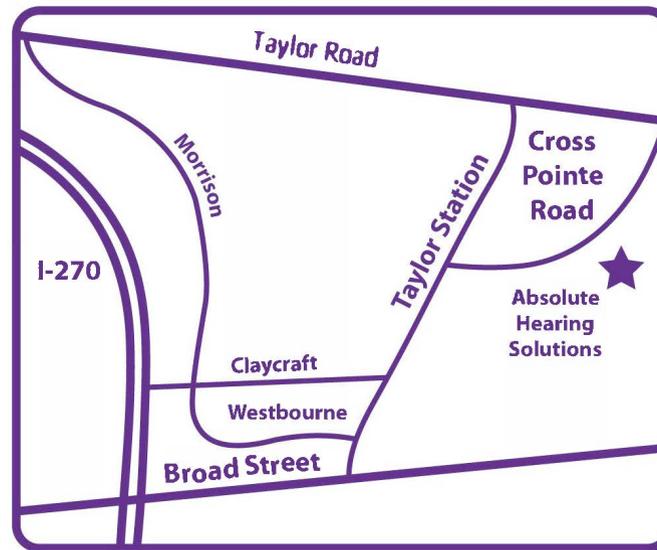


A Self-Check Hearing Assessment

- | | YES | NO |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Do people seem to mumble or speak in a softer voice than they used to? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Do you feel tired or irritable after a long conversation? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Do you sometimes miss words in a sentence, or frequently ask people to repeat themselves? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Is it difficult for you to follow the conversation in a group or crowded restaurant? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Does background noise bother you? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Do you turn up the volume on your TV or radio? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Do you find it difficult to hear the doorbell or the phone ring? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Is carrying on a telephone conversation difficult? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Do you find it difficult to hear women's and children's voices? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. Has someone close to you mentioned that you might have a problem with your hearing? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

If you answered "yes" to at least two of these questions, you may have a hearing loss and need to have your hearing tested.



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Facts and Information

What you need to know about hearing loss



The Ear and How we Hear

Sound travels through the ear canal to the eardrum setting it into vibration. These vibrations are transferred to three very small bones (anvil, hammer and stirrup) in the middle ear. When the stirrup vibrates, it causes movement of the fluid in the inner ear which stimulates the cilia cells for hearing. Stimulation of these sensory cells generates an electrical signal that travels to the brain via the auditory nerve. This is how the ear functions.

Hearing Loss

Most hearing problems are caused by damage to the nerve cells. This type of hearing problem is commonly called “nerve deafness.” There are many causes of nerve deafness. However, the most common causes are exposure to noise and the aging process. When the inner ear or auditory nerve is damaged, a weak,



distorted and incomplete message is sent to the brain and understanding becomes difficult, if not impossible. Nerve deafness is not medically curable.

Early Detection is Important

Most hearing losses are due to nerve deafness, a condition that gradually gets worse over time. The first signs of a hearing loss are often subtle, straining to hear or blaming others for mumbling. Certain high-pitched sounds (“F” and “S” for example), will become difficult to distinguish and you may notice that you can hear someone speaking but not understand what they’re saying. The person developing a hearing loss may find it difficult to enjoy TV or to hear the telephone ring. Social situations may be avoided because it is more difficult to understand when two or more people are speaking, especially when background noise is present.

Nerve Deafness can be Helped

Although nerve deafness cannot be cured, it can be helped. Hearing help may be available for some people with nerve deafness. Early detection of the hearing loss is very important. If you or a loved one suspect nerve deafness, have your hearing checked today. It is the first step toward better hearing and a more enjoyable life.

Important Information for the Hearing Impaired from MicroTech.

For the estimated forty million individuals who suffer hearing impairment, there is a company that cares — MicroTech. Because we care, we strive to produce individual solutions for each hearing impaired person we serve.



Symptoms of hearing loss may differ for each person with a hearing impairment. There are many styles and types of hearing instruments. Your hearing care professional can help you choose the most appropriate device for your specific hearing needs. Individuals with hearing impairment may experience different results than described herein. In all cases where a hearing loss is suspected, we recommend early consultation with a hearing care professional specializing in hearing testing and hearing technology.

