

PERSONAL LISTENING DEVICES

and their history

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THE EVOLUTION OF LISTENING

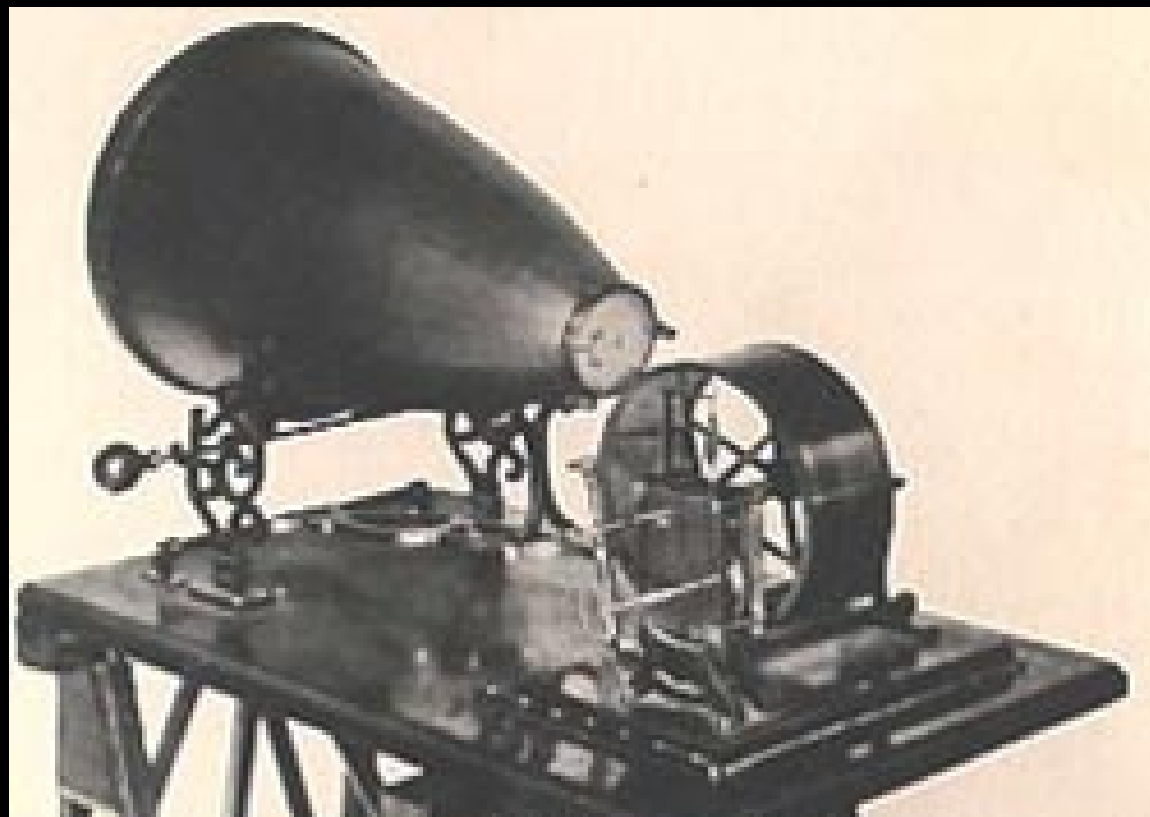
In early history, audio amplification resulted from **the attempt to cure hearing loss or deafness** this involved various medical concoctions and objects being inserted into the ear, all the way back to 1550 BC.

By the 13th century, **hollowed-out animal horns were made to create funnel-shaped objects to amplify sound**- though they weren't very effective.

The first officially recognized hearing aids, called ear trumpets, came out in the 17th century **they worked the same way as animal horns, funneling sound waves into the ear.**



Édouard-Léon Scott de Martinville invented the **phonautograph in 1853 to create a visual record of sound waves travelling through the air**- the first device **to imitate the human ear's structure and function**, it was intended to transform sound into a kind of writing, as a means to preserve and recall it.

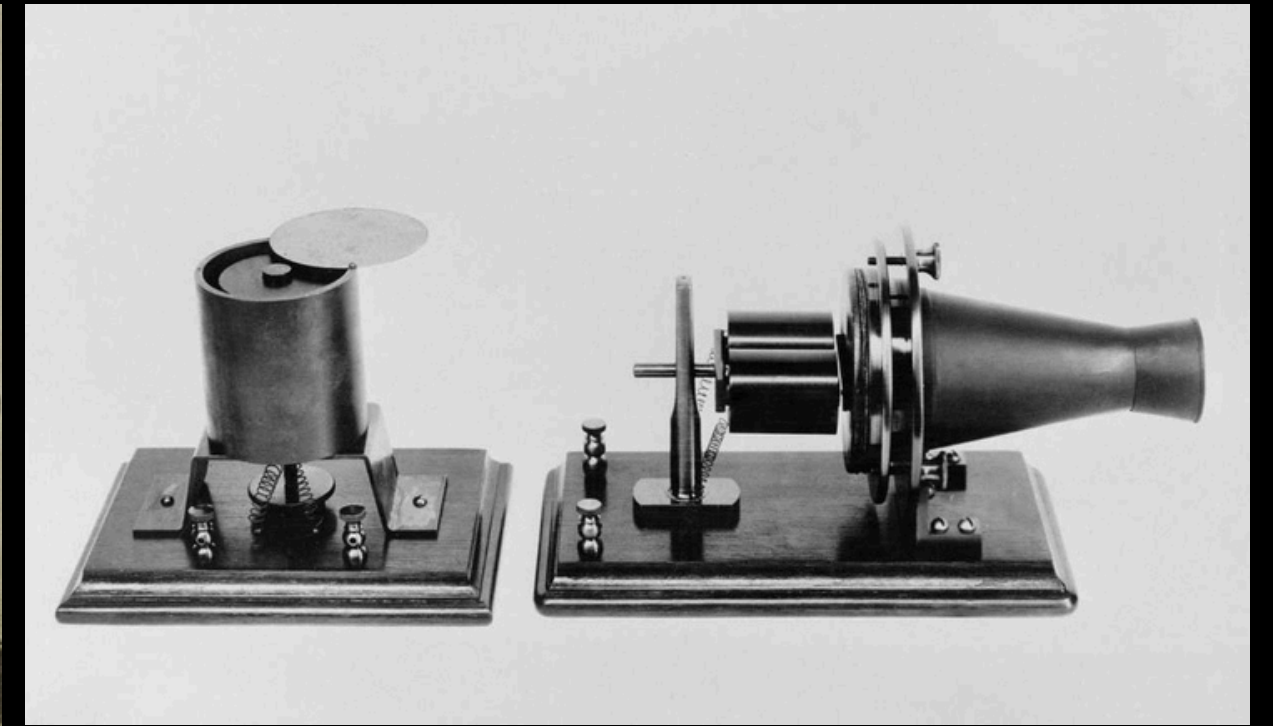


Phonautograph

Alexander Graham Bell invented **the telephone more than 20 years later**. Although, it is said that Italian innovator Antonio Meucci is credited with **inventing the first basic phone in 1849**. He developed the **telettrofono, an electromagnetic telephone**, to communicate with his sick wife upstairs from his basement laboratory. He filed a caveat for his design in 1871 but couldn't renew it due to financial hardship.



Phonograph



Bell's Telephone

Thomas Edison invented **the phonograph the next year in 1877**. **This was the first device that could both record and playback music**. The earliest phonographs used tinfoil cylinders wrapped around a metal cylinder to record and play sounds.

THE FIRST 'HEADPHONES', 1881

These 10-pound devices were first made to serve as a communication tool- telephone operators used them to keep their hands free and interact with customers. They were large and uncomfortable to put on, had mediocre sound quality, and were actually single pieces that rested on their shoulders.





1890s: The Electrophone



1910: The First Official Audio Headphones



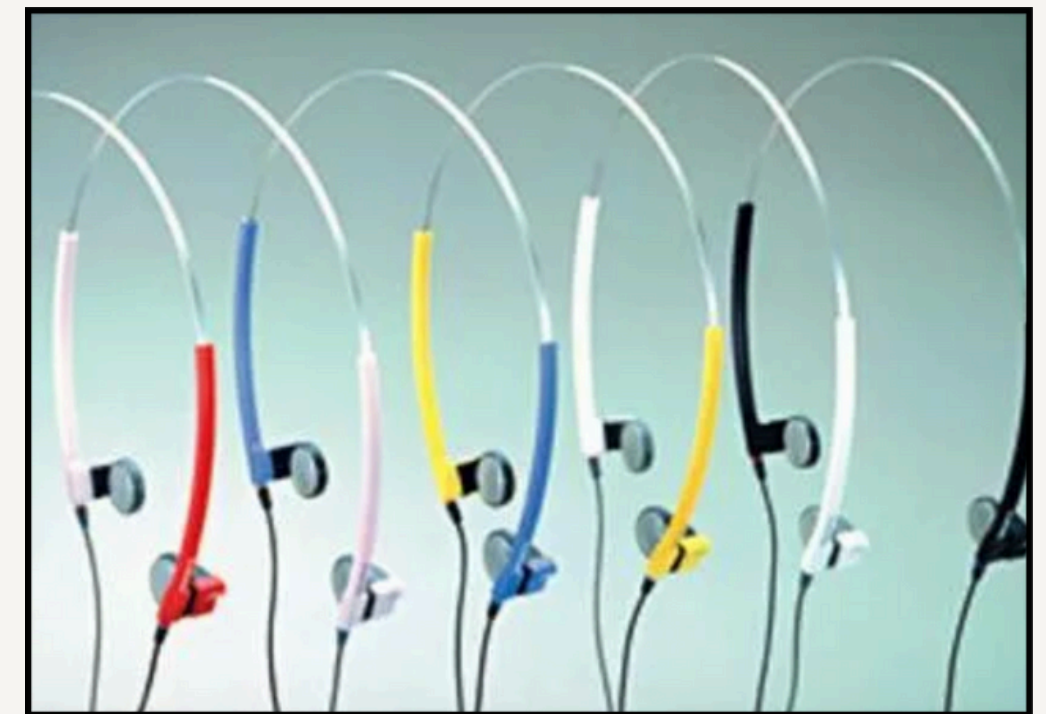
1937: The First Headphones for Personal Listening



1960s: The First Brand (Koss) endorsed by Musical Artists



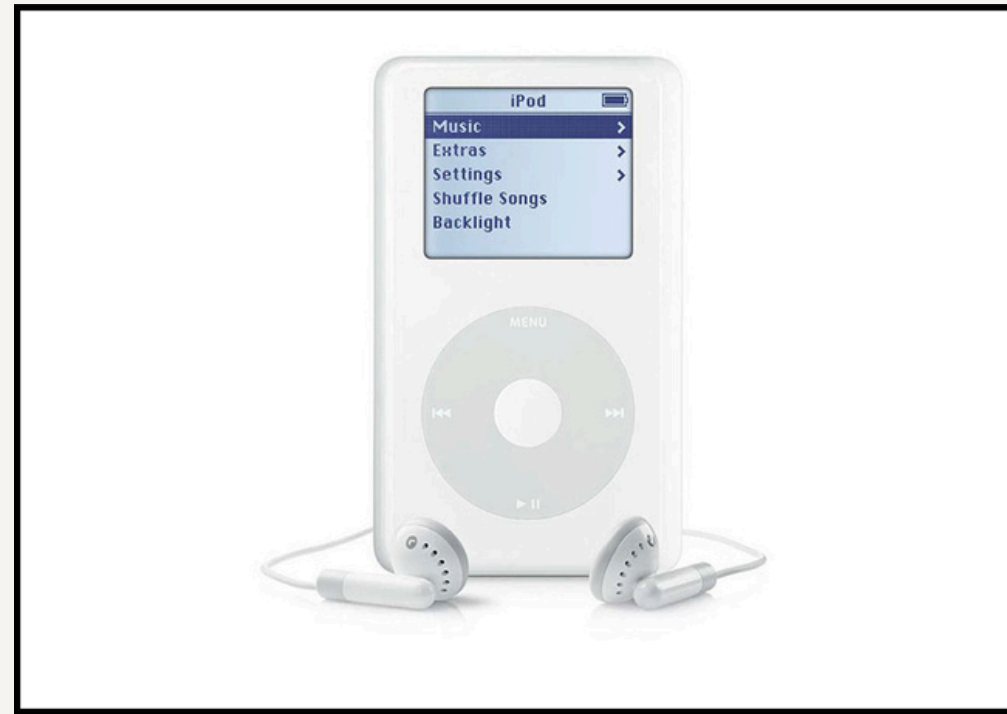
1970s: The First Sony Walkman and Portable Headphones



1980s: The First 'In-ear' Headphones to address 'Headphone Hair'



2000: The First Noise Cancelling Headsets (Bose)



2001: The Ipod and their Earbud Design Earphones



2004: The First Wireless / Bluetooth Headphones



2011s: Bass Heavy Headphones (for DJs)



2015: The First Truly Wireless Earbuds (Onkyo)



2017: Apple Airpods

PROS OF CURRENT DEVICES

- Enhanced speech clarity
- Improved audio clarity
- Customized listening experience
- Noise-canceling headphones: These can help you listen at lower volumes

CONS OF CURRENT DEVICES

- Wireless buds tend to get lost or fall out
- While wearing earphones, the surrounding awareness reduces
- Silicon covers on earphones?
- Pressure equalization in ear buds
- Cleaning dust and wax from earphones

CONTEXT

10 years down the line, a sustainable future awaits. Headphones that provide for multi-functionality. In a time of peace and harmony this product is created to disrupt the market. A device that enriches the listening experience and teleports you to a different space and time.

Mostly optimistic future.



OUR VISION

- Detachable headphones that can turn into speakers or mics
- Gesture controls and haptic feedback
- Long battery life and comfort
- Sustainable
- Bone conduction?
- Spatial audio
- Molds to the users comfort