

The Loop System

The loop is an assistive system which works alongside your hearing aid to help in certain situations. It can help you to connect to one specific sound source within the room and cut out background noise. It is also known as a telecoil or T-system. To use the loop system an audiologist must activate a programme in your hearing aid. Most hearing aids have this programme, you often just need to request to have it activated. If you are unsure if you have the loop programme activated, please consult with your audiologist. Before having an assessment with us we recommend having the loop setting activated as most of our equipment work on loops.

One of the main benefits of a loop setting is that it can boost the volume and clarity of the audio for the hearing aid user without making the volume uncomfortable for others in the room. The loop only affects those who have turned their loop setting on, everyone else will remain unaffected. Loop systems are now common in a lot of public areas including, but not exclusive to, banks, shops, hospitals, churches, theatres and even some buses.

Examples of where loops can be useful:

1. In a theatre where it is hard to hear the actors. The loop will allow you to hear everything on the stage and remove the background noise. For example, people talking behind you.
2. A reception desk at a GP surgery or waiting room. The loop will allow you to hear the receptionist without the need for them to raise their voice and potentially disclose personal information to others in the waiting room
3. Watching television at home. The loop will allow you to turn up the volume without others in the room having to watch the television at an uncomfortably loud level.
4. Listening to a service at a church.
5. In conversation with a friend. The hearing aid user could ask the friend to speak into a microphone which sends a signal to the neck loop allowing the user to clearly hear what is being said.

You can tune into the loop system where you see the sign (shown here) or you may purchase certain equipment such as room loops or portable neck loops. If you are interested in self-purchasing equipment, we recommend organising an appointment with us to try it before purchasing.

