

Published based on [Hearing Aids Cost - Why So High?](#)

Hearing Aids Cost - Why So High?

The retail prices of hearing aids are high and can be a shock to people needing to buy one.

Top of the range digital models will cost thousands of dollars and, although they are sophisticated devices compared with the basic hearing aids available in the past, their prices seem high compared to other electronic products.

The old type analogue hearing aids can still be purchased and are much cheaper. These are simple devices which pick up all sounds and amplify them. In a quiet environment this will probably help with a one to one conversation. But in noisy situations it simply makes all the noise louder and does nothing to help hear what people are saying.

The common problem caused by aging is the loss of the ability to hear high frequency sounds. This makes it difficult to hear speech properly when background noise levels are high. What is actually needed is a hearing aid that just amplifies the high frequencies and leaves the user to hear other sounds normally.

This is what digital hearing aids can do. A user's hearing is checked and an audiogram produced and the hearing aid is programmed accordingly.

So why do hearing aids cost so much? Well it is basically because market forces do not apply here. In the United States each state has its own regulations but most only permit audiologists and licensed dispensers to sell hearing aids. Manufacturers, Audiologist and Licensed dispensers have a stranglehold on the hearing aid market which artificially forces higher prices on to the consumer and the mark-up at the retail end of the chain is usually high.

This is now changing as a waiver system is being introduced. This means that the buyer is able to waive having an examination before purchasing a hearing aid. This opens the door to online retailers to compete on price (but without the personal level of service) and give buyers the chance to compare prices.

When considering what this might mean, compare the situation to that of reading glasses. In the past it was necessary to go to an optician if you needed reading glasses and pay accordingly. But it was recognized that this was unnecessary and you can now buy them cheaply off the shelf.

If hearing aids cost has deterred you from buying in the past you might have a look at [Century Hearing Aids](#) where you can buy reasonably priced hearing aids on the web. You can make major savings compared to buying from a licensed dispenser and get similar quality. They offer a good service but being online they are not able to help with any problems relating to comfort or fit. However they do offer a full refund if you have any problems.

Should you be suffering from Tinnitus a hearing aid may be of help but you might be interested in our [Tinnitus Miracle Review](#). Tinnitus Miracle is a book offering a full guide to hearing and the ear with a great deal of content relating to Tinnitus and how it can be cured.