

ROMET

MINI R355 w/ Intonation

Compact electronic speech aid

Operating Instructions

Welcome

Thank you for choosing Romet. The MINI R355 is our compact electronic speech aid — small enough to keep in a pocket, light enough to wear on the supplied lanyard, and powerful enough to give back the most personal thing you have: your voice. Like every modern Romet, the MINI speaks with intonation — the harder you press the main button, the higher your voice goes.

KEY FEATURES AT A GLANCE

- Intonation as standard — press harder for a higher pitch. Speak with emotion, not in monotone.
- Compact, pocketable form factor — purpose-built for users who want discretion.
- Lanyard-ready — two lanyard holes for comfortable wear around the neck or wrist.
- AAA batteries (3×) — universally available, no proprietary cells, no power-port worries when travelling.
- Color-coded battery LED — at-a-glance status. No menus to navigate.
- Three pitch and loudness modes — selectable from a single press of the function button.
- Intonation can be switched off — useful for very early-stage users, training settings, or personal preference.
- Pocket-safe — automatically shuts down if the main button is held longer than 10 seconds.
- Made by Romet — Polish engineering, ongoing support, spare parts available.

Quick start — speaking in three steps

1. Insert 3× AAA batteries. Twist the BATTERY LOCK on the top of the device counterclockwise to open the battery compartment, fit the cells the right

way around, and close. When the batteries seat correctly the status LED runs a short rainbow and finishes on the current battery color — see the LED table below.

2. Press the MAIN BUTTON. The device produces sound immediately while the button is held.
3. Place the SOUND HEAD gently against the soft tissue on the side of your neck and speak. Shape the sound into words with your mouth, just as you would with your natural voice.

Your device — parts and controls

The MINI R355 has five external elements. Two are physical controls, one is an indicator, and two are utility features.

Element	What it does
SOUND HEAD	The light-colored pad at the top of the device. This is the part you press against your neck. Keep it clean and dry.
MAIN BUTTON	The larger of the two buttons. Press to produce sound. Press lightly for a low tone; press harder for a higher tone and slightly greater loudness — this is intonation. Release to stop the sound.
FUNCTION BUTTON	The smaller of the two buttons. Used to change pitch/loudness mode, and to toggle intonation on or off. See the section below.
STATUS LED	The small light between the buttons. Indicates battery state during use, and confirms mode changes by flashing cyan, blue or magenta.
BATTERY LOCK	On the top of the device. Twist counterclockwise to open the battery compartment; twist clockwise to close. Hand-tight is enough — do not force.
LANYARD HOLES	Two small holes on the top of the device, intended for the supplied lanyard.

The function button — modes and intonation

The function button has two behaviors, distinguished by how long you hold it:

- Quick press — cycles through three modes that set both pitch and loudness: LOW → MIDDLE → HIGH. The device confirms each change with a short

vibration and a colored flash on the status LED (cyan = low, blue = middle, magenta = high).

- Long press (5–10 seconds) — toggles the intonation feature. Hold the function button until the device confirms; pressure-modulated pitch is now off. Hold it again for 5–10 seconds to switch intonation back on.

LED flash on mode change	Mode
CYAN	LOW — lower pitch, lower loudness. Quieter, more intimate.
BLUE	MIDDLE — balanced. Most users start here.
MAGENTA	HIGH — higher pitch, greater loudness. Useful for noisy environments.

WHY YOU MIGHT TURN INTONATION OFF

Some users — especially in the first weeks after laryngectomy — find it easier to learn placement and articulation with a steady tone. Switching intonation off temporarily takes pressure-control out of the equation so the user can focus on basics. Most users then re-enable intonation as they become more confident.

Status LED — battery and welcome

When you press the main button, the status LED reports battery level by colour. When you insert fresh batteries, the LED runs a short rainbow welcome and then settles on the current battery color.

LED signal	Meaning
GREEN	Battery fully charged.
YELLOW	Approximately 75% capacity or less. Plenty of life left.
RED	Approximately 25% capacity or less. Plan to change batteries soon.
BLINKING RED	Battery below 10%. Replace batteries now.
RAINBOW	Welcome sequence after inserting fresh batteries. Ends on the current battery colour.

During a mode change, the LED uses a different color scheme (cyan / blue / magenta) — see the function button section above. These flashes are short and easy to tell apart from the steady battery colors.

Speaking with intonation

Intonation is what makes the MINI sound like a voice rather than a tone generator. The device reads how firmly you press the main button:

- Light press → lower pitch within the selected mode.
- Firm press → higher pitch within the selected mode.

In practice, this lets you lift your voice at the end of a question, emphasize a word, or sound surprised, just by varying finger pressure.

PRACTICE EXERCISE

Say the sentence: “You did what?”

On a flat-tone device, all four words sound the same. With intonation on, press harder on the last word (“what”) and you will hear a rising question — the way a hearing listener expects it to sound. Try the same sentence as a calm statement (“You did what.”) by easing pressure on the last word.

Batteries

- Uses three (3) AAA cells. For the longest battery life, fit lithium AAAs or good-quality rechargeable AAAs (sold separately by Romet and most electronics retailers).
- Alkaline AAAs work fine and are available anywhere — useful when travelling.
- Twist the battery lock counterclockwise to open. Always close the lock fully before use.
- When new batteries are inserted, the LED runs a short rainbow welcome and finishes on the current battery color.
- If the device will not be used for several weeks, remove the batteries to prevent leakage damage.

Pocket protection

If the main button is held down for more than 10 seconds, the device automatically powers off. This prevents accidental, continuous discharge if the

button is pressed by something in a pocket or bag. To resume, simply press the main button again.

Care and cleaning

- Wipe the body and sound head with a soft cloth lightly dampened with water or a mild medical wipe. Do not soak the device.
- Do not use alcohol or solvents directly on the sound head — they can degrade the contact surface.
- Keep the battery compartment dry. If a battery leaks, remove it carefully, clean the contacts with a dry cotton bud, and fit fresh cells. If corrosion is heavy, contact your distributor.
- Store at room temperature. Avoid parked cars in summer and prolonged freezing temperatures.
- The device is not waterproof. Do not use in the shower or rain.

Troubleshooting

Symptom	Try this
No sound when I press the main button.	Check that the batteries are fresh and seated the right way around (the LED should run a rainbow when you re-insert them). If the LED blinks red, replace the batteries.
Sound is very quiet.	Quick press the FUNCTION BUTTON to step up to the next mode (cyan → blue → magenta). Check that the sound head is in firm contact with the soft tissue of your neck — air gaps kill the signal.
Voice sounds harsh or distorted.	You may be pressing the main button much harder than needed. Ease off. Also check the sound head is clean.
Pitch will not change with pressure.	Intonation may have been switched off. Press and hold the FUNCTION BUTTON for 5–10 seconds to switch it back on.
The device turned off by itself.	If the main button was held for more than 10 seconds, the device shut down to protect the batteries. Press the main button again.
LED never lights up.	Open the battery lock, re-seat the three AAA cells, and close. If the LED still does not respond

Symptom	Try this
	with fresh batteries, contact your distributor.

For family and friends

The first weeks with a new electronic larynx are the hardest. A few small things from the people around the user make an enormous difference:

- Give them time. Conversation will be slower at first. Don't finish their sentences unless they ask you to.
- Face them when they speak. Lip reading naturally complements electro laryngeal speech and helps everyone.
- Reduce background noise where you can — turn down the TV, move away from a fan or extractor.
- Treat the device as part of them, not a curiosity. Don't pick it up without asking.

Encourage them to keep practicing with their speech therapist. The voice that comes out at week six is much more natural than week one.



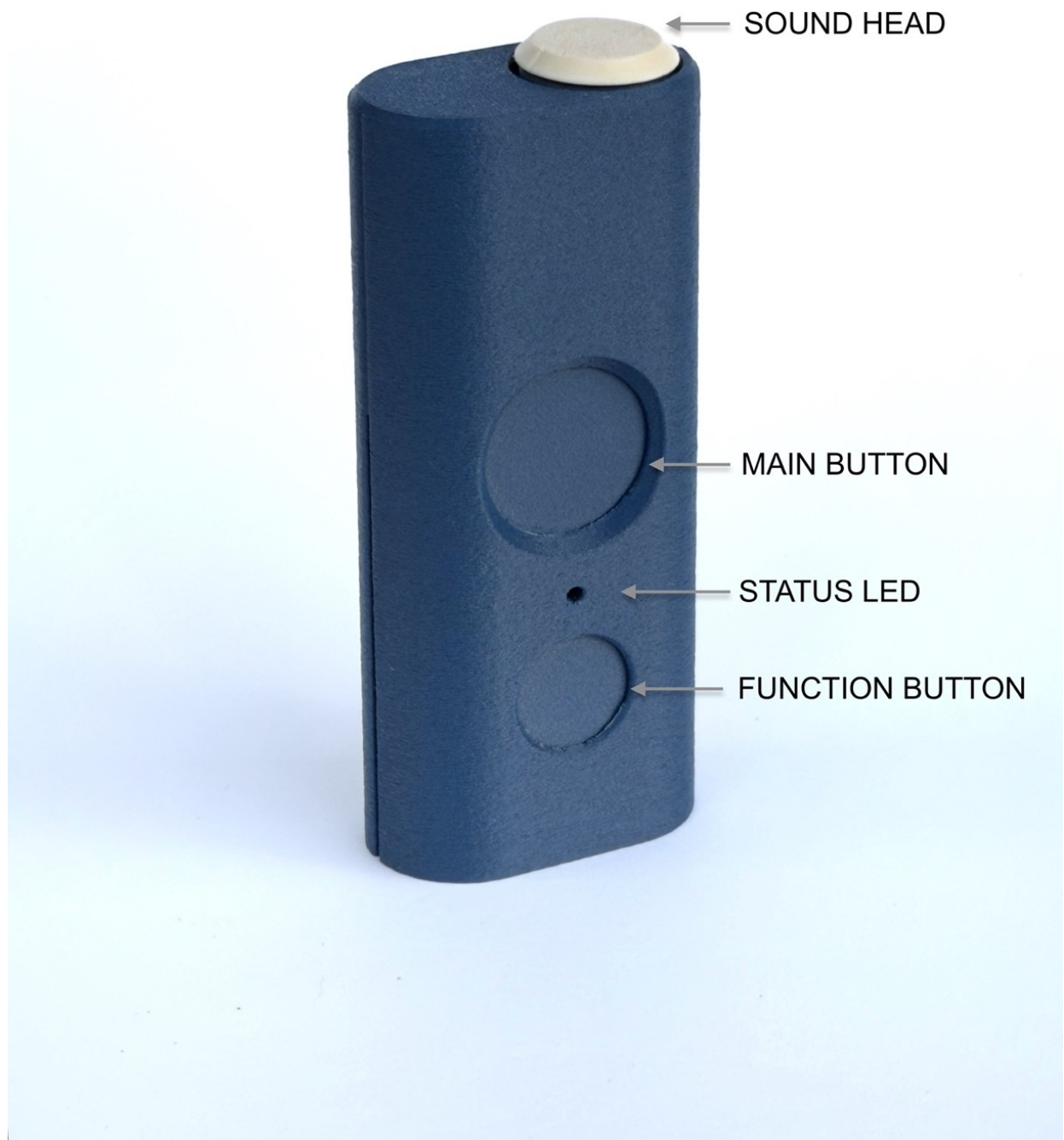
- **Clinical notes for speech and language therapists**

The MINI R355 is a transcervical electrolarynx with pressure-modulated intonation. It is well-suited to patients who prioritize discretion and portability, and to those for whom AAA-cell logistics are easier than charging routines (e.g. older users, frequent travelers).

- Intonation training is meaningful from the first session. Allocate one or more sessions specifically to pressure-modulated pitch control. Most patients reach functional prosody (rising question intonation, contrastive stress) within 2–4 sessions.
- Consider disabling intonation (hold function button 5–10 s) for the very first placement and articulation sessions, then re-enable it once the patient is comfortable with the basics. This is a meaningful clinical lever that older devices did not offer.
- Mode selection: try all three modes (cyan / blue / magenta) with the patient and a significant other present. Loudness rises with pitch on the MINI; document the patient’s preferred mode in their care plan.
- Placement coaching remains essential. Optimal contact is typically in the submandibular triangle or lateral neck, away from scar tissue. Encourage patients to map their own ‘sweet spots’ at home in front of a mirror.
- Articulatory exaggeration drills (over-articulated bilabials, fricatives, voiceless stops) translate directly into intelligibility gains. The intonation feature does not replace articulation work.

CLINICAL NOTE

If a patient cycles the function button accidentally during a session, the device will vibrate briefly and the LED will flash cyan / blue / magenta — this is a mode change, not a fault. Long-press (5–10 s) for the intonation toggle is intentionally distinct to avoid accidental disabling.



Clinical notes for ENT specialists

Primary indications for the MINI R355 are the standard indications for transcervical electro laryngeal speech:

- Total laryngectomy where tracheoesophageal puncture (TEP) is contraindicated, deferred, or declined.
- Failed or revised TEP requiring a back-up communication method.

- Post-operative period before TEP fitting or esophageal speech is established.
- Severe dysphonia from advanced laryngeal pathology where surgery is not yet performed or not feasible.
- Temporary voice loss after major laryngeal trauma or extensive radiotherapy.

Relative considerations:

- Extensive neck irradiation, dense fibrosis, or bulky flap reconstruction may compromise sound transmission. An intraoral adapter (sold separately) is the standard work-around — please request from Romet directly.
- The compact form factor makes the MINI R355 a strong choice for patients with reduced dexterity, where a larger device is harder to hold steadily at the neck.
- Refer the patient to a speech and language therapist for fitting and training. Outcomes are markedly better with structured SLT involvement.
- The device is powered by alkaline or lithium primary cells (or rechargeable NiMH AAAs). It contains no internal lithium-ion battery, which simplifies travel — particularly air travel — for patients.
- No contraindications for patients with cardiac implantable electronic devices (CIEDs) under normal use, but maintain the customary ≥ 15 cm separation from the device generator as a precaution.

Specifications

Item	Value
Device class	Transcervical electrolarynx (electronic speech aid).
Form factor	Compact, pocketable; lanyard ready.
Power	3× AAA cells (alkaline, lithium primary, or rechargeable NiMH).
Battery life	Depends on chemistry; lithium AAAs give the longest life.
Modes	Three combined pitch + loudness modes (LOW / MIDDLE / HIGH).
Intonation	Pressure-modulated, user-toggable on/off via function button (5–10 s hold).
Pocket protection	Automatic shutdown after 10 s continuous main

Item	Value
	button press.
Indicators	Status LED (color-coded battery + mode flashes), haptic vibration on mode change.
Materials	Medical-grade ABS housing, polymer sound head.
Country of origin	Poland.

Safety and warranty

- This is a personal medical device. Do not share the sound head between users without cleaning.
- Do not open the housing beyond the battery compartment. The internal electronics are not user serviceable. Opening the housing voids the warranty.
- Do not expose the device to water, fire, or temperatures outside 0–40 °C in storage or use.
- Remove batteries before long-term storage.
- Standard Romet warranty applies. Retain proof of purchase. For service, contact your distributor or Romet directly.

Contact and support

Your distributor is your first point of contact for fitting, training referrals, accessories, and service. Romet supports distributors directly across Europe.

Field	Details
Distributor	
Phone	
Email	
Date of purchase	
Serial number	
Manufacturer	Romet · Poland

Keep this leaflet with the device. A speech and language therapist can dramatically improve outcomes — ask your distributor or ENT specialist for a referral.

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