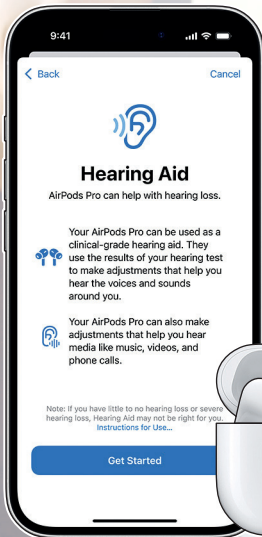


Apple AirPods can be hearing aids

The U.S. FDA authorises a software update for Apple's AirPods Pro 2, adding a feature that enables their use as over-the-counter clinical-grade hearing aids



With introduction of **iOS 18** for **iPhone**, users wearing pair of **AirPods Pro 2** earphones can use **Hearing Test** app to create personalised audio profile for new **Hearing Aid** feature*



AirPods Pro 2 cost: **\$250[†]**

Noise-cancelling microphones: Repurposed to listen to surrounding environment and boost sounds in real time. Hearing profile automatically applied to music, movies, games and phone calls across all user's Apple devices

WHAT YOU NEED

iPhone SE 2nd generation (out Apr 2020) or any later model to run new iOS 18 operating system (from Sep 2024)

AirPods Pro 2 (launched Sep 2022) or updated version with USB-C charging port (out Sep 2023). Needs ***firmware update 7A294***

*Users aged 18 or over with perceived mild to moderate hearing impairment

[†]Substantially less than fitted hearing aids which can cost thousands of dollars

Sources: The Verge, FDA, MacRumors, Apple

Pictures: Apple

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