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## FEATURES THAT COUNT

When choosing a hearing instrument, one of your primary goals is to better hear what people are saying to you. To this end, you will want to outfit your hearing instrument with features that reduce background noise. One component to consider is a “directional microphone,” which reduces noise from the sides and the back of a listener and prioritizes sounds directly in front of the user. To further enhance the speech of conversation partners, it also helps to select an instrument with “wide dynamic range compression” to increase the volume of softer sounds over louder atmospheric and background noise. “Wind noise managers,” which filter out sounds created by blowing wind, can also make conversation easier to understand.

### TIP OF THE WEEK:

When having a hearing instrument evaluation performed, your hearing healthcare provider will discuss style, technology, and pricepoints to recommend hearing instruments that will meet your daily communication and listening needs. It is important to make sure that you are comfortable with every step of the hearing instrument process.

P.S. Programmable hearing instruments enable users to adjust and store their settings to particular environments so that they can switch from one to another as listening circumstances change.

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