

3M 5809

3M Littmann Classic III Stethoscope (Model 5809) User Manual

Comprehensive instructions for setup, operation, and maintenance.

1. INTRODUCTION

The 3M Littmann Classic III Stethoscope is a versatile diagnostic instrument designed for monitoring and assessing both adult and pediatric patients in non-critical care environments. Its compact and sensitive design allows clinicians to detect normal and abnormal sounds and rhythms with clarity. This manual provides essential information for the proper use, care, and maintenance of your stethoscope.



Figure 1: The 3M Littmann Classic III Stethoscope, featuring a copper-finish chestpiece and chocolate-colored tubing.

2. COMPONENTS

Your Littmann Classic III Stethoscope consists of the following primary components:

- **Headset:** Comprising the binaurals (ear tubes) and eartips.
- **Tubing:** Connects the headset to the chestpiece.

- **Chestpiece:** Dual-sided, featuring a large diaphragm for adult patients and a small diaphragm for pediatric patients.
- **Tunable Diaphragms:** Located on both sides of the chestpiece, allowing for the auscultation of both low and high-frequency sounds by simply adjusting pressure.



Figure 2: Exploded view illustrating the main components of the stethoscope.

3. SETUP AND ADJUSTMENT

1. **Eartip Attachment:** Ensure eartips are securely attached to the binaurals. Littmann stethoscopes are supplied with soft-sealing eartips for comfort and acoustic seal.
2. **Headset Tension:** The headset is designed to fit at an anatomically correct angle. Adjust the tension by pulling the ear tubes apart to decrease tension or squeezing them together to increase tension. The eartips should point forward, towards the user's nasal passages, for optimal sound transmission.
3. **Chestpiece Selection:** The Classic III features a dual-sided chestpiece. Rotate the chestpiece to select either the adult (larger) or pediatric (smaller) side. A click indicates the active side.



Figure 3: The stethoscope as it appears in its original packaging, ready for initial setup.

4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

The Littmann Classic III Stethoscope utilizes a tunable diaphragm on both sides of its chestpiece, allowing for versatile auscultation.

4.1 Using the Tunable Diaphragm

- **Low-Frequency Sounds:** Apply light pressure to the chestpiece. This allows the diaphragm to flex, enabling the auscultation of low-frequency sounds.
- **High-Frequency Sounds:** Apply firm pressure to the chestpiece. This restricts the diaphragm's movement, blocking lower frequencies and allowing higher-frequency sounds to be heard.

4.2 Converting to a Traditional Open Bell

The pediatric side of the chestpiece can be converted into a traditional open bell by removing the single-piece diaphragm and replacing it with a non-chill bell sleeve (not included, typically sold separately or as an accessory). To remove the diaphragm, grasp the rim and pull it off the chestpiece. To reattach, align the diaphragm with the rim and press firmly.

5. MAINTENANCE AND CARE

Proper care ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your stethoscope.

- **Cleaning:** The stethoscope can be wiped clean with 70% isopropyl alcohol or a 2% bleach solution. The eartips can be removed for thorough cleaning.
- **Disinfection:** For high-level disinfection, follow your institution's protocols for non-critical medical devices. Do not immerse the stethoscope in any liquid.
- **Storage:** Avoid extreme heat, cold, solvents, and oils. Store the stethoscope in a clean, dry place away from direct sunlight.
- **Tubing Care:** The tubing is designed to resist skin oils and alcohol, but prolonged exposure to harsh chemicals or extreme conditions should be avoided.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

Issue	Possible Cause	Solution
Poor Sound Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Improper eartip fit ◦ Blocked eartips/tubing ◦ Loose chestpiece components ◦ Incorrect chestpiece side selected 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Ensure eartips are snug and point forward. ◦ Clean eartips and check tubing for obstructions. ◦ Tighten chestpiece rim. ◦ Rotate chestpiece to activate the desired diaphragm.
Headset too loose/tight	Incorrect headset tension.	Adjust headset tension by pulling ear tubes apart or squeezing them together.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

- **Model:** 5809
- **Brand:** 3M Littmann
- **Chestpiece Finish:** Copper
- **Tubing Color:** Chocolate
- **Overall Length:** Approximately 27 inches
- **Weight:** Approximately 5.3 ounces (150 grams)
- **Chestpiece Material:** Stainless Steel
- **Diaphragm Type:** Tunable, single-piece
- **Patient Type:** Adult and Pediatric

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Your 3M Littmann Classic III Stethoscope is backed by a manufacturer's warranty. For specific warranty details, service, or technical support, please refer to the documentation included with your product or visit the official 3M Littmann website. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.



Figure 4: The product packaging, which may contain warranty information and contact details.

