Unique Hearing Aid Accessories You May Not Have Heard About

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The next time you visit the audiologist to have your hearing aids adjusted, you may want to ask about hearing aid accessories. While cleaning kits and battery packs are common accessories you probably already have, there are some that can make life with hearing aids just a bit more fun and convenient, and you may not even know about them.

Hearing Aid Charms

Hearing aid charms look like earrings but hook to the over-the-ear style hearing aid rather than the ear itself. These feature a wide range of designs and styles and can be used by both male and female wearers. Popular with children and teenagers who are hearing impaired, these add color and pizzazz to the aids, making them something the wearer is proud to show off.

Phone Pads

Using the phone while wearing a hearing aid can be uncomfortable, particularly if you have to hold the phone against your ear with your shoulder to have your hands free. You may also experience feedback between your hearing aid and the phone. Phone pads provide a barrier between the phone and your hearing aid. This not only reduces this feedback, but also provides some cushioning for additional comfort.

Drying Aids

Moisture is the enemy of the hearing aid. If moisture is allowed inside, it can quickly ruin the device, rendering your investment worthless or requiring costly repairs. Your goal is to keep your hearing aids dry, and some accessories can make this a little easier.

Hearing aid drying devices can be as simple as a pouch with a moisture-wicking material added or as complex as a mini-dehumidifier to store the aids inside. Hearing aid specialists can help you choose the right drying device to keep your aids functional for a long time. When using these devices, always remove the battery first.

Safety Alerts

Even with hearing aids, some alerts or sounds can be difficult to detect. Safety alerts are types of hearing aids that connect to important household alerts, like your doorbell or smoke detector, and send a signal to your hearing aid to alert you to the alarm. Your hearing aid may beep or vibrate, but the main purpose is to ensure that you know an alert has sounded and can act accordingly.

Hearing aid accessories are not required to enjoy the use of your hearing aids. Instead, they work to make life much more convenient and comfortable for you while you are using your aids. As you are adjusting to life with hearing devices, talk to your local hearing aid provider about the possible accessories that would fit your lifestyle.

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Dr. Duncan specializes in advanced technology hearing aid fittings, hearing testing and other assistive technology such as television amplifiers and amplified telephones. Dr. Duncan received her Master's degree in Audiology from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in 1997 and her doctorate in Audiology from the Pennsylvania College of Optometry in 2005. Visit his a site1 and a site2.

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