

HEARING AID LISTENING CHECK

Why is a hearing aid listening check needed?

A child learning language needs the hearing aids to consistently provide a clear sound that is loud enough to for him or her to hear speech. Hearing aids can malfunction for a variety of reasons, including normal daily wear and tear. The child cannot or may not tell you when there is a problem. Checking the hearing aids every day helps you to know if there is a problem, and reduces the amount of time the child is not hearing well.

Who should do the listening check?

Parents, speech-language pathologists, early interventionists, and teachers need to know that the child's hearing aids are working well every day.

When should the listening check be done?

A hearing aid listening check should be completed each morning, prior to therapy and class, and whenever a concern arises.

What do I need to have on hand to check the hearing aids?

Your audiologist can order a hearing aid care kit for you. Ask your audiologist about a filtered stethoscope so the amplified sound is not too loud for you. To check the hearing aids and troubleshoot problems you will need:

- A listening stethoscope, this attaches to the earmold or hearing aid tone hook so you can listen to the amplified sound
- A battery tester
- A wire loop and brush to remove wax from the earmold
- An air blower to remove moisture from the earmold tubing



How do I check the hearing aids?

STEP 1:

Look at the hearing aids and earmolds and note any:

- Broken or cracked areas
- Blockage of openings
- Build-up of moisture in tubing
- Corrosion in battery compartment

STEP 2:

Attach the earmold to the listening stethoscope and note any possible problems as you listen to each hearing aid. If there is a problem, try the suggested troubleshooting steps below, and listen to the hearing aid again. **Contact the audiologist if you are not able to fix the problem.**

Does the hearing aid amplify sound when it is turned on?	If not: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make sure the hearing aid is in the “on” position• Change the battery• Change the tone hook
Does the hearing aid sound as loud as you expect it to?	If not: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Change the battery• Listen to the hearing aid without the earmold (there may be blockage in the earmold tubing)• Change the tone hook
Does the hearing aid amplify the sound consistently? (Does the sound cut in and out?)	If not: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Change the battery• Check the battery compartment for corrosion
Is the quality of the sound ok? (Is there a static sound or distortion?)	If not: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Change the battery• Check the battery compartment for corrosion• Change the tone hook
Listen to the hearing aid as you say the Ling sounds (ah, ee, oo, mm, sh, s). Are the Ling sounds clear?	If not: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Change the battery• Check the battery compartment for corrosion• Change the tone hook

If your child’s hearing aid needs to be repaired, request a loaner hearing aid.