

The History of Hearing Aids

Throughout history, there is a record of people losing their hearing. As far back in 1550 B.C. information about hearing loss was recorded in Egypt. People have tried to find many solutions to help people who have difficulty hearing.

The first device people used to help people hear was an animal horn, such as a horn from an animal like a sheep. The person held the horn up to his or her ear and people could speak into the horn. Later on metal ear trumpets were invented, resembling the animal horn. Neither the animal horn nor the ear trumpet were very effective.

People may be surprised to find out that the invention of the telephone helped people with hearing loss. In 1876 Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone. People with hearing loss quickly realized they were able to hear people better over the telephone than in person. Thomas Edison, an inventor who experienced hearing loss himself, modified Bell's telephone to increase the intensity of the sound. This made hearing over the telephone even easier for the hard of hearing.

Edison's work led to portable hearing aids. Eventually in 1938 the first wearable hearing aid was invented. This technology evolved quickly. Batteries became smaller and technology improved. Today, hearing aid technology is pretty marvelous. Hearing aids can adapt to different situations and volume levels. Technology is still advancing to help improve the lives of those with hearing loss.

Lexile: 700-800

Directions: Click on the Correct Answer for each Statement

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	opinion
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Friends Forever

Friendship bracelets began showing up in the United States in the 1970s. However, tying knots to make decorative bracelets can be traced back to ancient China as well as Arabia. This art form is also sometimes called macrame. The art form was passed on to other places in the world and even became popular with sailors. Tying knots helped them to pass the time while sailing on long journeys. The tradition of weaving to create a bracelet to symbolize friendship began in Central America. They used the same knotting and weaving techniques as the Chinese and Arabians.

Today, people still make friendship bracelets. The bracelets symbolize friendship and the person who receives the bracelet is supposed to wear the bracelet until it frays and falls apart. This shows that the person appreciates the work it took to make the bracelet. Making a friendship bracelet is a really fun activity. Once you learn how to make a friendship bracelet, you won't be able to stop!

If you want to make a friendship bracelet, the steps are pretty easy.

1. Choose five colors of embroidery floss and cut about 24 inches of each color. Embroidery floss comes in many colors and is a thin type of yarn.
2. Pick up the first string and tie a knot on the second string, then third string, then fourth string, and fifth string. The first string is now the last string.
3. Pick up the new first string and repeat.
4. Continue tying knots across the strings. A pattern of stripes will form.
5. When the bracelet is the correct length for your tie the strings together into a knot at the bottom.
6. Tie the bracelet on your wrist or the wrist of a friend!



wrist,

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