

Aspect Fitting Reference Guide

Aspect Digital Signal Processor

1. Initial Fitting Procedures:

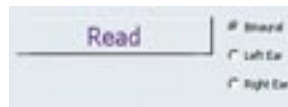
Enter patient information into the Standalone PFS (Standard ProHear) or NOAH database. Enter audiometric thresholds minimally at 500, 1000, 2000 and 4000 Hz. Please refer to your Aspect Fitting Kit Instructions for selection of the earbud and tubing.

2. Launch Hearing Instrument Fitting Module & Read:

From the PFS Module Launchpad, double click on the Hearing Aid Fitting button to launch the Hearing Aid Fitting module.



Select Binaural, Left Ear, or Right Ear. Click **Read** to establish communication with the hearing instrument(s).



Note: The programming socket for the Aspect OTE is located in the battery compartment.

Click **Best Fit** to optimally adjust the programmable parameters to approximate the targets for the selected fitting formula. Best Fit buttons can be found in either the button panel in the center of the screen, or in the toolbar.

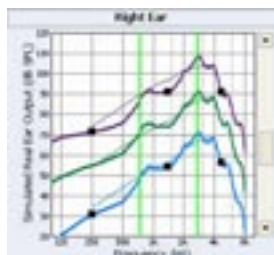


3. Fine Tuning:

The recommended adjustment view for Aspect is the Simulated Rear Ear Display accessed from your Display menu. From the Adjust tab, access Frequency Shaping, Volume Control, TK/CR, and the Equalizer by clicking on the appropriate subtab. Within each of these adjustment modes there are three main ways to fine-tune Aspect:

- 1) Drag and drop the curves on the fitting graph.
- 2) Adjust the slide controls on the control panel, or
- 3) Utilize the Expert Assistant fitting tool.

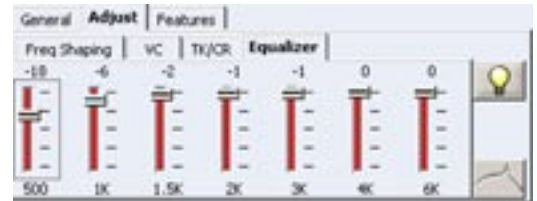
Drag and drop the curves of the fitting graph from either the General or Adjust tabs. Adjustments may be made by clicking and dragging a point within a channel or by dragging the crossover frequency line. Using the drag and drop function may ultimately adjust the gain, output and compression characteristics.



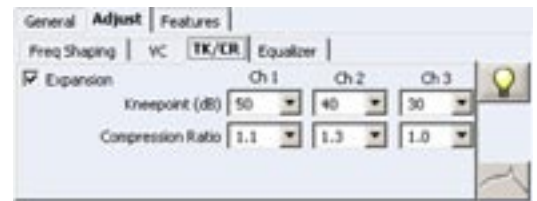
Aspect Frequency Shaping adjustments are made by adjusting the three Channels or the seven Equalizer Bands. Channel adjustments are made to the soft and/or loud curves. As the soft and loud responses are brought closer together, the compression ratio increases up to 3.0:1; as the soft and loud responses are separated, the compression ratio decreases to 1.0:1, or linear.



Click on the **Equalizer** subtab to fine tune the seven frequency specific bands. Adjusting the Equalizer bands will affect gain for all three input levels (soft, moderate and loud) equally and will have no effect on compression settings.



Select the **TK/CR** subtab for direct access to the Channel Kneepoints and Channel Compression Ratios.

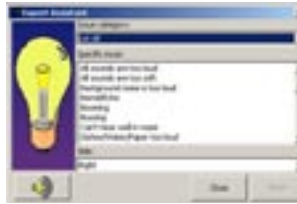


Click the **VC** subtab to make adjustments to the VC Position slider to adjust overall gain. These adjustments will be audible to the patient during programming.



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Click on the **Expert Assistant** button, available on the **Adjust** tab. From the Expert Assistant window, select the patient's complaint (e.g., Tinny) and then click **Begin**. Follow the prompts within the window to complete the adjustment for the complaint.

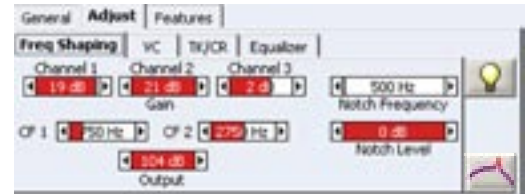


Feedback Management: Feedback Management must be run in the patient's ear and should always be performed in a quiet environment. Prior to running the algorithm, ensure that the room is quiet and the hearing instruments are fully inserted in the ears. Instruct the patient to remain quiet and still for the entire sequence. Click the Feedback Management button from the **Adjust** tab to start the algorithm. The sophisticated algorithm automatically scans for feedback at the use settings, adjusts compression characteristics for low-level inputs, and implements a notch filter when necessary.

4. Aspect Special Feature Adjustments:

From the **Features** tab, the following parameters are available:

Expansion: To adjust the amount of gain for very soft inputs (below the expansion/compression kneepoint), such as a refrigerator running or computer fan, Expansion may be set to **On** or **Off** by unchecking the Expansion checkbox on the Expansion subtab. The default settings are **On** when any threshold is better than 40 dB HL and **Off** when all thresholds are poorer than 40 dB HL. Audio files are available to help determine the appropriate Expansion setting. Click on the Audio File Player button in the toolbar or select it from the Activity menu to use this fitting tool.

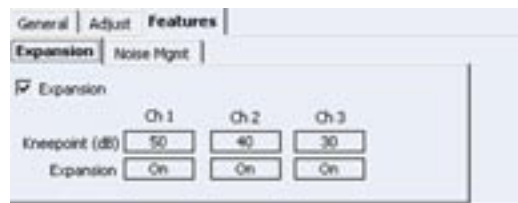


5. Programmable Indicator Tone:

The low battery beep tone is adjustable by selecting **Indicator Tones** from the Activity menu. A tone can be disabled or a test tone can be presented through the hearing instrument to verify audibility.

6. Program:

Click **Program**, either from the button panel in the center of the screen or from the toolbar, to store programming information into the hearing instrument.



Noise Management: To improve the patient's listening comfort in noisy environments, Noise Management may be activated. When Noise Management is activated, gain in the channel is automatically reduced when the speech/noise ratio (SNR) within the channel is poor (noise dominates as input to the channel). The default Noise Management setting is **Min**. The **Min** setting provides up to a 10 dB reduction in channel gain. The **Max** setting provides up to a 20 dB reduction in channel gain. The amount of channel gain reduction occurring at a given time will vary depending upon the channel SNR calculation. When the optional Noise Management feature is set to **Off**, no automatic gain reduction will occur in the presence of noise. Audio files are available to help determine the appropriate Noise Management setting. Click on the Audio File Player button in the toolbar or select it from the Activity menu to use this fitting tool.

