

# can you hear me now?

## “HAVE YOU GOT YOUR HEARING AID IN?”

The only words a hearing impaired person hates more than “never mind” are “Have you got your hearing aids in?” This can set off a bad hearing moment faster than you can say dead battery. The hearing person may think that they are doing the hearing impaired person a favor. Or more often than not the hearing person is frustrated that the person with hearing aids does not understand what is being said to them. It can cause hurt feelings. It can feel like the other person is saying are you not wearing your hearing aids just to irritate me? The question is telling the hearing impaired person that maybe they should do something about the situation.



Hearing aid users quickly learn that devices do not return them to perfect hearing. They neither completely correct nor cure hearing loss. They are called aids for a reason. Hearing aids help hearing through a system of technical processes. They are assistive, not corrective devices. Although newer technology is much better at helping hearing in a variety of situations, there are still going to be times where hearing is not the best. Instead of asking a loved one or friend if they have their hearing aids in the better action would be re-phrasing what was just said or slowing down speech. Also always make sure the hearing impaired person is looking at you and that you have their attention before speaking. So next time you are tempted to ask if they have their hearing aids in, try to think of what you can do to help the situation instead.

## ONLINE COMMUNITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH HEARING LOSS



If you are deaf or hard of hearing or love someone who is consider visiting an online community to find others who share your experiences. Here are five you may want to bookmark for future reference.

### Hearing Health and Technology Matters

The editors of HHTM encourage readers to “hear well, live well”. In order to help them accomplish that, they post timely and lively insights for everyone who cares about hearing loss. Contributors come from all spectrums of the hearing field including practitioners, researchers, manufacturers, educators and consumers with hearing loss.

### Hearing Journey

This site is sponsored by Advance Bionics and the Bionic Ear Association that make cochlear implants. Readers can learn about cochlear implants and hearing loss, post questions for other readers to respond to or share stories about their hearing loss journey.

### The Hearing Health Foundation

This foundation’s mission is to prevent and cure hearing loss and tinnitus through research. They have a hearing health blog and a free magazine.

### Hearing Like Me

This community is sponsored by Phonak, a hearing aid manufacturer. It gives space to individuals with hearing loss that want to connect with others who are experiencing the same challenges.

### Deaf and hard of hearing

The mission of this website is to empower the hearing loss community by promoting confident social interaction and open communication.



have questions? Please call us at 913.680.6180 or visit us at [saintjohnleavenworth.com](http://saintjohnleavenworth.com).

We'll help make things clear!



## have you heard?

a note from Mary Dutton A.uD., Audiologist

Rechargeable batteries are now available for hearing aids! Call the clinic or come in for more information.

For more information, please call Saint John Audiology  
913.680.6180



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