

# **Using Personal Hearing Devices to Listen to Computers and Tablets**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

It is likely that your child is now using a home computer or tablet to access their classroom content and assignments. Part of their learning day may include listening to lectures, videos or individual online activities (e.g. RazKids).

While listening through the computer/tablet speaker may sound good to you, this may not be 'good enough' for children with hearing loss (even if they say that they can hear). To make listening as easy and stress-free as possible, have your child use their DM/FM system or hearing aid accessory.

There are some hearing aids and cochlear implants that can connect directly to a computer/tablet without a DM/FM system. If your child uses *Phonak Marvel* hearing aids, please see below Section: *Connecting with Bluetooth Enabled Hearing Devices*, on page 13.

This document contains information about how to connect some of the different makes and models of DM/FM transmitters and hearing aid accessories to computers or tablets.

Please contact us if your child has different technology than what is shared in this document.

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## **KEY WORDS**

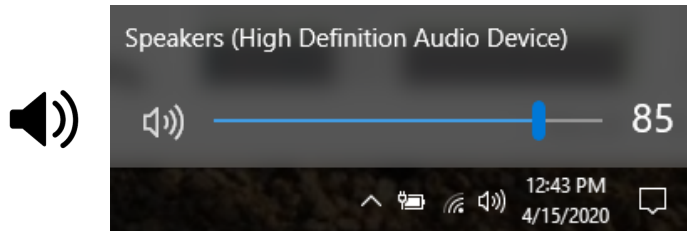
*Hearing Device:* This includes hearing aids, cochlear implants and bone conduction amplification devices.

*DM/FM Systems:* This is the extra microphone, usually used at school, that your child received with their hearing aids/cochlear implants (CIs). The type of system they have depends on their hearing aids/CIs and may be a Roger, Oticon Amigo or EduMic.

*Hearing Aid Accessory:* This piece of equipment came with your child's hearing devices and includes bluetooth streamers or small remote microphones.

## Tips for Getting Started

1. Your child's hearing devices and their DM/FM transmitter must be turned on and connected to one another.
2. Transmitters and streamers should be turned off and charged every night
  - Indicator lights will show if they are charged or not
3. To adjust the computer volume, click on the picture of a speaker in the bottom right corner of your computer/tablet



- Volume should be set at  $\frac{3}{4}$  (75) or higher
- Adjust as needed for your child

4. Your child will need the audio cord that came in the box with their FM/DM system or hearing aid accessory
  - If you are unsure where this is, check the packaging or box that the device came in or call your child's dispensing audiology clinic to order replacement
  - The type of cord needed will depend on the type of DM/FM system or accessory your child is using (more information below)

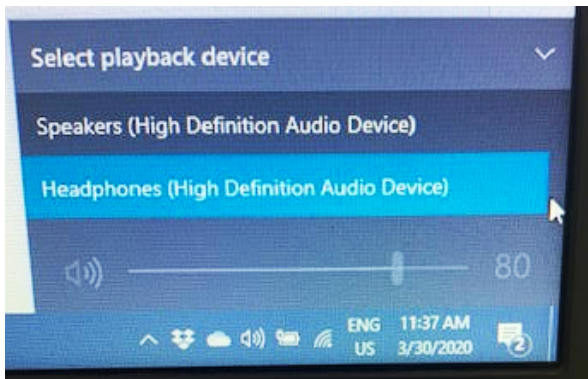


5. One end of the audio cord will be plugged into the headphone port on the computer/tablet



Make sure that the audio cables are firmly connected at both ends. If in doubt, unplug and plug back in again.

6. If a pop-up screen occurs on your computer/tablet when you plug in the audio cord, **be sure to select “Headphones” from the list of playback device options.**



### How to Listen Along With Your Child

You or a sibling may want to listen to the audio from the computer/tablet along with your child. In this case, a 3.5-to-3.5 stereo audio splitter and regular earphones will be required. *\*Please note that the pink and green splitter that comes with the Roger Touchscreen can **not** be used for this. It is a splitter used for a microphone and headphone connection only.\**

- Plug the male end of the splitter into the computer/tablet
- Use one of the female ends to plug in the earphones
- Use the other female end to plug in your child's DM system (see information below for how to connect specific DM systems and accessories)



## CONNECTING WITH DM/FM SYSTEMS

### Roger Touchscreen

The Touchscreen uses a 3.5-to-3.5 audio cord. ⇨



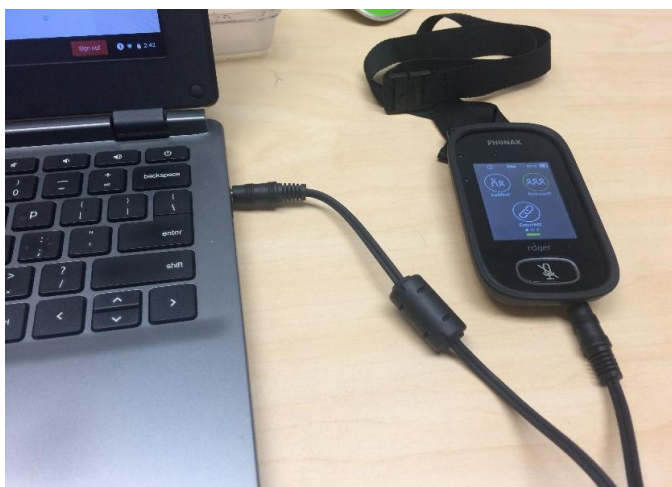
Once you have plugged one end of the audio cord into the computer/tablet, plug the other end into the bottom of the Touchscreen.

- **Do NOT change any of the selections when the audio settings screen pops up**
- **It must remain on 'Input'**



If changed to the other output settings, your child will not be able to hear the sound from the computer/tablet

The Touchscreen will automatically mute its external microphone, indicated by a flashing red light. This will prevent the Touchscreen from picking up unwanted (sounds such as typing on the keyboard). To unmute, simply press the microphone button.



## Roger Easy Pen/Pen

The Easy Pen uses a microUSB-to-3.5 audio cord. ⇨



Once you have plugged one end of the audio cord into your computer/tablet, plug the other end into the bottom of the Easy Pen.

- Make sure the cord is plugged in the correct way so that the port is not damaged
- When plugged in, the Easy Pen will automatically mute, indicated by a violet light. This will prevent the EasyPen from picking up unwanted sounds (such as typing on the keyboard).
  - To unmute quickly press the power button



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## Roger Select

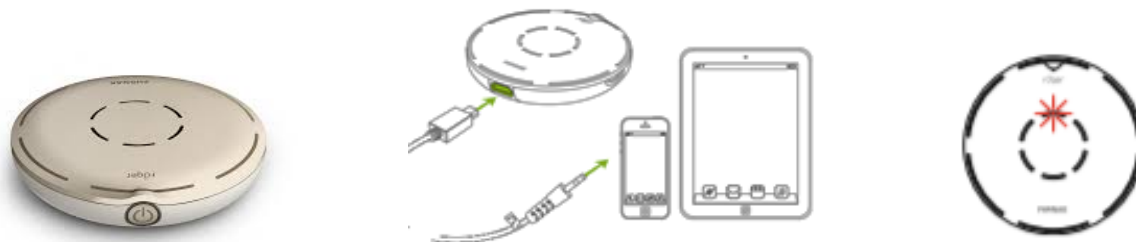
*Note: While the Select does have a type of Bluetooth connectivity, it is mainly for cell phones; NOT computer/tablets. To connect to computer/tablets, the audio cord will be required.*

The Easy Pen uses a microUSB-to-3.5 audio cord. ⇨



Once you have plugged the 3.5 mm end of the audio cord into the computer, plug the micro-USB end into the audio port of the Select (on the side of the Select).

- Make sure the cord is plugged in the correct way so that the port is not damaged
- When plugged in, the Select will automatically mute, indicated by red light. This prevents the Select from picking up unwanted (sounds such as typing on the keyboard)



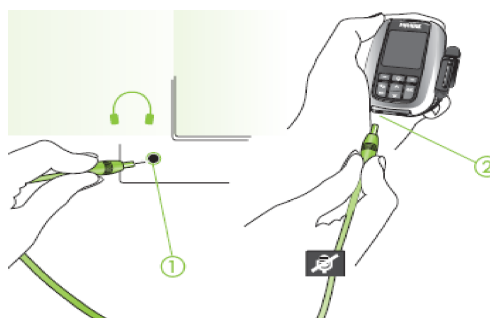
## Roger Inspiro

The Inspiro uses a 3.5-to-3.5 audio cord. ⇨



Once you have plugged one end of the audio cord into your computer/tablet, plug the other end into the bottom of the Inspiro.

- When plugged in, the Inspiro will automatically mute, indicated by a line through the microphone icon on the screen. This prevents the Inspiro from picking up unwanted sounds (such as typing on the keyboard)
  - To unmute wake up the screen and press the microphone button



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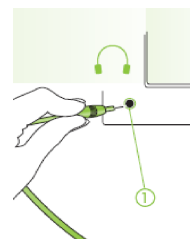
## Oticon Amigo

The Amigo uses a 3.5-to-3.5 cord. ⇨



Once you have plugged one end of the audio cord into your computer/tablet, plug the other end into the bottom of the Amigo.

- To avoid unwanted sounds (such as typing on the keyboard), press the power button briefly to mute the Amigo microphone, which will be indicated by a flashing red light



## ACCESSORIES: STREAMERS or REMOTE MICROPHONES

### Phonak ComPilot II

If your child does not have a DM/FM system but received a ComPilot II with their Phonak hearing aids, this streamer can be used to listen to a computer/tablet. This can be done two ways: 1) through the Bluetooth on your computer/tablet or 2) hardwired with an audio cord

#### ***With Bluetooth:***

1. Be sure that the Bluetooth of your ComPilot II and computer/tablet have been paired.
2. Turn computer/tablet Bluetooth ON
3. Turn ComPilot II ON
4. Press and hold the ComPilot II **connect button and volume up button at the same time for 2 seconds** until the indicator light starts to **rapidly flash blue**
5. Select "ComPilot II" from the list of Bluetooth devices on your computer/tablet
6. Pairing is successful when the indicator light stops flashing blue and the device shows ComPilot II is connected

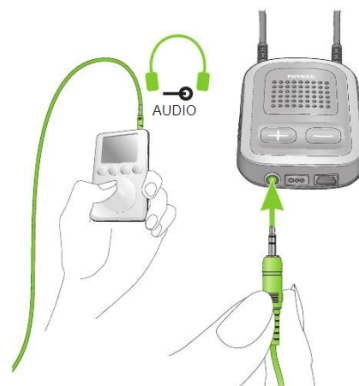


#### ***Hard-Wired (Without Bluetooth):***

The ComPilot uses a 3.5 to 3.5 mm audio cord. ⇨



1. Turn ComPilot II ON
2. Plug one end of the audi cord into the the headphone jack on your computer/tablet
3. Plug the other end into the bottom of the ComPilot II
4. Be sure to select 'Headphones' (NOT 'Speakers') on the computer/tablet



## **Oticon Streamer**

### ***With Bluetooth:***

1. Put your electronic device into Bluetooth pairing mode and place it close to the streamer
2. Put the Streamer into pairing mode by pressing the on/off button on the top for 5 seconds until the light on the top **flashes blue**
  - a. The Streamer needs to be paired as a headphone device
  - b. The computer/tablet will ask for a PIN. The PIN for the streamer is 4 zeros (0 0 0 0)
3. Once paired, the blue light on the streamer will change from blinking to **solid blue**



4. Press the AUX button on the side of the streamer



5. Start the audio on your computer/tablet

6. The lights on top of the streamer will change from blue to green/orange

- Green: on
- Flashing Orange: looking for a computer/tablet
- Solid orange: connected to a computer/tablet



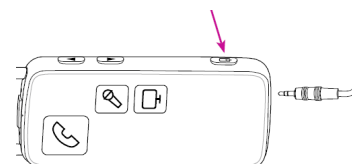
Note: If your child uses their streamer with a DM receiver plugged in; the Bluetooth option will not work.

### ***Hard-Wired (Without Bluetooth):***

The Streamer uses a 3.5 to 3.5 mm audio cord. ➡



1. Plug one end of the audio cord into the headphone jack of your computer/tablet
2. Plug the other end into the bottom of the streamer
3. Press the AUX button on the side of the streamer
4. The sound will start as soon as the AUX button is pressed
5. The lights on top of the streamer should be green/orange
  - Green: on
  - Flashing Orange: looking for a computer/tablet
  - Solid orange: connected to a computer/tablet
6. Your child will need to wear the streamer around their neck



## **Cochlear MiniMic 2+ Remote Microphone**

The MiniMic2+ uses a 3.5-to-3.5 audio cord. ➡



1. Prior to starting this process, be sure that your child's cochlear implant(s) are paired to their MiniMic2+.
  - Kanso How-to Video: [Pairing Kanso Cochlear Implants to a MiniMic2+](#)
  - Nucleus 7 How-to Video: [Pairing Nucleus 7 Cochlear Implants to a MiniMic2+](#)
2. Plug one end of the audio cord into your computer/tablet

3. Plug the other end into the bottom of the MiniMic2+



4. On the back of the MiniMic2+, look for a light beside the music note icon 
  - If there is no light beside the music note, press the long grey horizontal button (close to the bottom of the MiniMic2+ ) until you see the light next the the music note



5. Sound should now be heard through your child's cochlear implant

## **Oticon EduMic Remote Microphone**

*The EduMic Remote Microphone can be used with Oticon Opn or Ponto 4 hearing aids only.*

The EduMic uses a 3.5-to-3.5 audio cord. ⇒



1. Prior to starting this process, be sure that your child's Opn or Ponto 4 hearing aids are paired to the EduMic
  - How-to Video: [Pairing an EduMic to Opn hearing aids \(rechargeable batteries\)](#)
  - How-to Video: [Pairing an EduMic to Opn hearing aids \(regular batteries\)](#)
  - How-to Video: [Pairing an EduMic to Pono 4 bone conduction amplification](#)

2. Turn on the EduMic

- Both indicator lights will turn white

3. Plug one end of the audio cord into into the bottom of the EduMic

- The light microphone indicator light will turn yellow (after 8-10 seconds)



4. Plug the other end of the cord into your computer/tablet



5. The EduMic is ready to stream sound from from the computer/table to the hearing aids

Summary How-to Video:

[Connecting an EduMic to a Computer or Tablet](#)

## CONNECTING BLUETOOTH ENABLED HEARING DEVICES

If your child uses the hearing devices listed below, they may be able to connect their hearing devices directly to your computer/tablet via bluetooth streaming.

### **Phonak Marvel Hearing Aids**

1. Enable Bluetooth on your computer/tablet
2. Search for *Bluetooth Enabled Devices* in the connectivity settings menu on your computer/tablet
3. Enter Pairing Mode:
  - If the hearing aids use batteries → open and close the battery doors of the hearing aids
  - If the hearing aids are rechargeable → switch the hearing aid off and on again
4. You will have 3 minutes to pair the hearing aids with the tablet/computer
5. Your computer/tablet will display a list of Bluetooth enabled devices
6. To complete the pairing, select the hearing aid from the list
7. If your child is wearing their hearing aid(s) they should hear a confirmation alert

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Please know that you can reach out to us with any questions as we all navigate this challenging time.

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