## In Ear and Stage Monitors comparison

	In-Ear	Wedges
Reliability	Dependant on wireless:	Good:
	<ul> <li>Batteries</li> </ul>	Passive loudspeakers are very
	<ul> <li>Interference</li> </ul>	reliable, active ones less so
	<ul> <li>Drop-outs, fading</li> </ul>	(SMPSU's are more prone to
	. , ,	failure)
Artist acceptance	Not liked by some performers:  • the mix is too isolated¹  • difficult to communicate with other musicians  • no audience ambience Better hearing protection (levels can be less than with stage monitors) Can use click track, Engineer talkback Less vocal strain	Always accepted
	Artist can move at will	Mix changes if artist moves position on stage
Set up time	Longer, as the IEM mix is more critical:  • if too loud an artist may take it off  • as everything is heard more clearly, the mix must be tidier	Shorter than IEM
Feedback possibility	Highly unlikely	Yes
Mix Check	Only artist can tell	Engineer can hear the wedges
Limiter	essential	desirable
Sound Quality	Good to Excellent	Poor to Good
Mix	No volume wars	Volume wars are common
Stereo	Yes	No
FOH-monitor interaction	No	Yes
Size / weight	small	large
Stage presentation	Minimally noticeable	Visible loudspeakers
cost	expensive	moderate

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Ambient mics can be put on stage to reduce this effect