

Assistive Technology

Our Deaftech service is designed to provide aids and appliances for those who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing and people with Tinnitus. The service offers:

- information and advice on equipment
- the option of buying or short-term borrowing of equipment
- the opportunity for medical card holders to apply for free equipment
- Home demonstrations for people with mobility difficulties

Equipment Available in the Cork Deaf Association

Alarm Clocks

Baby Alarms

Doorbells

Listening Devices

Loop Systems

Pager Systems

Cork Deaf Association

The Cork Deaf Association works hard to promote the rights of Deaf and Hard of Hearing people in Cork city and county. We aim to see full and equal participation of Deaf and Hard of Hearing people in all aspects of society. Services include Deaf awareness talks, Sign language classes, adjustment to hearing loss programmes, assistive technology and social work supports.

Our Services

Information Centre

Education

Social Work Service

Hard of Hearing Support

Assistive Technology (Deaftech)

Employment Support

Support Groups and Activities

Outreach Programmes

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Loop Systems Explained

Cork Deaf Association

WHAT is a loop system?

A loop system helps hearing aid users to hear sounds more clearly by reducing or cutting out background noise.

At home, for example, you could use a loop system to pick up sound from your television, hi-fi or radio. A loop system can also be set up with a microphone to help hearing aid users hear speakers more clearly in a noisy environment.

In the theatre or cinema, a loop system can help you to hear the show more clearly. Loop systems in banks and shops improve communication with the person who is serving you.

HOW does a loop system work?

A lot of hearing aids have a T switch on them and all you have to do is switch your hearing aid to the T switch setting. In some hearing aids, you do this by pressing a tiny button on the side. You will then hear one or two beeps to indicate that it is working. In other hearing aids, you simply flick the switch to the setting marked 'T'.

When you are using the 'T' setting, your hearing aid will pick up the sound primarily from one source instead of picking up all the sounds around you. For example; in the case of the church, your hearing aid will only pick up the priest talking into the microphone. In the bank, the person talking behind the counter will only be heard. This will reduce background noise and greatly improve your listening pleasure.

WHERE can I find one?

You can find a loop system in some banks, post offices, shop counters, hospital receptions, churches, cinemas and the theatre. There are also individual loop systems available, which can help you to hear conversations more clearly or listen to the TV and music system. There are loop systems built in to some types of phones.



There is a loop system installed where you see this sign.

Get proactive. When you see the sign indicating there's a loop system, ask to use it. It will make a huge difference to you. For further information contact the Cork Deaf Association.

Cork Access Group



Improving access for people in the community

Cork Deaf Association, in association with the Cork Access Group.