

Eschenbach System Vario illuminated Stand magnifiers 4x/16D, 5x/20D, 7x/28D, 10x/38D, 12.5x/50D

MAG108, MAG109, MAG110, MAG111, MAG113, and handle for the magnifiers MAG114

Thank you for purchasing from RNIB. In the unlikely event the item is unsuitable, please contact us within 14 days of receipt to obtain your returns number. To ensure your return goes smoothly, the item and all components must be in as new condition and packed in its original, undamaged packaging. For further details and guidance on returning faulty items, please see the Terms and conditions of sale and How to contact RNIB sections of this instruction manual.

Please retain these instructions for future reference. These instructions are also available in other formats.

## Special warning

**Please note:** Please note, that you will need both a magnifier head and an illuminated handle. The handle is code MAG114 and Requires two C (LR14) batteries (not included).

# Importance of a low vision assessment

RNIB and Action for Blind People strongly advise anyone with visual impairment to have a low vision assessment. This is an NHS funded service usually accessed at your local hospital eye clinic or run by a local organisation. Referral to the clinic is usually by your General Practitioner (Doctor), Optometrist or Ophthalmologist. The assessment is free of charge and available to anyone with low vision. You do not have to be registered as sight impaired to access this service.

Low vision means that you will be finding it hard to see things as clearly as you would like to, even after you have had your eyes tested and are wearing the correct spectacles or contact lenses.

At the assessment a qualified low vision practitioner will check your vision and assess your suitability for low vision aids such as magnifiers. These clinics are usually able to provide at least one magnifier to you, free of charge. As magnifiers can be difficult to use initially, the practitioner will help you to get the best out of the equipment they prescribe. If you have been discharged by your eye specialist, you can ask your GP or Optometrist to refer you to the nearest clinic.

# Choosing a magnifier

RNIB's booklet 'Choosing your magnifier' is designed to help people with a visual impairment understand the various types of magnifier that can be used for specific tasks. This booklet is available from RNIB's Helpline in large print, audio or braille, or can be downloaded from rnib.org.uk

# Warning! Important information

Do not leave your magnifier in direct sunlight when it is not being used. The intensifying effect of the lens could become a fire hazard in direct sunlight. Use your protective cover (if provided) and always store in a safe place.

Never look at the sun directly through a magnifying lens as it could damage your eyes.

Do not look directly at the light source in illuminated magnifiers as LEDs are very bright.

Avoid impacting, banging or dropping your magnifier, as well as moisture and high temperatures which may cause damage.

Avoid putting your hands or fingers on the lens of your magnifier - always use the frame or handle.

## Illuminated hand held magnifier

Hand held magnifiers have the benefit of an additional built-in light source, which can be turned on or off. They can be used in either hand, above the writing or object that you want to magnify. Hand held magnifiers can be difficult to use if you have weak or shaky hands or need to keep it in the same position for a period of time. In this instance a stand magnifier may be more suitable.

Most spectacle wearers get best results from a hand held magnifier when using distance, rather than reading spectacles. Place the magnifier flat on the page to be read and then raise the magnifier slowly away from the page until you get the clearest image. Remember that the more powerful the magnifier, the closer you will have to hold it to your eye, and the closer the print will be to the magnifier.

# General description

The System Vario Plus Stand magnifiers Particularly suitable for reading over long periods of time and for users who cannot hold magnifiers freely (e.g. age-related shaking or Parkinson‘s disease). Magnifier heads with a diameter greater than 58 mm are fitted with a retractable red reading line for easier line orientation and increased reading speed. The rectangular magnifier heads are equipped with a supplementary swivel lens for additional magnification. Particularly scratch-proof lens with high visual comfort. Choice of 3 different colour temperatures via filters.

The System Vario offer at RNIB is available in the following strengths: 4x (MAG111), 5x (MAG113), 7x (MAG111), 10x (MAG1110), 10x (MAG109), 12.5x (MAG108). Colour temperature is measured in Kelvin (K), the higher the Kelvin, the brighter the output, and all of these magnifiers use 8,000K.

Please note, that you will need both a magnifier head and an illuminated handle. The handle is code MAG114 and Requires two C (LR14) batteries (not included).

## Orientation

### Top

The top of the magnifier, containing the lens, has a white plastic surround. Directly beneath the lens on the collar of the magnifier are the manufacturer's details regarding the magnification strength. Below this is the detachable handle which houses 2 x C Batteries. At the top of the handle is the on/off slide-switch for the LED light, which has two tactile ridges across it. The switch is black and handle white. Push the slide switch upwards which will turn the unit on and downwards to turn the unit off. Colour filters can be slid onto the 2 LED bulbs to reduce colour temperature if required, included with the LED handle.

### Bottom

On the bottom of the magnifier, is a twist feature for the battery housing, this also has a height adjustable leg to accommodate all different lens heights to enhance the users viewing experience.

# Getting started

Please note, that you will need both a magnifier head and an illuminated handle. The handle is code MAG114 and Requires two C (LR14) batteries (not included).

This LED-illuminated handle fits all the Vario Plus magnifier heads, making it easy to add a different lens if your eyesight changes. It is supplied with an orange and a yellow filter which clip over the LED to change the colour temperature if required. The large on/off switch makes it easy to use.

Open from the base to change the two type C (LR14) batteries (not included).

## Inserting/replacing batteries into MAG114 Handle

To insert the batteries, hold the magnifier horizontal. Locate the battery cover release at the base of the handle and twist to unscrew. You can then remove the battery compartment cover away from the handle.

Insert two type C into the battery compartment. Insert each battery with the positive (raised) end directly on top of each other into the handle. Replace the cover ensuring this is screwed sufficiently into the housing.

# Using the product

As a general guide, you would use this as an illuminated stand magnifier. To check that you are holding it in the correct position, make sure the unit is flat on the page and that when the LED light is on, the subject is completed illuminated without any light leakage from underneath the lens.

When you are using a stand magnifier you will need to keep the device flat on the page in the correct position. You can do this by placing the magnifier flat on the page and together with the reading material slowly bring it towards your eye until it becomes in focus. Using a clipboard or specific inclined reading stand can make the task more comfortable. If you can bring the magnifier (and print together) nearer your eye you will be able to see more words in one view. If the image appears upside down, the magnifier and print are too far away from your eye and you will need to bring the magnifier and page together (maintaining the focal position of the device), nearer to your eye.

# Hints and Tips

## Aftercare

Proper care of your magnifier means it will provide you with many years of untroubled reading. Clean the lens with a damp cloth (ideally a damp micro-fibre cloth). Never use solvents such as alcohol, benzene or other cleaning agents as these can damage the lens.

You may find small lines that look like hairline cracks at the edge of lightweight lenses or in the plastic frame. These are flow lines that occur during the production process, but they do not affect the function or durability in any way.

Magnifiers usually work best with the spectacles that you have been prescribed by your low vision professional. If you find it difficult to keep your place when reading, some of the lenses have reading lines specifically designed to easily locate your position on the page. If you find your eyes are getting tired, take a break and start again when you feel better.

## LED lighting

Magnifiers with built-in lighting are nothing new. Some types of magnifiers have used small battery powered ‘traditional’ type light bulbs for many years. Disadvantages with these traditional bulbs were: they could be unreliable: bulbs were difficult to replace; they gave out a yellowish light; and were not energy efficient.

Nowadays, most illuminated magnifiers use Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs) instead of light bulbs. These tiny lights provide a much brighter level of light, tend not to breakdown and do not use much power, meaning that batteries last longer. Modern LEDs can last for over 100,000 hours before they need replacing.

Some makes of magnifiers offer a choice of ‘colour temperature’ which relates to the colour of light emitted. Colour temperatures are measured and described in Kelvin or K. The lower the number (2,700K) will emit a ‘yellow’ light, and the higher the number (8,000K) will emit a bright ‘white’ light.

## Effective lighting

RNIB and Thomas Pocklington's booklet 'Make the most of your sight, improve the lighting in your home' demonstrates good practice by giving ideas, hints and tips. It explains how to light your home more effectively, as well as explaining different types of lighting and their benefits. It is available in large print, audio and braille from RNIB's Helpline or you can download it from our website.

## How to contact RNIB

Phone: 0303 123 9999

Email: shop@rnib.org.uk

Address: The Grimaldi Building, 154a Pentonville Road, London N1 9JE.

Online Shop: shop.rnib.org.uk

Email for international customers: kaorders@rnib.org.uk

## Terms and conditions of sale

This product is guaranteed from manufacturing faults for 12 months from the date of purchase. If you have any issues with the product and you did not purchase directly from RNIB then please contact your retailer in the first instance.

For all returns and repairs contact RNIB first to get a returns authorisation number to help us deal efficiently with your product return.

You can request full terms and conditions from RNIB or view them online.

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Please do not throw items marked with this symbol in your bin. Recycle your electricals and electronic devices **free** at your local recycling centre. Search for your nearest recycling centre by visiting [www.recyclenow.com](http://www.recyclenow.com).

### Why recycle?

Unwanted electrical equipment is the UK’s fastest growing type of waste.

Many electrical items can be repaired or recycled, saving natural resources and the environment. If you do not recycle, electrical equipment will end up in landfill where hazardous substances will leak out and cause soil and water contamination – harming wildlife and human health.

RNIB are proud to support your local authority in providing local recycling facilities for electrical equipment.

To remind you that old electrical equipment can be recycled, it is now marked with the crossed-out wheeled bin symbol. Please do not throw any electrical equipment (including those marked with this symbol) in your bin.

### What is WEEE?

The Waste Electrical or Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive requires countries to maximise separate collection and environmentally friendly processing of these items.

### How are we helping?

In the UK, distributors including retailers must provide a system which allows all customers buying new electrical equipment the opportunity to recycle their old items free of charge. As a responsible retailer, we have met the requirements placed on us by financially supporting the national network of WEEE recycling centres established by local authorities. This is achieved through membership of the national Distributor Take-back scheme (DTS).

Date: April 2024.

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