

sona: simplify your life

User Guide

sona:vogue ric
700/500/300



Welcome

sona:vogue ric is a fully automatic hearing aid that combines high sound quality, best understanding of speech, and optimal listening comfort. We are convinced that the outstanding performance of your sona:vogue ric will provide valuable benefits in your daily life.

Please read this user guide thoroughly to benefit from all the possibilities your new sona:vogue ric has to offer. sona:vogue ric is a quality product developed by the Swiss company Sona Hearing. With proper use and care, you will be able to enjoy your sona:vogue ric for many years to come.

If you have any questions, please consult your hearing care professional. For further information, visit the Sona Hearing website at www.sonahearing.com

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1. Important information

Please read this information carefully before using the hearing aid.

A hearing aid will not restore normal hearing and will not prevent or improve a hearing impairment resulting from organic conditions. Only regular use of your hearing aid will help you to fully benefit from it. The use of a hearing aid is only a part of hearing rehabilitation and may need to be supplemented by auditory training and instruction in lipreading.

Hazard warnings

-  Use only hearing aids that have been specially programmed for you by a hearing care professional. Other hearing aids may be ineffective and may, in certain cases, even damage your hearing.
-  Changes or modifications to the hearing aid that were not explicitly approved by the manufacturer are not permitted. Such changes may damage your ear or the hearing aid.
-  Hearing aid batteries are toxic when swallowed. Keep out of reach of children and pets. If batteries are swallowed, consult your physician immediately.

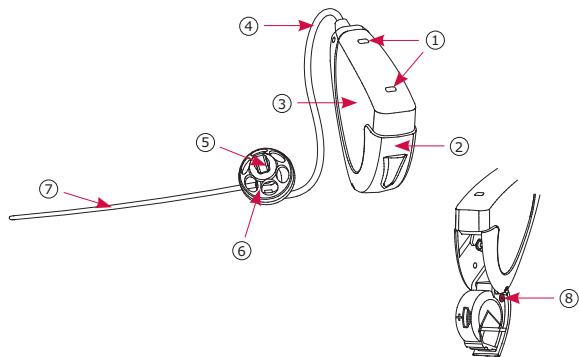
-  If you feel pain in or behind your ear, if it is inflamed, or if skin irritation and accelerated accumulations of earwax occur, please check with your hearing care professional or physician.
-  In very rare cases, the dome/earpiece can remain in the ear canal when the hearing aid is removed from the ear. In the unlikely case that any parts remain in the ear canal, it is strongly recommended to see a physician for safe removal.
-  Hearing aids in directional microphone mode reduce background sounds. Please be aware that warning signals or noises coming from behind, e.g. cars, are partially or entirely suppressed.
-  The hearing aid contains small parts which can be swallowed by children. Keep the hearing aids out of reach of children under three years of age.

Information on product safety

- ① Never immerse your hearing aid in water! Protect it from excessive moisture. Always remove your hearing aid before showering, bathing, or swimming.
- ① Protect your hearing aid from heat (e.g. never leave it near a window or in the car). Never use a microwave or other heating device to dry your hearing aid. Ask your hearing care professional about suitable drying methods.
- ① When you are not using your hearing aid, leave the battery compartment open so that any moisture can evaporate. Make sure you always completely dry your hearing aid after use. Store it in a safe, dry and clean place.
- ① Do not drop the hearing aid. Dropping onto a hard surface can damage it.
- ① Always use new batteries for the hearing aids. You can return used batteries to your hearing care professional.

- ① Remove the battery if you are not using your hearing aid for a long period of time.
- ① X-ray (e.g. from CT scans or MRI scans) may adversely affect the correct functioning of the hearing aids. We recommend that you remove them before undergoing X-ray procedures and keep them outside the room.
- ① Do not use the hearing aids in areas where electronic equipment is prohibited.

2. Product description



- ① Microphones
- ② Battery door with ON/OFF functionality
- ③ Color snap-on housing
- ④ Wire
- ⑤ Loudspeaker
- ⑥ Dome/earpiece
- ⑦ Retention
- ⑧ The side indicator, a small colored dot, is located inside the battery door.
(red = right; blue = left)

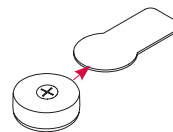
This hearing aid requires size 312 batteries.

3. Step-by-step instructions

This section provides step-by-step instructions on how to use the hearing aid. Please follow these steps carefully.

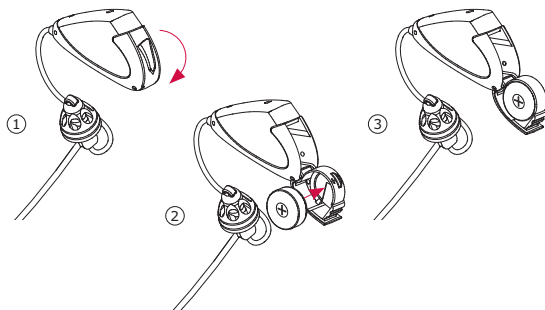
Step 1: Preparing the battery

Remove the protective foil from the new battery. Certain batteries need some time (max. two minutes) to activate.



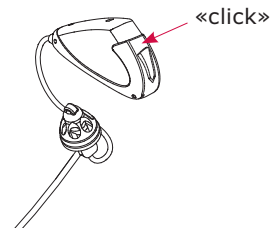
Step 2: Inserting the battery

Open the battery door. Insert the battery as shown below. Use size 312 batteries for this hearing aid.



Step 3: Turning on the hearing aid

Switch on the hearing aid by completely closing the battery door. Once switched on, the hearing aid is ready.



- i** Open and close the battery compartment gently and carefully.
- i** If there is any resistance when closing the compartment, check if the battery is correctly inserted. The compartment will not close if the battery is inserted upside down.

It can take up to five seconds before the hearing aid starts. When you wear the hearing aid, you will hear an acoustic signal that indicates when the device is switched on.

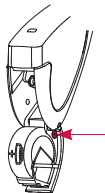
Step 4: Putting the hearing aid on

The hearing aids are individually programmed for your ears. Identify right and left so you will be able to insert each hearing aid in the correct ear. The side indicator is a small colored dot located inside the battery door.

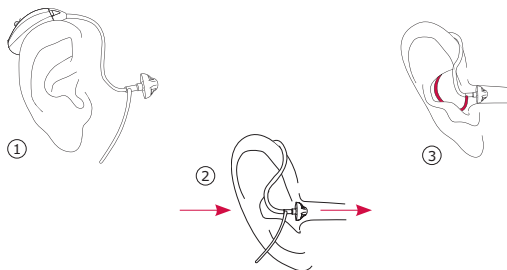
Side indicator

Red = right ear

Blue = left ear



Place the hearing aid behind your ear. Holding the wire between your thumb and index finger, insert the dome deep enough into the ear canal so that the wire lies flat on your ear. If the hearing aid has a retention, press it into the ear.

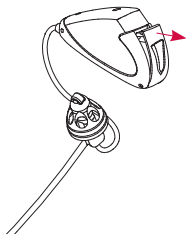


Step 5: Removing the hearing aid

Take the wire and gently pull the hearing aid from your ear.

Step 6: Switching off the hearing aid

You can turn off the hearing aid by opening the battery door.



Step 7: Replacing the battery

If the battery needs to be replaced, the hearing aid will play an acoustic signal (two beeps, each one second long). This signal is repeated until the battery is empty. This duration can vary. It is recommended to replace the battery after hearing the first warning signal.

4. Care and maintenance

Diligent and routine care of the hearing aid will contribute to outstanding performance and a long service life.

Please follow these guidelines:

General information

You should remove your hearing aid before using hair spray or applying cosmetics; these products may damage it. Never wash or clean the microphones. Doing so could cause the loss of special acoustic properties.

Daily

Inspect the dome/earpiece for earwax and moisture deposits. Clean the surfaces with a lint-free cloth. Never use cleaning agents such as household detergents, soap, etc. for cleaning your hearing aid. If you need to clean your hearing aid intensively, ask your hearing care professional for advice.

Weekly

Clean the dome/earpiece with a soft, damp cloth or with a special cleaning cloth for hearing aids. For more in-depth maintenance instructions, or for more than basic cleaning, please see your hearing care professional.

5. Troubleshooting

Hearing systems sound softer than usual or no sound is audible at all

Check the dome for earwax residue and clean if necessary. Check and make sure that the battery is correctly inserted. If there is no improvement, change the battery. If the problem persists, contact your hearing care professional.

Battery lifetime is shorter than usual

Insert a new battery and make note of exactly how long it lasts. Contact your hearing care professional with this information.

Crackling or buzzing noises

Check the wire and dome for earwax residue or damage (color changes, hardening, or cracks) and contact your hearing care professional if replacement is necessary.

Whistling

Make sure the dome is correctly and firmly fitted in the ear. If this is the case, but the problem persists, consult your hearing care professional.

Pain or inflammation in your ear

Remove the hearing aid and consult your hearing care professional. If the problem is serious, contact your physician.

6. Service and warranty

Each hearing aid is covered by a manufacturer warranty. Ask your hearing care professional for details. This warranty covers repairs in case of processing and material defects.

The warranty does not cover damage due to:

- : normal wear and tear
- : improper handling or care
- : exposure to chemicals
- : immersion in water
- : overstraining


In case of damage caused by third parties or unauthorized service, the manufacturer warranty is null and void. This warranty does not cover services performed by a hearing care professional at his or her workplace.


7. Compliance information


Declaration of conformity


The manufacturer hereby declares that this product meets the requirements of the Medical Devices Directive 93/42/EEC. The full text of the Declaration of conformity can be obtained from the manufacturer.


8. Information and explanation of symbols


 The manufacturer hereby declares that this product meets the requirements of the Medical Devices Directive 93/42/EEC. The full text of the Declaration of conformity can be obtained from the manufacturer.

 This symbol indicates that the products described in this user guide adhere to the requirements for an application part of a type BF EN 60601-1. The surface of the hearing aid is specified as a type BF application part.

 This symbol indicates that it is important for the user to read and take into account the relevant information in this user guide.

 The symbol with the crossed-out garbage bin is to make you aware that this hearing aid should not be thrown away as normal household waste. Please dispose of old or unused hearing aids at waste disposal sites intended for electronic waste, or give your hearing aid to your hearing care professional for disposal. Proper disposal protects the environment and public health.

 This symbol indicates that it is important for the user to pay attention to the relevant warning notices in this user guide.

 Important information for handling and product safety.

Operating conditions

The product is designed such that it functions without problems or restrictions if used as intended, unless otherwise noted in this user guide.

Storage conditions

During storage, the temperature should not fall below -20°C nor exceed 60°C , and relative humidity should not exceed 70% for a long period of time.

9. FDA regulations

Warning to hearing aid dispensers

A hearing aid dispenser should advise a prospective hearing aid user to consult promptly with a licensed physician (preferably an ear specialist) before dispensing a hearing aid if the hearing aid dispenser determines through inquiry, actual observation, or review of any other available information concerning the prospective user, that the prospective user has any of the following conditions:

- (i) Visible congenital or traumatic deformity of the ear.
- (ii) History of active drainage from the ear within the previous 90 days.
- (iii) History of sudden or rapidly progressive hearing loss within the previous 90 days.
- (iv) Acute or chronic dizziness.
- (v) Unilateral hearing loss of sudden or recent onset within the previous 90 days.
- (vi) Audiometric air-bone gap equal to or greater than 15 decibels at 500 hertz (Hz), 1,000 Hz, and 2,000 Hz.
- (vii) Visible evidence of significant cerumen accumulation or a foreign body in the ear canal.

- (viii) Pain or discomfort in the ear. Special care should be exercised in selecting and fitting a hearing aid whose maximum sound pressure level exceeds 132 decibels because there may be risk of impairing the remaining hearing of the hearing aid user. (This provision is required only for those hearing aids with a maximum sound pressure capability greater than 132 decibels [dB].)

Important notice for prospective hearing aid users

Good health practice requires that a person with a hearing loss have a medical evaluation by a licensed physician (preferably a physician who specializes in diseases of the ear) before purchasing a hearing aid. Licensed physicians who specialize in diseases of the ear are often referred to as otolaryngologists, otologists or otorhinolaryngologists. The purpose of medical evaluation is to assure that all medically treatable conditions that may affect hearing are identified and treated before the hearing aid is purchased.

Following the medical evaluation, the physician will give you a written statement that states that your hearing loss has been medically evaluated and that you may be considered a candidate for a hearing

aid. The physician will refer you to an audiologist or a hearing aid dispenser, as appropriate, for a hearing aid evaluation. The audiologist or hearing aid dispenser will conduct a hearing aid evaluation to assess your ability to hear with and without a hearing aid. The hearing aid evaluation will enable the audiologist or dispenser to select and fit a hearing aid to your individual needs.

If you have reservations about your ability to adapt to amplification, you should inquire about the availability of a trial-rental or purchase-option program. Many hearing aid dispensers now offer programs that permit you to wear a hearing aid for a period of time for a nominal fee after which you may decide if you want to purchase the hearing aid.

Federal law restricts the sale of hearing aids to those individuals who have obtained a medical evaluation from a licensed physician. Federal law permits a fully informed adult to sign a waiver statement declining the medical evaluation for religious or personal beliefs that preclude consultation with a physician. The exercise of such a waiver is not in your best health interest and its use is strongly discouraged.

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