



Daily Device Check

A daily device check is completed to make sure your child's devices are in good working order. This check should be done at the beginning of each day and includes three components:

1. Visual Inspection
2. Battery Test
3. Listening Check

Your child's pediatric audiologist or the manufacturer of your child's devices can provide you with a device care kit to help complete the daily device check.

Visual Inspection

For the visual inspection component of the daily device check, you are looking to make sure that all of the parts and pieces of your child's devices are there and are connected properly; you are looking for any debris or damage; and you are looking to ensure the devices are on the correct settings if this is something your child's devices allow you to see.

Check for:

- All device parts and pieces and make sure they're correctly connected
- Correct device settings
- Functioning indicator lights
- Corrosion in the battery compartment and/or on the battery connections
- Teeth marks or cracks in the casing
- Broken or missing buttons, switches, or microphone port covers
- Wax or debris in the earmold
- Moisture in the earmold tubing or earhook
- Cracks or tears in the earmold or earmold tubing
- Working tamper-resistance features
- Exposed wires
- Appropriate connection of or to retention devices if applicable

Not all of these will apply to every device. You can consult with your child's pediatric audiologist regarding which ones apply to specific hearing technology. For some of these, you will be able to use items from your child's device care kit to fix the problem. For others, you will need to call your child's pediatric audiologist.

Daily Device Check

For the battery test component of the daily device check, you are ensuring that the battery in your child's hearing technology has sufficient charge to power the devices. There are two different types of hearing technology batteries: 1) disposable and 2) rechargeable. In order to test disposable batteries, you will need a battery tester, which should come in your child's device care kit. After removing the battery from your child's device, you will place it in or on the battery tester as indicated. Each battery tester has a way of indicating how "full" the battery is. You always want your child to start the day with a completely full battery. If the battery tester indicates less than a full battery, replace the battery with a new one.

Regarding rechargeable batteries, each device that uses rechargeable batteries will come with a battery charger. Refer to your child's hearing technology user guide for information on how to determine that the rechargeable batteries are fully charged and ready for use

Listening Check

For the listening check component of the daily device check, there are two parts:

1. Listening to your child's hearing technology yourself

2. Completing the Ling six sound check with your child

For the listening check component of the daily device check, there are two parts:

Completing each part of the listening check allows you to know that your child's devices are providing clear, consistent access to sound and that your child actually is receiving and listening to that sound.

For the first part, in order to listen to your child's hearing technology yourself, you will need some extra equipment, which should come in your child's device care kit or can be provided by your child's device manufacturer. When listening to your child's hearing aids, you will be able to hear the signal, or the sound, that is being provided to your child through the devices.

For conventional hearing aids, you will need a stethoset, or listening tube, which should come in your child's device care kit and can be coupled to your child's hearing aids so that you can listen to them. If your child has a severe or profound hearing loss, you also will need a damper for the stethoset/listening tube so that the amplified sound from your child's hearing aid is not too loud for your ears. This damper may come in your child's device care kit or you may need to ask your child's pediatric audiologist how to obtain one.

Daily Device Check

For bone conduction hearing aids, you will need a test rod or test headband and a pair of ear plugs in order to listen to your child's devices. These may come in your child's device care kit or you may need to ask your child's pediatric audiologist how to obtain them.

For cochlear implants, the extra equipment needed for each manufacturer varies. For some cochlear implants, you only need a set of headphones, but for others you need headphones, a remote control, an adapter, etc. If your child has a cochlear implant, you will need to discuss this with your child's pediatric audiologist. Regardless of the equipment needed to listen to your child's cochlear implants, it is important to know that when doing so, you are only listening to the microphone and the sound that has been picked up by it. Currently, there is no way to actually listen to the information provided to your child by the cochlear implants after it has been processed and converted into an electrical signal.

Regardless of the hearing technology your child is using, when listening to the devices yourself, you will want to:

- Say the Ling six sounds, speaking normally into the device microphone, about six inches from your mouth, listening for a clear, consistent sound with no intermittency (i.e., sound going on and off), no static, and no buzzing or clicking noted.
- Manipulate all the buttons and switches to ensure they are functioning properly. If the buttons/switches are activated, check for correct device settings. If the buttons/switches are deactivated, make sure nothing changes when you manipulate them.
- Squeeze the device and manipulate all of its movable parts listening for possible intermittencies when doing so.
- Open and close the battery door or disconnect and reconnect the battery to make sure that the device turns off and on appropriately.

If you notice a problem when listening to your child's hearing technology yourself, it is possible that it will need to be repaired by your child's pediatric audiologist or device manufacturer. However, you may refer to hearing aid troubleshooting resources or your child's device user guide for help with remedying problems you find prior to calling the pediatric audiologist. If you are unable to fix the problem quickly, call your child's pediatric audiologist immediately.

Daily Device Check

For the second part, completing the Ling six sounds check with your child, you will say each of the Ling six sounds to your child. You will want to do this when your child is not looking at you, immediately after putting the devices on. The Ling six sounds are:

- 'mm' as in me
- 'oo' as in boot
- 'ah' as in hot
- 'ee' as in feet
- 'sh' as in shoe
- 'ss' as in sun

This part of the listening check is incredibly important for making sure your child is hearing and noticing the specific speech sounds you say. Details on how to do the Ling six sounds check are available in the Daily Listening Checks handouts for babies, toddlers, or children.

Find more at hearingfirst.org

©2020 Hearing First, LLC

Created for Hearing First by Amy Lynn Birath, AuD, CCC-A/SLP, LSLs Cert. AVEEd