Getting Connected
With Assistive Listening Devices
Talk on the phone, listen to music, and take part in the conversation—even in busy restaurants or on the road. MED-EL audio processors can connect directly to audio sources through easy-to-use assistive listening devices (ALDs) for exceptional sound quality. These ALDs are an excellent way to reduce background noise and improve sound quality anywhere you go.

In this guide, we’ll go through a simple overview of assistive listening devices, and how you can easily connect them to your MED-EL audio processor. Then we’ll take a look at ways you can begin using ALDs in your everyday life.

Ready to get started?
Types of ALDs

Wireless Receivers

Great sound quality—without the cables. Wireless receivers let you stream sound from a range of wireless microphones. Many wireless receivers, such as the Roger™ X from Phonak, can be simply plugged into your audio processor. Or for the streamlined look, choose the Roger 21 for your SONNET. Wireless digital systems are easy to use and ideal for understanding speech in background noise or over longer distances.

Take a look at the next page to see a range of Roger wireless microphones that you can pair with the Roger 21 and Roger X receivers.

Advantages:

- High-quality wireless connection
- Clear listening with wireless microphones
- Long-range streaming

Ideal for:

- Attending meetings
- Talking on the phone
- Having a conversation in noisy settings
- Easier listening in the classroom
- Watching TV
Wireless Microphones

Smart devices for easy listening. Wireless microphones connect seamlessly with wireless receivers to deliver high-quality sound straight to your ears. There are microphones designed for almost every environment, whether you’re on the go, at work or simply at home. You can use the docking station to hear the TV more clearly, and Bluetooth-enabled models allow you to talk on the phone hands free. Wireless microphones are an excellent way to experience optimal hearing at a distance, even in background noise.

Advantages:

- High-quality wireless connection
- One-click connectivity with compatible receivers
- Minimum background noise

Roger Microphones:

- Roger Table Mic, for use in meetings
- Roger Clip-On Mic, for one-to-one conversations
- Roger Pen, for phone calls, meetings, TV, and one-to-one conversations
- Roger Touchscreen Mic, for use in the classroom
Neckloops

All-in-one connectivity at your fingertips. A neckloop is worn around your neck and uses telecoil technology to send sound wirelessly to your audio processors. Neckloops make it easy to connect to a wide variety of sound sources. You can easily connect your phone to a Bluetooth neckloop for clear phone calls and wireless audio streaming. Your audio processor is compatible with many brands of telecoil neckloops, so you can choose the ideal features for your daily life.

Advantages:

- Wireless connectivity
- Available with Bluetooth
- Easy to use
- Audio processor battery life unaffected

Ideal for:

- Making phone calls
- Watching TV
- Streaming music wirelessly
Hearing Loops

Connect to sound at the touch of a button. Your audio processor has built-in telecoil technology, which lets you wirelessly connect to hearing loops in public spaces. Hearing loops work just like neckloops, except the loop goes around the whole room. When you see the hearing loop icon, just activate the telecoil setting on your FineTuner remote control and you’ll be automatically connected to the sound source.

Advantages:

- Wireless connection
- One-touch activation
- No accessory needed

Ideal for:

- Public venues
- Home theater installations

FineTuner Remote Control
Direct Audio Input Cables

Plug right into the sound. With a direct audio input cable, you can plug your audio processor directly into any audio source with a standard 3.5 mm headphone jack. The direct connection eliminates background noise and interference, so you can enjoy high-quality audio from any device with a headphone jack.

Advantages:
- Plug & play
- Clearest sound quality
- Connects to nearly any audio device

Ideal for:
- Listening to music
- Connecting to tablet or phone
- Listening to rehabilitation exercises
Sound Wherever You Are

Different environments can present different hearing challenges. Each device has advantages in certain environments, such as on the phone, in a meeting, or simply watching TV. Choosing the right device for each situation gives you the optimal listening experience.

In the next few pages, we will look at a few everyday settings and show how you can use ALDs to help you hear your best.
On the Phone

Take that call—no matter where you are. By connecting directly to your phone, you can eliminate background noise. Many cellphones and home/office phones are telecoil-compatible, so you just need to press the telecoil button on your FineTuner remote control, and then hold your phone up to your audio processor. Your audio processor will automatically detect sound signals from your phone’s telecoil.

If you prefer a hands-free connection, you can easily use a Bluetooth neckloop or wireless microphone. Just pair your neckloop or microphone to your phone, and the audio will be sent wirelessly to your audio processor.

ALDs to use

- Integrated telecoil
- Bluetooth compatible wireless microphone
- Bluetooth neckloop
Watching TV

Hear the television more clearly. By using a wireless microphone and docking station, or neckloop and TV streamer, you can enjoy watching television without turning the volume up too high for everyone else. The microphone or neckloop will send the audio signal right to your audio processor. And if you’d still like to hear other sounds in the room, your audio processor can provide a balance of audio from the TV and from your audio processor microphone.

Alternatively, a direct audio input cable is a great way to connect directly to the sound. This is particularly useful if you are watching on a tablet or other portable device.

ALDs to use

- Wireless microphone with docking station
- Neckloop with TV streamer
- Direct audio input cable
Get the most from your music. You can easily plug a direct audio input cable into any audio source with a headphone jack for high-quality, interference-free sound.

If you’d rather use regular headphones, you can place large “over-the-ear” headphones right over your audio processors, and plug the headphones into a headphone jack.

**ALDs to use**

- Direct audio input cable
- Over-the-ear headphones
Public Venues

Enjoy more than just the sights next time you're out in town. Cinemas, theatres, museums, places of worship, and many other public venues often have hearing loops installed. If you see the blue hearing loop/telecoil symbol, you’ll be able to stream sound wirelessly by pressing the telecoil button on your remote control. Yes, it’s as simple as that.

You can also find hearing loops at banks, in taxis, and many other public spaces. Just look for the blue telecoil symbol and keep your remote handy. Some venues use portable receivers instead of large hearing loops. You’ll be able to plug a neckloop or direct audio input cable into these receivers for clearer sound quality.

ALDs to use

- Integrated telecoil
- Portable receiver with direct audio input cable

Look for the hearing loop icon in public venues.
At Work or School

Hear the person who's speaking—not the rest of the room. If you're having a one-on-one conversation in a busy setting, like at work, school, or a restaurant, a wireless microphone is a great way to minimise background noise. Just activate your wireless receiver and have the speaker or your conversation partner wear the microphone or place it next to them, and you'll be able to more clearly hear what's being said. If you have a neckloop with a remote microphone, you can use it the same way.

ALDs to use

- Wireless microphone and receiver
- Neckloop with remote microphone
As you can see, assistive listening devices are an excellent way to boost your hearing in challenging listening environments. To get started, you can purchase ALDs online, through hearing device retailers, or through your audiologist. There are many different brands of ALDs available, and most are compatible with MED-EL audio processors.

If you have any questions, you can contact your local MED-EL representative or connect with MED-EL users through the HearPeers forum or social media. You can also find useful tips & tricks for ALDs on our MED-EL Blog—check it out today!