

Hearing Aid Compatibility (HAC) for Wireless Devices

Hearing aids do not always function well with wireless handsets. Hearing aids operate by using a microphone to pick up sound waves, converting the sound waves into electrical signals to be amplified. Distortion or amplification of unwanted sound (noise) often occurs.

The FCC's hearing aid compatibility requirements address hearing aids that operate in either of two modes - acoustic coupling ("M" rating) or inductive coupling ("T" rating).

M-Ratings: Hearing aids operating in acoustic coupling mode receive through a microphone and then amplify all sounds surrounding the user, including both desired sounds, such as a telephone's audio signal, and unwanted ambient noise.

T-Ratings: Hearing aids operating in inductive coupling mode turn off the microphone to avoid amplifying unwanted ambient noise, instead using a telecoil to receive only audio signal-based magnetic fields generated by inductive coupling capable telephones.

The FCC's "M" and "T" ratings indicate whether a handset can be expected to function well with a hearing aid and are generally marked clearly on the handset packaging. The "M" or "T" rating does not guarantee that the handset will function without distortion or noise, so Randolph Communications recommends that you test the handset before purchasing.

Go to <http://gari.info/> to find accessible devices & apps.

Updated 9.16.19.

Phones	Rating	FCC ID Number
Samsung Galaxy S9	M4, T3	A3LSMG960U
Samsung Galaxy S9 Plus	M4, T3	A3LSMG965U
Samsung Galaxy S10	M4, T3	A3LSMG973U
Samsung Galaxy S10 Plus	M4, T3	A3LSMG975U
Apple iPhone XR	M3, T4	BCG-E3220A
Apple iPhone 11	M3, T4	BCG-E3309A
Apple iPhone Xs Max	M3, T4	BCG-E3218A
Nuu F4L	M3, T4	NA

To learn more about the HAC for wireless phones go to <https://www.fcc.gov/hearing-aid-compatibility-wireless-telephones>.