

Potty Pointers

Talking to the Hard of Hearing

When talking with someone who has a hearing problem:

- Include people with hearing loss in the conversation.
- Find a quiet place to talk to help reduce background noise, especially in restaurants and social gatherings.
- Stand in good lighting and use facial expressions or gestures to give clues.
- Face the person and talk clearly.
- Speak at a reasonable speed; do not hide your mouth, eat, or chew gum.
- Repeat yourself if necessary, using different words.
- Try to make sure only one person talks at a time.
- Be patient. Stay positive and relaxed.
- Speak a little more loudly than normal, but don't shout.

Many people develop hearing problems as they grow older or have been exposed to loud noises. Today, there are many ways to improve your hearing. Asking for professional help as soon as you notice a problem is the best way to handle the problem. Ask how you can help.

