

It can be a stressful time when having your baby or child's hearing tested. You may not take in everything the audiologist tells you at the time of the appointment, or understand what this might mean for your child.

The audiogram is a graph showing the softest sound your child can hear at different pitches or frequencies.

The Familiar Sounds Audiogram below shows the different levels of hearing loss (see right-hand side and shading), the speech banana (describes the area where most sounds of average conversational speech occur), and images of other familiar sounds and where they are placed on the graph. Note that this is just a guide and not a diagnostic tool, so make sure you consult your audiologist.

The example of a sensorineural hearing loss audiogram shows the results for both the left and right ear using both air and bone conduction and the symbols used for each. The Choices Booklet from Hearing Australia and the Aussie Deaf Kids website have more detailed information on understanding audiograms and how audiologists test hearing.

PITCH IN HERTZ (Hz)

125 250 500 1000 2000 4000 8000

LOW **HIGH**

LOUDNESS IN DECIBELS (dB)

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110 120

SOFT **LOUD**

NORMAL hearing

MILD hearing loss

MODERATE hearing loss

MODERATE/SEVERE hearing loss

SEVERE hearing loss

PROFOUND hearing loss

X --- X Left **O --- O Right**

Frequency (Hz)	Intensity (dB) - Red Circles	Intensity (dB) - Blue 'x'	Intensity (dB) - Black Squares
250	35	28	30
500	40	32	30
1000	55	48	50
2000	65	65	60
4000	65	70	65
8000	70	65	-

AIR: LEFT ☒ RIGHT ☒
BONE: UNMASKED ☒ MASKED RT ☐ MASKED LT ☐
SOUNDFIELD THRESHOLDS ☐

**IF YOU STILL HAVE QUESTIONS
MAKE SURE YOU ASK YOUR
CHILD'S AUDIOLOGIST**