



HABINTEG
Disability Equality Centre

Telephones with amplification.

Some telephones have an in-built inductive coupler which improves sound quality for a hearing aid user, with their hearing aid set to 'T'. Portable amplifiers can be fitted over the earpiece of the telephone handset, where the telephone does not have this in-built feature, to achieve the same. A personal loop can also assist.

For a telephone user who has a hearing impairment, but does not wear a hearing aid, there are telephones which offer in-built volume amplification, either through the handset or through the speakerphone or headset, depending on the model. Many 'standard' telephones can have adjustable in-coming amplification by using an 'add-on' amplifier/adapter.

If the user needs to listen to an incoming call with both ears, this can be achieved with a telephone which has a handset and an additional earpiece, or by using a binaural headset (with two earpieces). Some headsets have their own volume amplification and high performance receivers, to assist when working in a noisy environment.

For use with an office's local telephone network, it is important to ensure that any telephone, or 'add-on', will be compatible with the local network and provide the required features (redial, recall, hold, etc.)

Some sources of further information and advice:

BT Age and Disability Action Team

Telephone: 0800 919591

Textphone: 0800 243123

email: disability@bt.com

website: www.bt.com



Head Office:
Holyer House, 20-21 Red Lion Court, London, EC4 3EB.
Tel: 020 7822 8700
Fax: 020 7822 7001
E-mail: hdec@habinteg.org.uk
Website: www.habintegdec.org.uk



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- A useful booklet, ' BT's products and services : a guide for older or disabled people', which is also available in alternative formats, can be requested via the BT Age and Disability Action Team, or accessed via the Internet.

Disabled Living Foundation (DLF) Helpline

Telephone: 0845 130 9177

Textphone: 020 7432 8009

website: www.dlf.org.uk

- A range of useful fact sheets on their website

RNID Information Line, 19-23 Featherstone Street, London EC1Y 8SL

Telephone: 0808 8080123

Textphone: 0808 8089000

Fax: 020 7296 8199

email: informationline@rnid.org.uk

website: www.rnid.org.uk

- The Royal National Institute for Deaf People (RNID) have an Information Line and a range of leaflets and fact sheets, including advice on use of telephones for people who are deaf or hard of hearing.

If you require this information in an alternative format, please contact Habinteg at hdec@habinteg.org.uk.



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