

8 TIPS FOR IMPROVING COMMUNICATION

WHEN WEARING A FACE COVERING



BE AWARE

Is the person you're communicating with having trouble understanding you? Ask and adapt if needed.



BE PATIENT

Face coverings block visual cues and muffle sounds that help us understand speech, which can make interactions frustrating.



BE MINDFUL

Consider how physical distancing might affect your communication. As distance increases, sound levels decrease, and visual cues are more difficult to see.



BE LOUD AND CLEAR

Speak up, but don't shout. Focus on speaking clearly. Consider wearing a clear face covering, if possible. If you're having trouble understanding, ask the person you're talking with to speak louder. If you lip-read, ask those you interact with regularly to wear a clear face covering.



TURN DOWN THE BACKGROUND VOLUME

Background noise can make conversation especially hard. When possible, move to a quieter spot or turn down the sound.



COMMUNICATE ANOTHER WAY

Use a smartphone talk-to-text application or writing tools (paper/pen, whiteboard) to communicate.*



CONFIRM THAT YOUR STATEMENT IS CLEAR

Ask if your message has been understood.



BRING A FRIEND OR BE A FRIEND

If it's essential that you comprehend important spoken details—during a discussion with a health care provider, for example—consider bringing a friend or family member with you. Or, offer to come along to listen and take notes when a friend has an important appointment or meeting.





Patients having trouble understanding someone wearing a mask?

Learn how Signia solves this challenge with the game-changing Face Mask Mode in the Signia app



COMMUNICATING WITH MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING

In these times, it is imperative to respect best practices for good communication. A few of the most important tactics are listed below:



Always face the person you are talking to.



Communicate where there is good light.*



Consider an approved clear face shield to maximize lip/face cues.



Sit close to each other, within the required safety limits.



Never discuss important matters while walking side by side.



Use Clear Speech techniques.** Do not shout or over-articulate.



Rephrase your questions or input rather than repeating the same words.



Minimize environmental noise.



Have information ready in written form.

WHAT MAKES WIDEX HEARING DEVICES AN ESPECIALLY GREAT CHOICE FOR MASKED COMMUNICATION? OUR EFFORTLESS HEARING TECHNOLOGIES.



Largest sound window in the industry



Low input dynamic range to provide unparalleled access to soft speech cues



Most natural sound experience



Precise ear-to-ear communication monitoring sounds around you



Automatic environment identification powered by SoundClass technology



AI-powered personalization through smartphone app (available for 2.4 GHz models)