

# A Beginners Guide to Direct Input

## or "A whole new listening experience for hearing aid users"



Many people who wear hearing aids every day are not aware that there is a different way of using them, which provides reliable and high quality sound, particularly for listening to music.

**Shoes** The majority of behind-the-ear hearing aids, including almost all those in the current NHS range, have a direct input facility.

First you need the appropriate shoe, which will fit onto the bottom of your hearing aid. You should be able to find the right shoe from those listed in Section 2 of the catalogue. Keep in mind that many hearing aid models have very similar names, but take different shoes. For example, there are different shoes for the "Oticon Spirit 3" and the "Oticon Spirit 2 Superpower". If in doubt, please ask.

**Hearing aid programmes** It is important to note that the direct input facility may be available on your hearing aid/s, but in some cases it may not be "switched on".

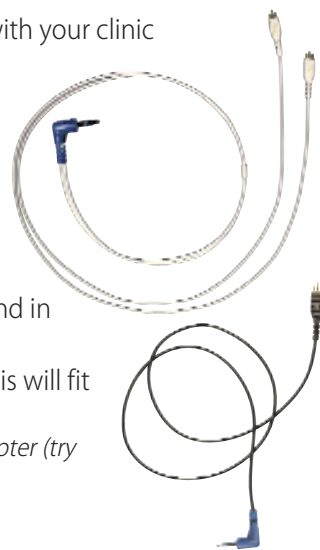
If it's necessary, it will take your audiologist a matter of moments to activate the relevant programme, so if you are unsure of whether or not you have the direct input facility you should contact your hearing aid clinic or dispenser.

It can be well worth while taking the time to make an appointment with your clinic so that you can have the chance to try using direct input for yourself.

**Direct input leads** As you can see from Section 2, shoes come in all shapes and sizes, but what they all have in common is that they have a standard three-pin socket on the bottom. There are also different types of direct input lead depending upon where they are to be used. For use with personal listening equipment with a 3.5mm headphone socket Connevans has been able to produce leads which will work with any hearing aid shoe. The lead will only plug into the shoe one way round, so it's impossible to connect up incorrectly. We have leads available for people who have either one or two hearing aids, in a variety of different lengths and in black or white.

At the other end of the personal stereo lead is a blue plug which is a standard 3.5mm plug – this will fit almost all headphone sockets.

 If you want to connect to a product with a larger socket, you probably just need a simple adapter (try our handy headphone extension/conversion kit ★100321 from the next page)



## What you can listen to – a few examples

We normally think about using direct input leads with portable music devices, such as personal CD players, MP3 players or iPods – and they do work brilliantly for listening to music or audio books. However, the direct input leads will work equally well with any device that has a headphone socket. So how about trying these options too?



The leads can connect to:

- **your computer:** get the best out of computer games, educational software or online videos.
- **a digital voice recorder:** (see page 25) listen again to audio notes of meetings or lectures
- **a portable DAB radio:** keep up with the news, the sports results or listen to the latest tunes
- **an electronic keyboard:** hone your musical skills
- **a metal detector:** track down buried treasure!

If you have a Baha or a cochlear implant you can still take advantage of the benefits of direct-input, you just need a different lead.

See Section 1d for more information.

**Should you need any more information on direct input or audio shoes, the Connevans Customer Service Team will be pleased to help.**

*Direct input shoes used with a personal stereo direct input leads allow you to plug in anywhere that a pair of headphones can go.*

