

detection



protection



validation



Attenuation
Comfort
Ease of Fit

Discover why it's the science that makes the difference

40 years ago this simple hearing protector, the world's first foam ear plug, revolutionised hearing protection in the workplace and has remained to this day one of the most widely used ear plugs in the world.

Discover what makes 3M™ E-A-R™ Classic™ earplugs different

As the world's first foam ear plug, the E-A-R Classic earplug revolutionised hearing protection in the workplace. Since its introduction to the market no other ear plug has been studied and assessed in the field more comprehensively than the E-A-R Classic.

Discover for yourself what makes the E-A-R Classic earplug so different and why it remains one of the most popular choices of ear plug in the world today for attenuation, comfort and ease-of-fit.



Did you know?

3M E-A-R foam is so durable that some of the first production earplugs from 1974, retained as laboratory samples in the 3M E-A-RCal facility in Indianapolis, still perform within the latest EN Standards.

Attenuation

The 3M™ E-A-R Classic™ earplugs foam is a proprietary slow recovery vinyl formulation engineered to protect against noise and vibration and to expand to the shape of the wearer's ear canal thereby providing an effective acoustic seal.

- **Reliable protection:** E-A-R Classic earplugs have been subject to many 'real world' attenuation studies looking at the comparison between laboratory generated data and field performance, proving their reliability.
- **Independently tested and approved:** E-A-R Classic earplugs are fully tested and CE approved against the Harmonised European Standard EN352-2:1993. The E-A-R Classic earplug has been tested in more than 30 laboratories worldwide, more than any other foam earplug.

- **Proven performance:** The E-A-R Classic earplug has consistently outperformed other earplugs in a dozen 'real world' studies, in 5 countries, with over 600 subjects.
- **Individual protection validation:** The unique 3M E-A-RFit™ Validation System allows individual users of the E-A-R Classic earplugs to obtain their own Personal Attenuation Rating to help ensure best fit and protection.

Comfort

The E-A-R Classic earplugs have a number of unique in-ear characteristics which are determined by their shape, density, texture and resistance to moisture. These combine to ensure all-day comfort and protection in a wide range of working environments.

- **Cylindrical shape:** Flat-end cylindrical ear plugs helps provide an effective seal even when the jaw is subject to constant movement thereby providing 'customisation' to best fit the changing dynamics of the ear canal when, for example, talking or eating.

- **Sweat and humidity resistant:** E-A-R Classic foam is resistant to moisture, preventing the ear plugs expanding too quickly which can make it harder to re-insert the ear plug into the ear canal.
- **Stays in place:** The textured surface of the E-A-R Classic earplug provides greater friction which improves grip inside the ear canal. This helps prevent slippage and maintains an effective seal over prolonged wear time.

Ease-of-fit

Every ear canal is unique. Which is why ease-of-fit is so important in optimising hearing protection. The 3M E-A-R foam's unique properties achieve the perfect balance between stiffness and softness, helping to ensure a custom and comfortable fit, every time.

- **Firm foam properties:** The stiffness of the E-A-R Classic earplugs strikes an optimum balance between the softness needed for comfort and the firmness that prevents the ear plug from folding or collapsing when inserted into the ear canal.

- **Roll down quickly and easily:** E-A-R Classic earplugs roll down into a tightly compressed cylinder, making them easier to insert into the ear canal.
- **Slow recovery foam:** Slow recovery helps ensure a good custom fit inside virtually all ear canals.
- **Fits most ear-canals:** The standard-sized E-A-R Classic earplug fits a wide range of ear canals. Also available from 3M are the 3M™ E-A-R Classic Small™ earplugs for narrow ear canals, and the 3M™ E-A-R Superfit 36 earplugs for larger ear canals.

To discovery more about the science behind E-A-R Classic earplugs, visit

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