

# Three Ways to Save Money on Hearing Aids (That I've Actually Tried)



Most people don't realize it, but I am hearing impaired. I wear hearing aids in both ears.

The prohibitive cost of quality hearing aids has always been a sore spot for me – especially since insurance doesn't cover them. That's especially sad since the longer someone waits to get their hearing aids, the more permanent damage happens to their hearing. Once a specific sound frequency is lost completely, there is no getting it back.

I've done quite a bit of research and experimenting over the years trying to find a hearing aid that was affordable and worked well. Here's what I've learned...

If you want a full hearing assessment and have a pair of hearing aids fit and calibrated professionally, go to Costco!

The appointment takes about three hours and the staff is very knowledgeable. It cost about \$1,700 in total and the hearing aids came with a 6-month money back guarantee. The sound quality and comfort of the hearing aids was great. And, as an added bonus, the software they came with lets you discretely adjust the hearing aids with your iPhone!

If you don't really want a professional assessment and are just looking to hear things louder and a bit clearer, hop on over to Amazon and search for a pair of Othophonics hearing aids.

Othophonics are hearing "amplifiers" and are constructed like a traditional over-the-ear hearing aid. As far as technology and quality go, they are very similar to what hearing aids were about 10 to 15 years ago. But the price is right! They run \$375 per ear. You can order just one and see if you like it before ordering the other one, too.

One of the newest brands of hearing amplifiers on the market is from Eargo. They are so tiny that they fit completely in your ear canal – just like really expensive hearing aids.

Eargo hearing aids are a bit pricey for amplifiers, coming in at about \$2,000 for a set. They come with a 45-day money back guarantee – and that's exactly what I did when I tried them! It was cool that they were small enough to hide all the way in my ear, but they were not as good as my Othophonics (which cost a whole lot less).

There are laws and regulations that govern what can and cannot be sold as a "hearing aid" – but those laws are changing. And as they do, I believe that the cost of professional grade hearing aids will come down. But in the meantime, I hope these possible options help you save some money and protect your hearing for the future.