

NOTHING (R)

get (open)



Reviewer's Guide

About Nothing

Founded in 2020, Nothing is here to make tech fun again. In less than four years, Nothing has sold millions of products worldwide, including Phone (1), which was listed on Time Magazine's Best Inventions of 2022 for Innovative Smartphone Design. Through cutting-edge design and user interface innovation, the London-based company is creating an alternative ecosystem of tech products for the young and creative.

In 2023, along with two second-generation products across the audio and smartphone segments, Nothing launched CMF by Nothing, a sub-brand focused on making wonderful design accessible to all.

In 2024, Nothing welcomed its third smartphone, Phone (2a). A powerfully unique device that provides the optimal daily smartphone experience. Nothing also established a new foundation of its audio product suite with two new wireless earbuds, Ear and Ear (a). Its sub-brand, CMF by Nothing, launched a host of second generation products as well as its very first smartphone, CMF Phone 1. Later in the year, Nothing amplified its recent model with the release of Phone (2a) Plus.

In 2024, Nothing also enhanced its AI user experience with industry-first ChatGPT integrations across all audio and smartphone products.

All Nothing products are developed in close collaboration with their community, which includes over 8,000 private investors, and are crafted with sustainability at the forefront.

(open) your world

Ear (open) offers an elevated listening experience that spotlights situational awareness, all while maintaining Nothing's reputation for superior sound quality, unmatched comfort and head-turning design.

Less interruption, more connection. A more present way to listen.



NOTHING (R)



Design

Design

Ultra-compact

Ear (open) is a tactical delight. At just 19 mm thin, it has one of the slimmest charging cases in the OWS category. Perfect for slipping in and of pockets, bags, or palms of hands.

Slim and see-through

In signature Nothing fashion, Ear (open) has a transparent material on the buds and at the top of the case. A design choice that celebrates the beauty of the craftsmanship beneath the surface, while accentuating the slim nature of the earbuds themselves.

Intuitive storage

Ear (open) earbuds have been strategically positioned in the case for the utmost ease when it comes to access. No fuss, no fiddling. Just open the case, grab and go.



NOTHING (R)



Open Sound Technology

Open Sound Technology

Blissfully aware

Ear (open)'s unique speaker design presents an open soundstage that blends in with people's daily lives. Whether it's the birds singing or a car coming around the corner, Open Sound Technology means users get to hear everything they want and need.

Sound Seal System

Ear (open) is engineered with a Sound Seal System and directional speakers to minimise sound leakage for a private listening experience. Reverse sound waves are generated at the rear acoustic ports, which are then superimposed on the sound from the front acoustic ports. This effectively means sound waves are cancelled out, ensuring precise audio transmission from Ear (open) to ear.

No pausing

Ear (open) allows users to stay focused whilst still being available to those around them. No need to pause audio during interactions so Ear (open) can keep playing all-day long. A more organic way to listen.

NOTHING (R)



Comfort

Comfort

Free the ear canal for ultimate comfort

Ear (open) is tilted at 50 degrees to position the speaker directly over the ear and at the point of most comfort. From a technical point of view, it sits right between the helix root and the tragus of the ear. The result is a feeling of wearing nothing at all.

Feels like Nothing

We incorporated a three-point balance system (front, top and back of ear) to optimise the comfort of Ear (open). After numerous iterations and feedback from around the world, we found the perfect fit for every ear shape.

Arranged from thin to thick, the ear hooks have a silicone skin-kind material for utmost comfort. The silicone's flexibility and gentle force means it doesn't put pressure on the ears.

NOTHING (R)

ear (open)

Weightless and secure

The three-point structure of Ear (open) is mutually reinforcing for extra stability. Engineered for human ears, the naturally raised areas at the helix root and tragus cradle the earbuds, adding to the balancing work. The ear hooks also feature a nickel-titanium wire that makes them both flexible and resilient. At 8.1 g per bud, Ear (open) offers an extra secure, weightless fit that can withstand every run, walk, cycle or skate.





Sound quality

Sound quality

Stepped driver

While typical drivers are straight in design, we took the more challenging route and engineered a stepped driver to move the sound physically closer to the ear. This solution ensures better sound consistency without compromising on comfort.

Custom diaphragm

The diaphragm on Ear (open)'s driver is uniquely shaped so that it cinches and flattens in the middle rather than at the ends. This innovative, patent-pending design is exclusive to Nothing. It reduces distortion and deepens the sound of low frequencies so that bass-heavy tracks hit like they should.

Titanium coating

We chose a titanium coating on the diaphragm for its lightweight and robust nature. The silver-hued top layer reproduces crisp high-frequency notes with flawless accuracy. Titanium's strength means it can move quickly without bending or distorting, which is crucial for accurately reproducing sound, especially at high frequencies. In fact, it offers an increase of 3 dB (above 12 KHz) compared to traditional paper diaphragms.

Ultra-light elements

Ear (open)'s driver is made up of components that are nearly 30% lighter than those used in typical earbuds. The unique lightness boosts mid and high frequencies by up to 3 dB. The result is sound that appears clearer, louder and more vibrant.

Advanced EQ

Dive deeper into sound with our Advanced Equaliser, giving users more customisation through a simple graphical interface that goes beyond bass and treble. Listening is elevated with Q Factor and frequency control. Users can then create separate profiles for different genres and easily share or import via a QR code.

Bass Enhance

An automatic algorithm that detects music signals of low frequencies with speed and accuracy, and then adjusts the sound settings accordingly. For an immersive listening experience that goes deeper. During playback, the algorithm continuously monitors the music signals in real time within this low frequency range, adjusting the bass gain accordingly.

NOTHING



Performance



Performance

Battery

Users can enjoy 8 hours of playback with the earbuds and a combined 30 hours when using them with the case. Charge for just 10 minutes to get 2 hours of music. In terms of talk time, Ear (open) allows 6 hours of non-stop conversation with the earbuds and a combined 24 hours with earbuds and case.

Clear Voice Technology

Less noise and echo, more clarity and crispness. Two mics are combined with our AI-enhanced Clear Voice Technology that's been sampled on over 28 million scenarios. Ensures Ear (open) is prepared for any call environment.

To handle gusty conditions, the talk mic features a unique L-shaped pickup channel, while the feedforward mic is discreetly placed on its side to avoid direct wind. All tactically positioned to effectively reduce wind noise.

Low Lag Mode

Seamless gaming. With Low Lag Mode, Ear (open) can impressively reduce audio lag compared to normal use. For Nothing Phone users, Low Lag Mode will be triggered automatically when users are in Game Mode and connected to the earbuds. With end-to-end latency at less than 120ms. No need to open the app. For non-Nothing phone users, it can be turned on in the Nothing X app.

Dual Connection

For easy activity switching, Ear (open) lets users be connected to two devices at the same time. People can be playing music on a laptop, then seamlessly switch to answer a call on the phone. When users hang up, their music picks up where they left off.

NOTHING



ChatGPT

NOTHING



ChatGPT

ChatGPT

Ask, listen and learn from ChatGPT on the go.
A first-of-its-kind integration, made for the Nothing ecosystem. With bespoke Nothing widgets that deliver the answers people need faster, and at their fingertips. Allows users to text, voice or image search right from their home screen. Only available on Nothing OS.

Voice control

Users can use their voice to access ChatGPT instantly via Ear (open). Setup via the Nothing X app. Compatible with all Nothing and CMF by Nothing audio products.



nothing



Specs



Technical specifications

In the box

Pair of earbuds
Charging case
USB-C cable
User guide
Safety and warranty information

Design

Earbud: 51.3 width x 41.4 height x 14.4 depth (mm), 8.1 g (± 0.1 g)
Case: 125.9 width x 44.0 height x 19.0 depth (mm), 62.4 g

Sound

Driver: 14.2 mm dynamic driver
Diaphragm: Titanium-coated polyethylene terephthalate
Tuning: Nothing custom
Bass Enhance algorithm

Battery

Earbud: 64 mAh
Case: 635 mAh

Wired charging

USB-C

Playback

Earbuds: 8 hours
Earbuds + case: 30 hours





Talk time

Earbuds: 6 hours

Earbuds + case: 24 hours

Connectivity

Bluetooth: version 5.3

Android version: 5.0 and above

iOS version: 13 and above

Codecs: AAC, SBC

Profiles: RFCOMM, SPP, HFP, A2DP,
AVDTP, AVCTP, AVRCP

Other features

IP Rating: IP54 for earbuds and case

Pinch Controls

Single pinch: play/pause, answer/hang up calls

Double pinch: skip forward, reject calls

Triple pinch: skip back

Pinch and hold (left & right earbuds): adjust volume
(Left: volume down, Right: volume up)

More options in the Nothing X app

Google Fast Pair: yes

Microsoft Swift Pair: yes

Dual Connection: yes

AI Clear Voice Technology: yes

LED charging status light: yes



NOTHING (R)

ear (open)

Nothing X app (available on Android and iOS)

Custom EQ

Customise controls

Find My Earbuds: Yes

Low Lag Mode

Dual Connection

Sustainability

Lifecycle carbon footprint: 3.0 kg CO₂e

100% recycled tin solder paste

100% renewable energy used for final assembly

