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Types of Hearing Loss

Read this page to learn about different kinds of hearing loss.

There are different kinds of hearing loss.

- [Conductive \(kun-DUK-tiv\) hearing loss](http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/hearingloss/types/conductive.jsp) (<http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/hearingloss/types/conductive.jsp>) is when sound can't reach your ears.
- [Sensorineural \(sen-sor-ee-NEW-ral\) hearing loss](http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/hearingloss/types/sensorineural.jsp) (<http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/hearingloss/types/sensorineural.jsp>) is when the **cochlea** or **auditory nerve** aren't working.
- Mixed hearing loss is when there is both conductive and sensorineural hearing loss.

Another way of talking about different types of hearing loss is by how a person hears.

- [Unilateral hearing loss](http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/hearingloss/types/unilateral.jsp) (<http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/hearingloss/types/unilateral.jsp>) is when it is only in 1 ear.
- [Progressive hearing loss](http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/hearingloss/types/progressive/) (<http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/hearingloss/types/progressive/>) is when the hearing loss gets worse over time.
- [Fluctuating hearing loss](http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/hearingloss/types/fluctuating.jsp) (<http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/hearingloss/types/fluctuating.jsp>) is when the hearing loss changes. It may sometimes be worse and sometimes better.

Some other types of hearing loss don't fit any of these groups.

- [Auditory neuropathy](http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/hearingloss/types/an/) (<http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/hearingloss/types/an/>) is when the cochlea works but there is something wrong with the auditory nerve. The hearing loss can be very confusing.
- [Central Auditory Processing Disorder \(CAPD\)](http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/special/capd/) (<http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/special/capd/>) is when there's something wrong with how your child's brain interprets the signals it gets from the ear. This can also cause a hearing loss.

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You can find this page online at:

<http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/hearingloss/types/>