

## The Advantages of Open Fit Hearing Systems

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Over the last few years the hearing industry has shifted to dispensing a newer style of instruments called **Open Fit**. When wearing open fit devices, one's ear canals are much less occluded or blocked than when wearing traditional custom fit instruments or earmolds. The open fit hearing instrument is usually a tiny, behind-the-ear device that is extremely lightweight, comfortable and nearly invisible. There is a thin wire or tube with an ear tip at the end that virtually disappears into one's ear canal.

**This style of fitting almost always eliminates or greatly reduces that 'stopped-up' feeling that traditional devices can cause, thereby making sounds, including one's own voice, much more natural.** Also, these devices have standard features, such as automatic directional microphones, noise reduction and feedback cancellation, that allow them to perform effectively, even in noisy environments. Most individuals who have made the switch from traditional hearing instruments to open fit devices have reported enhanced speech clarity, improved noise control and increased comfort and naturalness of sound.

Currently, open fit behind-the-ear hearing instruments are being fit approximately 70% of the time, making them the most popular and successful option for most patients. If you have not yet experienced open fit, ask your hearing specialist for more information and possible demonstration of this great technology.