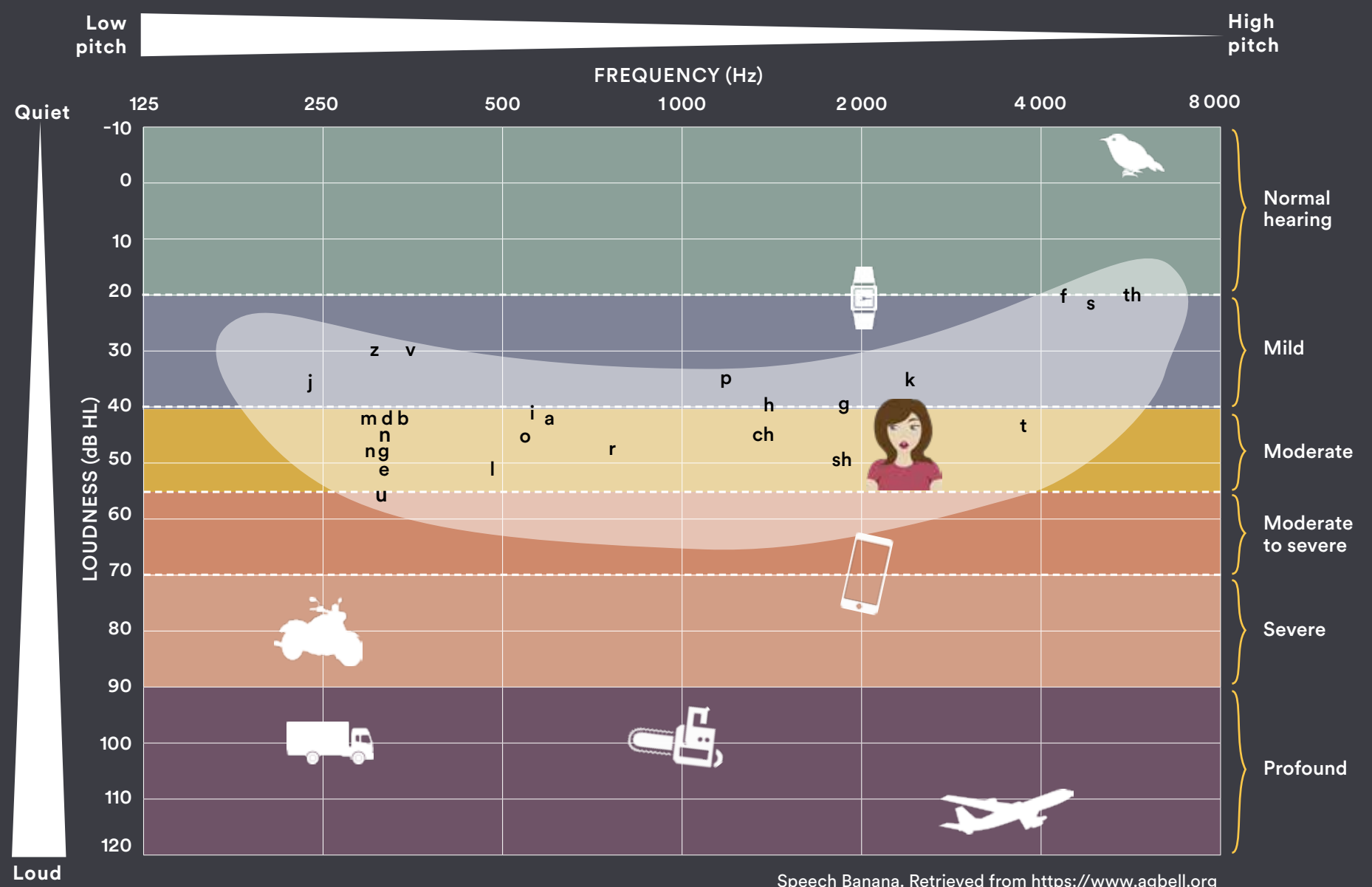


Understanding Hearing Loss

Degree of hearing loss

When your hearing is tested, the clinician will plot your level of hearing on an audiogram like the one below.

The audiogram shows the softest tone at which you can hear each pitch tested. The closer the marks are to the top of the graph, the softer the sound that can be heard. The most important pitches for speech are shown on the audiogram in the shaded area known as the 'speech banana'.



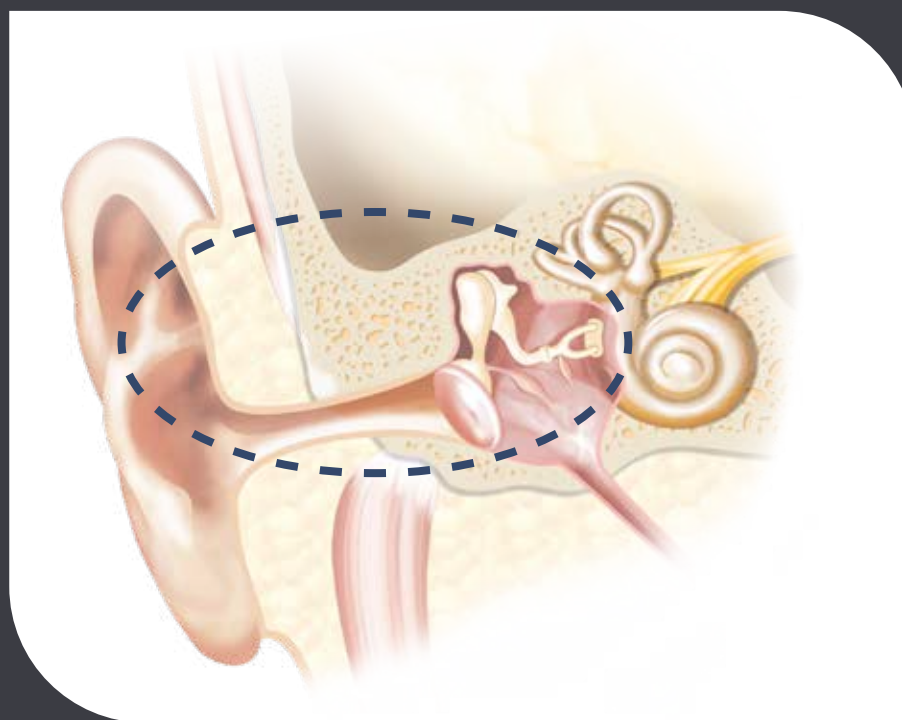
Type of hearing loss

Your clinician will use a range of tests to diagnose the type of hearing loss present:



Sensorineural hearing loss

Sensorineural hearing loss is often referred to as nerve deafness. It occurs when there is damage to the inner ear (cochlea) or the nerve pathways from the inner ear to the brain. A sensorineural hearing loss is permanent and it can occur in both ears or just one.



Conductive hearing loss

Conductive hearing loss occurs when there is a problem with the outer or middle ear. This means that sound is unable to travel or 'conduct' from the outer ear to the eardrum and the tiny bones, or ossicles, of the middle ear. A conductive hearing loss may occur in both ears or just one and may often be helped by medical or surgical treatment.



Mixed hearing loss

With a mixed hearing loss there is a problem with both the conductive pathway (outer and middle ear) and the inner ear (cochlea) or auditory nerve. Mixed hearing loss can occur in one or both ears.

For further questions on hearing loss, contact your hearing health professional.

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Please seek advice from your health professional about treatments for hearing loss. Outcomes may vary, and your health professional will advise you about the factors which could affect your outcome. Always follow the directions for use. Not all products are available in all countries. Please contact your local Cochlear representative for product information. Cochlear, Hear now. And always, Nucleus och den ellipsformade logotypen är antingen varumärken eller registrerade varumärken som ägs av Cochlear Limited. © Cochlear Limited 2025. D2320665 V1 2025-03


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