

YOUR GUIDE TO HEARING IN TODAY'S MODERN WORLD



**ALLISON AUDIOLOGY
& HEARING AID CENTER, P.C.**
—Your Hearing Experts—

YOUR HEARING EXPERTS FOR MORE THAN 25 YEARS

ALLISON AUDIOLOGY OUR STORY

Over 25 years ago, Allison Audiology opened the doors to the great residents of Houston, and later to those of Lake Jackson. Since then, we've helped thousands of local people to improve their hearing care and prolong their hearing quality. So much so, that we've been recognized as a leading healthcare provider in the Texas region and we have established a long-standing reputation.

Allison Audiology has a range of experts that can each cater to your individual needs. We are proud to have a team of kind and respectful audiologists that will approach any of your concerns with the level of professionalism and sensitivity needed.

Our team is committed to helping patients and is gratified by the results we deliver.

When we first opened so many years ago, our goal was to bring advanced hearing care to the people in our community through leading diagnostic testing and research, as well as innovative hearing solutions. Looking back, we can gladly say we have accomplished our initial goal, but continue to seek the latest advancements in hearing care to bring to our patients.

IMPORTANCE OF HEARING

As a primary function of everyday communication, not only does hearing connect us to our lives through conversation, but it provides the beacon towards making lasting connections.

Many people take the simple privilege of hearing for granted. It's only when they have a problem that they recognize how sacred it is.

Being proactive with your hearing health and catching hearing loss early gives you the best chance of maximizing your hearing health for the rest of your life.

Through a simple check-up with your doctor of audiology or comprehensive hearing assessment at Allison Audiology, you can mitigate the impacts early and improve your overall quality of life.

BOOK A HEARING ASSESSMENT

Or give us
a call on
713-827-1767
979-292-8501



SIGNS OF HEARING LOSS

According to the World Health Organization, 466 million people have a disabling hearing loss. With this figure expecting to rise to 900 million by 2050, we are approaching a health crisis.

One of our biggest frustrations as hearing experts is that many people fail to recognize the first signs of hearing loss and delay getting the help they need.

Here are some of the most common signs of hearing loss that you should be looking out for yourself or a loved one:

#1 Asking Others to Repeat Themselves

Having trouble following the conversation or understanding what others are saying is a common sign of hearing loss. It may start gradually, but soon your loved ones may find themselves having to compensate by talking louder in front of you.

#2 Turning Up the TV

If you find that you're having to turn the TV up to a volume that is uncomfortable for others, it could be a sign of a hearing loss.

#3 Loss of Interests

Unfortunately, many people may find that they lose interest in activities and groups they once enjoyed.

#4 Isolation

The effects of hearing loss can have you feeling isolated and down, especially as you may find it difficult trying to keep up with the conversation. As a result, many people subconsciously isolate themselves further to avoid social situations.

#5 Tinnitus

Many people are surprised to know that tinnitus can be caused by an underlying condition such as hearing loss. If you're experiencing a ringing or buzzing in your ear from time to time it could be a sign of hearing loss.



FIRST STEPS TO IDENTIFY A HEARING LOSS

Now that we've outlined the signs of a hearing loss, the next step is a comprehensive hearing assessment at Allison Audiology, which allows us to evaluate your auditory system as a whole.

A regular check-up with your doctor of audiology allows us to check your ear health, and determine any potential degree and type of hearing loss that may be present. If a hearing loss is identified, together we can determine the best course of action for you.

What To Expect At Your Visit:

Using the latest diagnostic tools our hearing experts are able to personalize your hearing assessment depending on your needs at your visit. Hearing is a personal journey, meaning no one appointment is the same; your hearing is as unique as your fingerprint.

As our patient, you can expect personalized care that focuses on your specific hearing challenges and supports you throughout your journey.

Otoscopy & Ear Wax

The first thing we check for at Allison Audiology is ear wax, as it allows us to see if you have a build-up that may be contributing towards your hearing loss. If that is the case, it be removed safely in our office it's quick and easy to fix.

Comprehensive Hearing Assessment

Hearing loss manifests itself differently from person to person with a lot of factors contributing towards its severity.

To accurately assess your hearing abilities, we use a variety of assessments to determine what sounds you can hear and what sounds you are missing. In addition, we also look at how each person understands and processes speech. Depending on your situation, a variety of tests may be performed, such as otoacoustic emissions.

Otoacoustic Emissions

Otoacoustic emissions (OAEs) are the sounds that are emitted by properly functioning cells in the cochlea. To perform the test, a probe is inserted in the ear canal and is completely painless.

The probe puts sounds into the ear and measures any sounds that come back. This type of testing is perfect for children, or those who are experiencing hearing challenges but cannot express their responses. It can also be an important part of the hearing test battery if hearing levels are in normal, healthy levels, but understanding speech remains a challenge.

Audiometric Testing

As part of our Comprehensive Hearing Assessment, audiometric testing is the traditional hearing test most are familiar with.

It assesses the ability to detect both tones and volume. The results are then plotted for both your ears on a visual audiogram and our team interprets the results for you. Based on your responses, we will find if you are able to detect speech sounds at healthy levels, or if a hearing loss is present.

Middle Ear Evaluations

Also a common part of the Comprehensive Hearing Assessment, middle ear evaluations measure how sound flows through the middle ear space and tests the movement of the tympanic membrane, also known as the eardrum. The middle ear space is considered the area behind your eardrum.

It is particularly useful in identifying problems such as an ear infection as these often start in the middle ear and interfere with hearing. If you have ever been on a flight and felt your ears pop or left feeling stuffy, this sensation comes from the pressure built up in the middle ear and can take some time to equalize.

All of these assessments cater to each individual differently, but the end goal remains the same. Our hearing experts aim to get the best picture of your current hearing abilities and provide solutions for your specific challenges.

Speech Processing & Speech-In-Noise Testing

In conjunction with audiometric testing, speech processing tests are performed to give a true reflection of understanding abilities. There are a range of factors that contribute to hearing abilities and not all understanding difficulties are related to how soft or loud we hear sounds or speech.

In many situations, once various speech sounds are increased, the ability to understand speech improves because the brain is getting the information it needs to decode the message. However, there are times, no matter how much the sound is increased, the brain is not able to decode the correct message and speech appears distorted, muffled, or simply remains unclear, making it challenging for the listener to understand what is being said. Speech in quiet environments is typically the easiest to understand, but becomes more challenging in the presence of background noise. Each of these environments can be evaluated during speech testing.

Further testing can also be performed to identify a number of auditory deficits and Auditory Processing Disorder (APD). While APD is not as common as hearing loss, it can cause a number of challenges. In-depth evaluations for this specific processing disorder are also available.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT: THE RESULTS

After your assessment, our hearing experts will discuss your test results in an easy to understand manner, along with recommendations for next steps to address your hearing challenges.

Should a hearing loss be identified, we will educate you on the options available that meet your specific needs.

From in-the-ear devices, receiver-in-canal to behind-the-ear, and many more, Allison Audiology offers a wide range of hearing solutions that all cater to your individual needs.

Here are some of the options available:

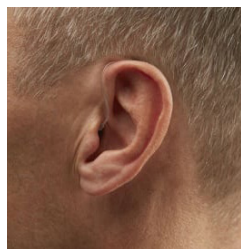
In today's modern technology, we have rechargeable hearing devices, meaning they are more convenient than ever.

By combining a sleek and discreet exterior with a natural hearing experience, users don't have to worry with batteries and can enjoy clearer, effortless hearing.

Invisible Solutions - Lyric

As the first invisible hearing aids approved for extended wear, Lyric devices are placed deep in the ear canal, which completely hides them from view. Lyric is the only hearing device that is considered "disposable," allowing you to sleep and shower with the devices in. Think of Lyric as the most convenient, invisible hearing solution that is worn 24/7.

Receiver in Canal (RIC)



RIC hearing aids feature a discreet design that leaves the ear canal more open, which makes it perfect for those with

mild to moderate high-frequency hearing loss. This new, smaller type of BTE hearing device fits snugly behind the ear and includes a narrow tube that is inserted into the ear canal, which removes occlusion and provides clearer sound quality.

In-The-Ear (ITE)



This type of hearing aid fits snugly inside the bowl-shaped area of the outer ear. Primarily used to correct mild to severe

hearing loss, ITE hearing aids are more visible than IIC devices. However, they are generally easier to insert and adjust and have a longer battery life.

Invisible And Extended Wear



As the first invisible hearing aids approved for extended wear, Lyric® hearing aid devices are

placed deep in the ear canal, which completely hides them from view. They can be worn 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for 2-3 months at a time and do not require maintenance or battery charges. You can sleep and shower in your devices and enjoy the fact they are maintenance free!

Microphone in Helix (MIH)



The MIH is the most innovative hearing design in hearing aids. For this custom fit device, the microphone is seated in the

helix portion of the outer ear. The hearing aid components and speaker rest in the ear canal. Having the microphone face forward, yet tucked into the helix, allows for better speech clarity while also reducing wind noise. Occlusion is also lessened to allow for a more natural sound quality.

Behind The Ear (BTE)



The traditional BTE is the most flexible hearing aid available. The hearing aid itself is worn behind the ear, conducting

sound into a custom ear mold that rests inside the outer ear. Although this is the largest type of hearing aid, it is also the most powerful, the easiest to adjust, and is capable of addressing almost all types of hearing loss.

Invisible In Canal (IIC)



This micro device is the latest in custom hearing aid styles, fitting so deeply into the ear canal that it is almost

completely hidden from view.

Are Hearing Aids for Me?

At Allison Audiology, we understand that having your hearing assessed and pursuing hearing devices can be a big step and no story is the same. That's why, our team is invested in getting to know you, your hearing challenges, assessing your hearing health, and working together to determine the appropriate options for you. If you are struggling with the challenges of hearing loss, a solution is worth exploring. If hearing aids are that solution, visit hearing care professionals you can trust to find what technology and treatment you are comfortable with.

Should you pursue hearing devices and treatment from our Allison Audiology family, the care does not stop once you are fit with your technology. To ensure you continue to hear your best, comprehensive care is included with most treatment plan options. This care covers routine maintenance on your technology, adjustments should your hearing change, assistance and general questions, as well remote care (teleaudiology) visits, and more.

By combining exceptional care and expertise with great technology, our team can support you on your journey to better hearing and allow you to continue to bring your best self to the world.

HEARING LOSS: PATIENT STORIES

It is so amazing to see our patient's personalities shine and watch them grow as people.

Getting help can be the hard part, but watching the results payoff is truly remarkable and reminds us why we love what we do so much.

If you're still unsure on whether it's right for you, take a read of how these individuals are living life to the fullest.

Carole's Story

I can't really remember when I first realized I might have a hearing challenge – it was years ago. I didn't have any major concerns before visiting Allison Audiology, and now I actually look forward to it! The staff are so very kind and personable, particularly Dr Austin and the office staff. My hearing aids impacted my life immediately, making it better in every way. If you're considering visiting Allison Audiology, my advice would be to go immediately!



Todd's Story

As an 8 year old boy my hearing mechanism was damaged by a severe infection in my right ear, with destruction of the ossicles.

Surgeries failed to improve my hearing. In my 60s my wife noticed I was beginning to have hearing loss in my left ear too. I did not believe this hearing loss could be helped.

Allison Audiology were very professional, friendly, thorough and willing to do whatever it took to improve my hearing loss.

My hearing has been improved with my hearing aid. Seek out assistance from Allison Audiology, go with the goal of expecting improvement, not perfection.

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EXPERIENCE THAT COUNTS

Give us a call to
schedule your visit
or inquire about any
of our services and
we will be happy
to help!

Now that you know the signs of hearing loss, how it is individualized, as unique as your fingerprint, and what to expect when you're in the office, let's take the next step and show you what a whole new world of possibilities looks like.

With the average person taking 7-10 years to get help, it has never been more important to have your hearing checked.

Houston: 713-827-1767
Lake Jackson: 979-292-8501
allisonaudiology.com



**BOOK A
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OR GIVE US A
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