

UNDERSTANDING THESE RESULTS:

The left row of numbers is the frequency or pitch, tested. 500 Hertz and 1000 Hertz are low to mid-frequency sounds. Most vowels are low frequency sounds. The normal speech range is 500 to 4000 Hertz. High Hz frequency sounds are 2000 Hertz and higher. Almost all the consonants are in the high frequencies. The consonants give meaning to the words and are therefore most important.

In order to understand why it is important to know how to hear at various pitches, look for a moment at the ear itself. The ear is comprised of an outer section and an inner section. Sound travels through the ear canal, the middle ear and then to the nerve or cochlea. The message is then sent to the brain. The nerve contains many tiny hair cells. These hair cells are highly specialized to pick up each frequency or pitch of sound. Sometimes hearing loss results as a consequence of disease or damage to the outer or middle ear. This type of hearing loss may be medically or surgically treatable. Sometimes hearing loss occurs in the nerve and is permanent. Appropriate diagnostic audiological testing can determine what type of hearing loss you have. The screening you receive today can only determine the existence of hearing loss. It does not diagnose the cause of your loss.

Example:

Left Ear	Right Ear
250 K	
500 K	
1000 K	
2000 K	
3000K	
4000 K	
5000k	
6.3k	
8000k	

The numbers listed next to the frequencies on the strip chart are the softest sound levels (in dB) that you could consistently hear for each ear. The following chart gives a general interpretation of these results:

Normal	0-25	Normal Hearing Range
Mild	26-40	Neither hearing nor understanding of soft speech
Moderate	41-55	Neither hearing nor understanding of normal speech
Moderately Severe	56-70	Speech is somewhat unintelligible
Severe	71-90	Some awareness of loud voices
Profound	+90	No awareness of loud voices

Your Results: If your hearing generally falls within the abnormal range, or if your ears hear differently, you may want to consult your audiologist, otolaryngologist or personal physician. You may also go to the www.hearnet.com web site to look up a H.E.A.R. Partner hearing specialists near you. Email H.E.A.R. at hear@hearnet.com or call 415-409-EARS if you have questions about your results, or if you want to schedule an appointment for diagnostic testing. H.E.A.R. 1405 Lyon St., San Francisco, CA 94115 ph 415-409-3277 f ax 415-409-5683