

A NEW BREED OF HEADSET

INTRODUCTION

Today, choosing a headset for your cell phone is inevitably a compromise. You are forced to choose between good music features OR good speech features. You can't have both in one headset. Or can you?

The headset market is structured around two main alternatives: in-ear and on-ear headsets. In-ear models offer better music quality at the cost of blocking out ambient sound, which is awkward when you speak on the phone. Additionally, traditional in-ear models add pressure to your auditory canal, which is uncomfortable over time. On-ear headsets are more comfortable and better adapted for speech. The down side is that they have substantial sound leakage and lack the clarity and bass needed to impress the music lover.

Whichever you choose, you are forced to compromise. And frankly, that sucks.



THE BEST OF TWO WORLDS

At Freebit, we have made it our task to rid the world of this crippling compromise. The result is a new and unique breed of headset called The Freebit Hybrid. It's not an in-ear model. Not an on-ear model. It's the first headset that combines the advantages from both its predecessors, without inheriting any of its drawbacks.

Like every other Freebit model, the Hybrid is built around the patent protected C-shaped ear interface. Since the C-shape mimics the inner part of the outer ear it gives you a hand-in-glove fit, without adding pressure to the auditory canal. It is extremely comfortable and it always stays perfectly mounted in the ear.

The Hybrid looks like an in-ear model, but it does not seal the ear canal. Sound leakage is minimal and the sound channel fits everyone. Add to that the acclaimed comfort of the Freebit C-shape and you have the most complete ear interface ever.



DESIGN POSSIBILITIES

For a designer, the Freebit Hybrid is a dream come true. To start with, it has fewer design limitations than traditional headsets. The concept offers you several design alternatives.

If you choose, you can mount a smaller speaker element in the outer bowls of the auditory canal. In effect, this places the speaker element in the ear, giving you the possibility to create a big back volume, if you like.

On the other hand, you can choose to place the speaker element on the outside of the ear in the area called the concha. That means there will be enough space for speaker elements measuring 16 millimetres or more. This design option gives you the possibility to design a sound channel connecting the speaker element with the auditory canal, creating a front volume as well as minimising sound leakage. With such a big front volume the bass characteristics will be almost the same as in-ear models, without sealing the ear canal.

SUMMARY

A hybrid headset gives you better fit and far less sound leakage than on-ear models, and it fits more comfortably in the ear than traditional in-ear models. In addition, the hybrid gives you better speech features, better comfort and a tailored fit.

If you want a headset for music only, you should choose an in-ear model.

If you need your headset for both music and speech, you are better off with a hybrid.