

# Stethoscopes

Instructions  
& Warranty



**PRESTIGE**  
MEDICAL®

# Thank you for your purchase

Thank you for choosing a Prestige Medical® stethoscope.

We strive to provide products and services of the highest possible standards to satisfy your needs and expectations of quality, performance and reliability.

Most Prestige Medical® stethoscopes are backed with an industry-leading Lifetime Warranty including Free Lifetime Replacement Parts.\*



***Please take a moment to review this manual to become familiar with the recommended practices for using and caring for your stethoscope.***

*\* Please see page 13 for Warranty details*

# Stethoscope Design Features

## **Eartips**

The eartip is critical to the optimal performance of a stethoscope. It's designed to conform to the outer ear canal to seal out extraneous sound. Prestige Medical includes soft PVC eartips with all stethoscopes to enhance their performance and comfort.

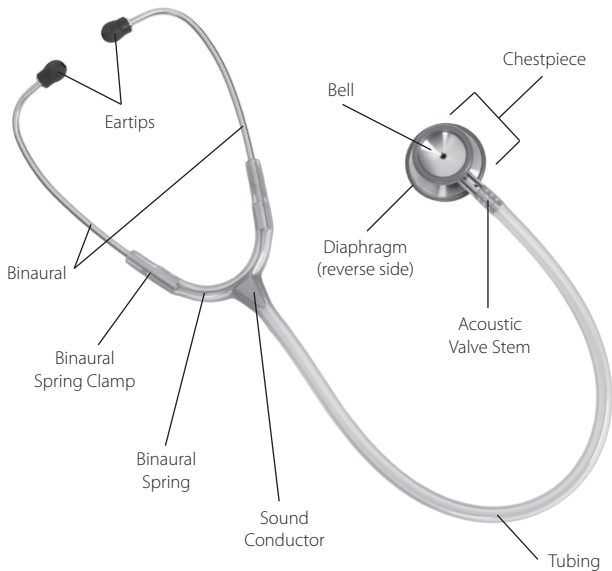
## **Tubing**

Stethoscope tubing is designed to transfer acoustic sound waves channeled by the stethoscope's diaphragm and bell to the practitioner during auscultation. The thickness of the tube is an important factor in enhancing the efficiency of sound transference. Thicker stethoscope tubing transfers sound waves more efficiently while minimizing acoustic interference from the ambient environment. Most Prestige Medical stethoscopes incorporate thick walled tubing to help deliver optimal performance.

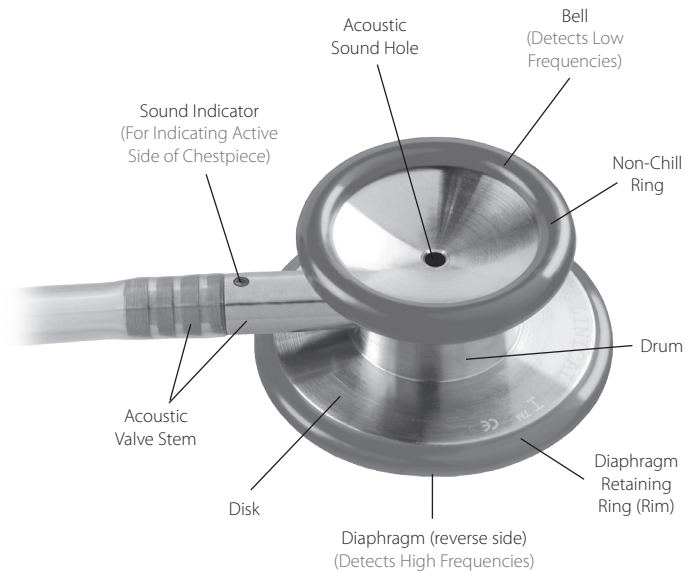
## **Metal**

There are three metals from which most Prestige Medical stethoscopes are constructed. Stainless steel is an alloy prized for its durability and resistance to corrosion, rust, and staining. It is also an excellent metal for the transference of sound waves. Aluminum is very light weight and economical and that lends a significant functionality benefit to those who prefer the convenience of a lighter weight instrument. Zinc is excellent for manufacturing complex stethoscope parts economically such as the Sprague-Rappaport chestpiece while still providing very good acoustic characteristics.

# Stethoscope Anatomy



# Chestpiece Anatomy



# Binaural Placement

Your stethoscope is designed to provide the most comfortable, acoustically sealed ear fit possible. Most stethoscopes are pre-angled at the anatomically correct angle of 15°. To attain the proper placement, the binaural headset should angle forward towards your face when placed into the ear canal (Fig. I).

**Note:** Do not angle the binaural headset backward (Fig. II).

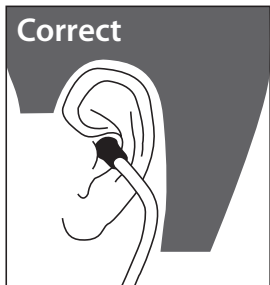


Fig. I

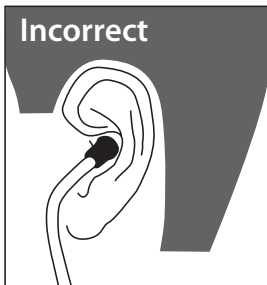


Fig. II

# Adjusting Binaural Tension

To adjust the spring tension of the binaural headset for a more comfortable fit, securely grasp both of the metal binaural tubes and either extend the tubes fully apart to reduce the tension or squeeze them together until they fully overlap to increase the tension (Fig. III and Fig. IV).

**Caution:** Do not overextend the binaural headset beyond the example shown in Fig. III as it may result in damage to the spring.

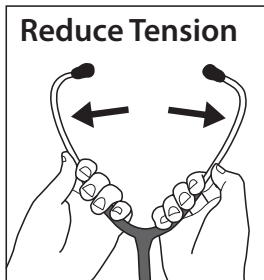


Fig. III

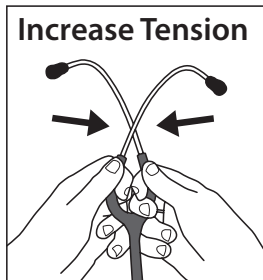


Fig. IV

# Indexing the Chestpiece

Stethoscopes with a dual head chestpiece enable the user to switch the active sound channel from the diaphragm side to the bell side or vice versa. To facilitate the identification of the active sound channel a Green Indicator Dot has been placed on the acoustic valve stem (Fig. V). If the Indicator Dot is oriented on the same side as the diaphragm, the diaphragm is active for auscultation. To switch to the bell side of the chestpiece, Index (rotate) the chestpiece 180° as shown in Fig. VI until the chestpiece “clicks” into place and the Indicator Dot is aligned with the bell side.

**Note:** The chestpiece can be rotated in either clockwise or counterclockwise directions.

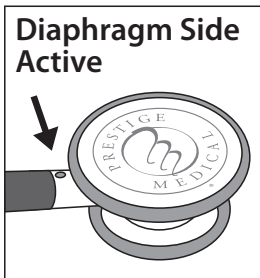


Fig. V

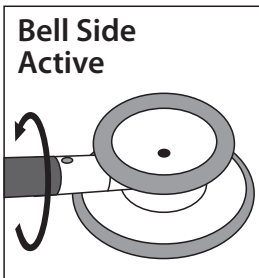


Fig. VI



# Converting the Chestpiece

Certain model stethoscopes allow the conversion of the chestpiece such as changing from pediatric to adult sizes. To convert the chestpiece you must first twist the entire diaphragm/ring/assembly counterclockwise and remove it from the drum (Fig. VII). To affix a new bell or diaphragm, twist it clockwise to securely fasten it to the drum (Fig. VIII).



Fig. VII

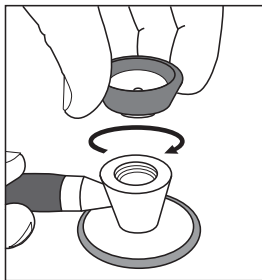


Fig. VIII

## Removing a Snap-On Diaphragm

Some stethoscopes come with a snap-on diaphragm with a plastic snap-on retaining ring. To remove the diaphragm, start by holding the chestpiece with the diaphragm facing up. Using both thumbs, forcibly push outward on the retaining ring (Fig. IX) until it becomes loose enough to fit one thumbnail under it to lift it up and off of the chestpiece (Fig. X).

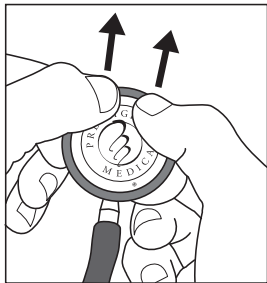


Fig. IX

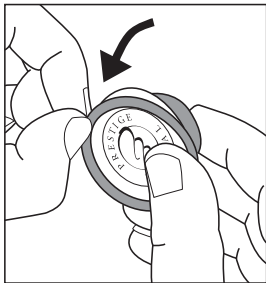


Fig. X

## Replacing a Snap-On Diaphragm

To replace the diaphragm, first insert the new diaphragm into the retaining ring with the logo facing towards the large lip (Fig. XI). After the diaphragm has been inserted, affix the retaining ring to the chestpiece by placing the small lip onto the edge of the chestpiece, push downward then inward towards the chestpiece. Using both thumbs, begin to run your thumbs in opposite directions around the edge of the retaining ring pushing it down to firmly secure it to the chestpiece (Fig. XII).

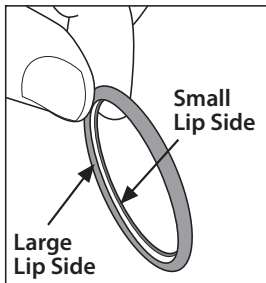


Fig. XI

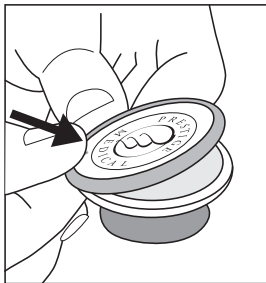


Fig. XII

# Care and Maintenance

- Avoid exposing your stethoscope to extreme heat, cold, direct sunlight, solvents or oils.
- Do NOT immerse your stethoscope in any liquid or subject it to steam sterilization.
- Do NOT autoclave your stethoscope.
- Binaural and tubing can be wiped clean with alcohol or mild soapy water.
- Chestpieces and diaphragms can be wiped clean with a 70% isopropyl alcohol solution.
- Earpieces can be removed from the binaural and cleaned with alcohol or mild soapy water.
- If complete sterilization is required, gas sterilize only.

# Troubleshooting

## **Why am I not hearing sounds clearly?**

Check the binaural headset to make sure that it has been placed into the ears at the correct angle (see Fig. I on page 5). Adjust the binaural headset to ensure proper tension and comfort (see Fig. III and Fig. IV on page 6). Check the chestpiece to note which side is active for auscultation (see Fig. V and Fig. VI on page 7).

## **How do I remove/replace the eartips?**

The Clinical stethoscope eartips are designed to pull-off or push-on to the metal eartip bushing. Simply pinch the eartip between the thumb and index finger and forcibly pull the eartip completely off of the bushing it is mounted on. Follow the same procedure to forcibly push the eartip back on to the bushing. Note: bushing should never be removed.

## **How can I more easily remove the diaphragm?**

If the plastic snap-on diaphragm retaining ring is cold and difficult to remove from the chestpiece, you may expose it briefly to a heat lamp or to a hot air blow dryer to slightly soften the ring to enable easier removal. See page 9.

## **The diaphragm retaining ring will not affix to the chestpiece:**

Check that the retaining ring's larger lip is facing down towards the chestpiece when affixing it to the chestpiece (see Fig. XI on page 10). The inside edge of the large retaining ring lip is designed to clasp onto the edge of the chestpiece after applying firm pressure to secure it.

## Lifetime Limited Warranty

Your stethoscope is warranted against defects in manufacturing during normal use by the original purchaser for the lifetime of the stethoscope\*. Any return must first be authorized by contacting Customer Support at **cs@prestigemical.com**.

## Free Lifetime Replacement Parts

Your stethoscope warranty also includes free lifetime replacement parts\*. The parts covered in this warranty program include: Eartips (pair), diaphragm, diaphragm retaining ring, non-chill ring, and bell ring. Free replacement parts are limited to one of each specified part per stethoscope per year.

In order to activate your free replacement parts warranty, please visit our website at **[www.prestigemical.com/warranty.aspx](http://www.prestigemical.com/warranty.aspx)** to register your stethoscope. To receive your free replacement parts, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope along with the completed stethoscope registration form to the nearest service center on the next page.

*\* Lifetime Warranty excludes Basic Series stethoscopes (Models : 103, 104, 105 and 110). All Basic Series stethoscopes feature a one year warranty.*

# Contact Information

## USA Service Center

Prestige Medical  
Attn: Parts Warranty Program  
8600 Wilbur Ave.  
Northridge, California 91324

## Europe Service Center

NCD Medical  
Attn: Parts Warranty Program  
Dermotstown, Naul  
Co. Dublin, Ireland

## Contact Us :

Email: [cs@prestigemedical.com](mailto:cs@prestigemedical.com)

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