

SoundRecover: Information for Junior (9-18 years)

What is SoundRecover?

It is common for people with hearing loss to have less hearing in the high pitches (i.e. the high frequencies). These high pitched sounds carry important information essential for understanding speech. Often it is not possible to make these sounds loud enough, even with modern hearing instrument technology. The goal of SoundRecover is to help bring the high pitched sounds into your usable hearing range.

The benefits of SoundRecover:

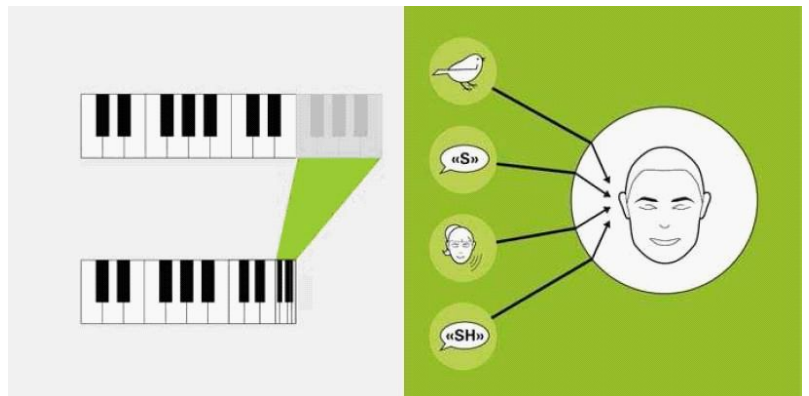
You may experience the following when listening through hearing instruments with SoundRecover:

- Improved hearing of certain sounds and better overall speech understanding (most noticeable for high-pitched talkers such as women and children, softly spoken people, or sounds such as the letters "s" or "f")
- Your speech production may improve thanks to the fact that more speech sounds are audible
- Improved hearing of certain environmental sounds (e.g. bird songs, microwave beeps, doorbells)

To help explain SoundRecover, we will use an illustration of the piano:

During a hearing test, your audiologist tests a range of frequencies, starting at a low pitch (e.g. 250 Hz bass sound) and ending at a high pitch (e.g. 8000 Hz treble sound). You can relate these pitches to a piano keyboard. In addition, high pitched sounds are quieter than low pitched sounds. Your audiogram will tell you what pitches you are able to hear.

SoundRecover takes the softer, high pitched sounds that you are unable to hear, and compresses them to a lower pitched region where you can hear better (see illustration). SoundRecover gives greater audibility of high pitched speech and everyday sounds.





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Will hearing instruments with SoundRecover sound different to my parents or teachers?

Yes, hearing instruments with SoundRecover may sound different to conventional hearing instruments during a listening check (e.g. voices may sound lower in pitch). This is a normal result of the special SoundRecover processing and is nothing to worry about. Remember that for you, this processing means more hearing in areas where little was available before.

Do further adjustments ever need to be made to my hearing instrument(s)?

As with all hearing instruments, adjustments may occasionally be needed. If you experience any of the following, fine tuning changes to SoundRecover may be needed:

- You cannot distinguish certain speech sounds from one another (e.g. "sh" and "s" when produced by others may have a "lisp" quality)
- Compared to previous amplification, the sound quality has decreased for certain speech, music, and/or other sounds
- Certain speech or environmental sounds are bothersome or unnatural sounding for you

It is normal to need a period of adjustment to get used to the SoundRecover processing scheme. SoundRecover can provide you with access to important speech and environmental sounds otherwise unavailable. This will be a new and exciting experience for you!