

bring back the sounds you love
make hearing loss a thing of the past



Better hearing means better living

Living life without hearing, or having a significant loss, can have devastating effects on people's lives. The loss of hearing can leave people feeling isolated or depressed and as some studies show can lead to serious illnesses such as dementia.

One in six Australians experience hearing loss, at Bay Audio – Hearing Experts, we are committed to help guide and advise you on the best way to stop the deterioration of your hearing and to help you live life at full volume. You won't only be doing yourself a favour by having something done about a hearing loss, it will also make a difference to those you love.

Hearing tests – a simple, two-stage process

The Bay Audio touch screen hearing check quickly determines whether you have any hearing loss that should be looked into further. If a mild to moderate loss is detected you may need to have a more comprehensive hearing assessment, with a qualified Bay Audio clinician, to identify the type and extent of your hearing loss.

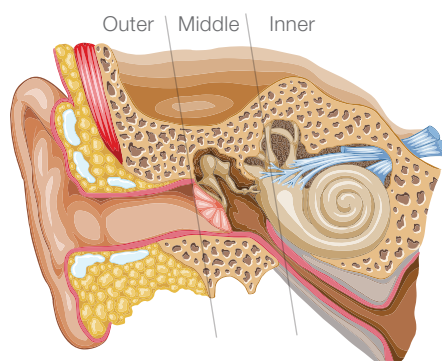
This comprehensive assessment is non-invasive, completely painless and takes less than an hour. Your clinician will ask you a series of questions and have a look into your ear canal, the clinician will also conduct a Basic Pure Tone Test and ask you to respond to the softest tone you can hear, at a limited number of frequencies.

This will give the clinician a general indication of whether or not you could benefit from a hearing device or if there is a medical issue requiring further testing. Your clinician will explain along the way how your results are looking, and whether or not you will need to take a full diagnostic test in a soundproof booth which is in the clinic room. This test is easy and comfortable, following this you will be given a formal report that can also be sent to your Doctor if you wish.

The art of hearing

The ear is a masterpiece of engineering, designed to bring you all the sounds you know and love. It is divided into the outer ear, middle ear and inner ear.

Sound is gathered by the outer ear and funnelled into the ear canal, causing the eardrum to vibrate. Tiny bones inside the middle ear also vibrate producing pressure in the inner ear. This pressure causes fluid in the inner ear (cochlea) to move, stimulating tiny hair cells, prompting the hearing nerve to send signals to the brain.





Types of hearing loss

There are three types of hearing loss:

Type of hearing loss	Causes
Conductive hearing loss – a problem in the outer or middle ear prevents sound from getting to the inner ear.	An ear infection, a hole in the ear drum, abnormality of the little bones in the middle ear.
Sensorineural hearing loss – damage to the hair cells in the inner ear or the hearing nerve prevents sound from getting to the brain. Hearing devices are usually very effective at compensating for this type of hearing loss.	Ageing, excessive exposure to noise, a genetic disorder.
Mixed hearing loss – when both conductive and sensorineural hearing loss combine.	As above.

The next step

If you do need hearing devices, a Bay Audio clinician will help you select the ones that best suit your needs and lifestyle. Choosing the right hearing devices for you depends on the degree of your hearing loss and personal preferences.

Ordering the devices normally takes two to three weeks. Once they arrive, your Bay Audio clinician will program them to suit your hearing loss and teach you how to use them.

Getting the best from your hearing devices takes time and practice, especially while your brain gets used to hearing more. Your clinician will monitor and fine-tune the sound and fitting of your devices for optimum performance.

Why should I buy hearing devices?

Hearing devices make sounds louder and easier to hear, dramatically improving your awareness of surrounding sounds and voices. The use of hearing devices often leads to improvements in relationships with family and friends, higher self-esteem, better mental health and greater independence and security.

Today's hearing devices can reduce the effects of background noise, minimise whistling and enhance speech clarity. Some models are even bluetooth compatible, so they can link to your smartphone, stereo, computer and TV.

Frequently asked questions

What are the most common signs of hearing loss?

- 👂 Increased difficulty hearing high-pitched sounds
- 👂 Missing everyday sounds such as a ringing telephone or the doorbell
- 👂 Difficulty hearing at public gatherings, group conversations and in the presence of background noise
- 👂 Trouble with clarity of speech – it seems like people are mumbling

Why do my ears ring?

Tinnitus is the ringing, hissing or buzzing in the ears that affects up to 15% of Australians. It is generally caused by damage to the inner ear. There are various ways to relieve tinnitus and the good news is it can be greatly helped by hearing devices.

Do I have to see a doctor first?

You don't need to see a doctor before making an appointment with Bay Audio. Just call one of our locations to book an appointment.

Which hearing devices are best for me?

At the end of your comprehensive hearing assessment, your Bay Audio clinician will help you decide which hearing devices are best for you.

Bay Audio provides state-of-the-art hearing solutions that suit your lifestyle and budget. We engage the world's top hearing device manufacturers so we can offer you the latest in hearing technology. Importantly however, we are an independent company which means we can also provide unbiased advice on the best products for your specific needs.

Are two hearing devices better than one?

A hearing test determines the extent of hearing loss in each ear. When both ears are impaired, studies show that two hearing devices improve speech understanding. Generally, the benefits of using two hearing devices outweigh the additional cost.

How much will it cost?

Bay Audio offers the touch screen hearing check free-of-charge. The comprehensive hearing assessment is \$88.

If we determine that you require a hearing device you may be eligible for the Government's Hearing Services Program Voucher or private health insurance and tax rebates.

Further information is available in the enclosed Funding and Finance brochure or visit www.bayaudio.com.au to view our FAQ's – under the Our Technology section from the main menu.

What we do

- 👂 Hearing tests
- 👂 Hearing devices
- 👂 Hearing accessories
- 👂 Hearing loss prevention
- 👂 Hearsavers - custom made ear plugs

Find us

We have stores throughout Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and the ACT. To find your nearest location or to make an appointment for yourself, a family member or a friend, please visit www.bayaudio.com.au or call on **1800 BAY AUDIO (1800 229 283)**.



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