t-coil) is a small coil of wire inside a hearing aid that is designed to pick up a magnetic signal. When using the **telecoil setting** on your hearing aid it turns off the microphone so that it will only pick up the electromagnetic signal and converts it to sound. You can also use a telecoil to hear the TV, telephones, in meetings, in noisy restaurants, or in a noisy car if you supply the magnetic signal using an Assistive Listening Device (ALD) coupled with a room loop or a neck loop.



DEAFNESS SUPPORT NETWORK IN ACTION

HEAR BETTER. LIVE BETTER



Look for the telecoil / T setting logo in banks, theatres, taxis, cinemas, in fact anywhere where you can see the logo. Switch your hearing aid to the T setting to get the best listening experience.

How it works

It's nothing more than a tiny coil of wire around a core that will induce an electric current in the coil when it's in the presence of a changing magnetic field.

Normally, a hearing aid "listens" with its microphone, then amplifies what it "hears". But with a telecoil used as the input source instead of (or in addition to) the microphone, the hearing aid can "hear" a magnetic signal which represents sound.

How to switch your telecoil on

On telecoil-equipped hearing aids, the wearer must "turn on" or "switch to" telecoil mode by moving a small switch (on older models) to the "T" position, or by changing to a program mode (by pressing a button on the ear-level device or on a remote control) that is set up to use the telecoil as an input source instead of or in addition to the microphones.

Note **** Some users prefer a mode that only uses the telecoil and not the microphones when they are in telecoil mode, and other users prefer a combination of telecoil and microphones. There is no right way for everyone but there may be a best way for each person.

Telecoils can provide that extra help you need to hear in many otherwise impossible situations. Ask your hearing health care provider about telecoils if you think they might help you. Don't always count on your provider to suggest it.

For advice on any aspect of hearing loss or a demonstration, drop us an email info@positivehearing.org.uk or come in and visit us at one of our hearing centres

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