

Deaf or hard of hearing: 10 top tips for communication



This easy read tells you about 10 top tips for communicating with people who are deaf or hard of hearing.

10 Top Tips



1. Include the deaf or hard of hearing person and talk directly to them.



Stand so that the light is on your face because this helps people to lip read more easily and helps people to see your facial expressions.



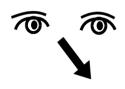
3. Face the person you are talking to so they can see your face and how your lips are moving.



4. Don't speak too quickly or too slowly or exaggerate your lip movements.



5. Do speak clearly, but do not shout.



6. Speak one at a time (don't talk at the same time as someone else or talk over them) and make sure the Deaf or hard of hearing person can see your mouth.



7. Use easy words and keep to the point of what you are saying.



8. Be patient, and you may need to repeat what you have said or say things in a different way.



9. Use visual cues if you need to.



10. Have a pen and paper ready so you can write down information.

For plain English web page version of this information, go to:

Deaf or hard of hearing communications: 10 top tips

nottinghamshire.gov.uk/care/adult-social-care/social-care-publications/deaf-awareness

This easy read was first published 8 September 2025

This information was last updated 8 September 2025