

Your Baby's Hearing Checklist

Birth to 3 months

- Blinks or jerks to loud noises.
- Quiets and watches parents face when talked to.
- Coos and gurgles.

3 months to 6 months

- Looks to see where sounds come from.
- Likes rattles, noise-making toys.
- Smiles and babbles when talked to.

6 months to 9 months

- Turns and looks at you when you talk.
- Looks at right person when words "Mommy" and "Daddy" are said.
- Uses sound (not crying) to get your attention.
- Makes sounds like: da, ba, and ma.

9 months to 12 months

- Knows names of favorite toys and can point to them when asked.
- Follows directions: (open your mouth, give me the ball).
- "Dances" and makes sounds to music.
- Makes "b," "d," "g," "m," and "n" sounds when "talking."
- Jabbers when being talked to, changing loudness of voice.

12 months to 18 months

- Points to body parts when asked.
- Brings objects to you when asked.
- Hears sounds coming from another room.
- Imitates new sounds and words.
- Says 10-20 words.

18 months to 24 months

- Understands simple phrases like: "in the cup" and "under the table."
- Likes to be read to and points to pictures when asked.
- Says own first name.
- Says two word sentences: "my shoes," "go bye-bye," "more juice."

Call the Toll-Free Hearing Helpline if you have a question.

VOICE: 1-800-633-1316
TTY: 1-866-635-4410 (toll free) or
1-410-767-4683



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STATE OF MARYLAND INFANT HEARING PROGRAM



Your baby,

*has **not** passed the hearing screening. Please call*

to make an appointment for a diagnostic hearing test.

DATE:

HOSPITAL:

What do the results mean?

There are several reasons why a baby may not pass a hearing screen. It is very important that an appointment for a diagnostic hearing test be scheduled as soon as possible to determine if a hearing loss exists. The earlier a hearing loss is identified, the earlier intervention can begin and give your baby the opportunity to develop normal speech and language skills.



How can I prepare my baby for the diagnostic test?

Schedule an appointment as soon as possible. The younger your baby, the easier it will be for your baby to remain asleep during testing. Try to **keep your baby awake before the appointment** so that he or she will be more likely to sleep during testing.

How is a diagnostic hearing test different from a hearing screen?

A screen is a brief assessment used to predict whether your baby's hearing is normal or not. A **diagnostic hearing test** is a more thorough evaluation of your baby's hearing status. The type of test used is called an **auditory brainstem response (ABR)** test. The diagnostic test will allow the professional to find the softest sounds that the hearing system will respond to. The test takes more time than a screening, but is completely painless and will be done while your baby is asleep.

