About the Inventor

Mead C. Killion, PhD, founded Etymotic Research in 1983. Dr. Killion holds 88 US patents, with more pending. For 30 years, Dr. Killion has taught the advanced course in hearing aid electroacoustics at Northwestern University, where he is an adjunct professor. He has also been an adjunct professor at Rush University and the City University of New York, where he directed graduate research. He has given lectures on hearing and hearing aids in 19 countries, and has authored 85 published articles and 20 book chapters. Killion is an accomplished choir director, pianist and violinist. In his spare time, he runs half marathons, sails, and flies a sport plane.

About Etymotic Research

Etymotic Research, Inc. is a research, development and manufacturing company that develops products to measure, protect and enhance hearing. Etymotic is committed to providing high-quality, affordable products that promote hearing wellness. The company’s name “Etymotic” means true-to-the-ear, the fundamental principle in all product designs. Etymotic’s high-fidelity custom, ready-fit and electronic earplugs are used by musicians in orchestras, blues, jazz and rock groups worldwide.
COMMUNICATION ADVANTAGE...
The Extra Edge When Listening Conditions Are Less Than Ideal

The BEAN amplifies sounds and enhances your hearing experience so your conversations become more effective in the car, in social situations, and at a distance. It comes with or without a telecoil option.

FEATURES

- Sleek, innovative in-ear design in three color choices
- 2-position switch offers two levels of amplification
- Optional T-coil
- Includes an assortment of eartips to ensure comfort
- 1-year warranty
- Optional: Coverage for repairs and accidental damage

BENEFITS

- Enhances only soft sounds
- Provides exceptionally clear, natural communication — So natural many people don’t know it’s there
- No adjustments; no controls to adjust

For whom was the BEAN developed?
The BEAN Quiet Sound Amplifier is intended for persons of all ages who want the ability to communicate easily and effectively with family, colleagues and acquaintances in business and social situations. The BEAN has highly sophisticated technology that makes it easy to interact and compete in a complex world. The BEAN is used for daily routines and recreational activities.

The BEAN was developed for consumers who need a boost in sound for soft speech in a house of worship, classroom, courtroom, lecture hall, theatre or TV dialog. For many users The BEAN is like reading glasses, which are used only part of the time.

How does the BEAN work?
Circuitry in The BEAN automatically adjusts to the level of sound around you. Its continuously-variable recovery time allows instantaneous recovery from impact noise like hand claps and door slams, and slow recovery for loud sustained sounds with release at just the right time so you are never “off the air.” Your ears do not detect the change. Sound seems natural, but much clearer.

The T-coil BEAN can be used with hearing-aid compatible telephones and loop systems. Loop systems take their name from a loop of wire that is placed around a room or large area. The loop sends an electromagnetic signal to the T-coil BEAN, which then changes that signal to sound. The benefits are improved hearing in reverberant conditions or when a talker is too far away to be heard clearly with amplification.

Is the BEAN right for me?
The BEAN is a personal sound amplifier that automatically enhances soft sounds. It is intended for persons who want amplification to enhance sounds like /s/, /th/, /f/ and /t/ that contribute to the clarity of speech and the harmonics that give music its characteristic tone colors. Its built-in sensor detects and amplifies only soft sounds and is acoustically transparent for loud sounds.

“I could hear the chirping of goldfinch and pine siskins at the feeder 30 feet outside the double-sealed window and could not hear those birds before wearing the QSAs. Sound was perfectly natural. Awesome!”