

WHAT ARE THE SIGNS OF AUDITORY PROCESSING DISORDER (APD)?

Auditory Processing Disorder (APD or CAPD) affects the way a person's brain processes auditory information. They do not process the information they hear in the same way as others do, which leads to difficulties in them recognizing and interpreting sounds, especially the sounds composing speech.

A person with **Auditory Processing Disorder** will experience some or all of the following signs:

- Needs to (or should) ask many extra questions to clarify a task before starting; "doesn't get the picture."
- Has trouble paying attention to and remembering information presented ORALLY; a person with APD copes better and remembers VISUALLY acquired information.
- Appears to have poor listening skills, and needs people to speak slowly.
- Needs more time than reasonable to process information.

- Intermittently “doesn’t get it” despite obvious contextual meaning of conversation and inferences from information presented ORALLY.
- Has difficulty or problems carrying out multi-step directions given ORALLY; needs to hear only one direction at a time.
- Sometimes forgetful of information previously memorized like household chores and responsibilities, despite frequent reminders.
- Lack of music appreciation and/or does not understand songs (either the words themselves or the meaning of the lyrics).
- Difficulty following conversation on the telephone.
- Sensitive to loud noises (like a blaring TV).
- Social issues — difficulty “reading” others/pragmatic communication issues.
- Prefers written communication (ie: texting, email).
- Speaks or writes “telegraphically” — omits facts or switches topic, so that audience cannot follow train of thought.
- Interprets words too literally, becoming confused or suffering hurt feelings.
- Insensitive to tone of voice; may misjudge speaker’s mood or be unintentionally tactless.
- May have trouble paying attention and remembering information when information is simultaneously presented in busy or noisy surroundings.
- Develops a dislike for locations or social situations with background noise.

- Often seems to “ignore” people, especially if engrossed in something else.
- Poor “communicator.” ie: fails to explain, apologize, negotiate, defend.
- Problems with cause-and-effect reasoning; difficulty surmising the unspoken rules of conversation, play, and other situations.

Keep in mind there are also 4 separate, distinct subtypes of Auditory Processing Disorder depending upon where along the way to the brain the “signals” get distorted or lost.

1. “Tolerance/Fading Memory” subtype
2. “Decoding” subtype
3. “Integration” subtypes
4. “Prosodic” subtype (often seen with NLD or non-verbal learning disability)

[Click here](#) for more information on Auditory Processing Disorder at **iHaveAPD.com**.



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– Jeff Cohen, Founder