

How baby monitors work for those with a hearing loss...

They often feature:

- ❖ **a vibrating pad** that triggers when your baby cries.

Some can be placed under the pillow for at night but you may want to have a pager-like clip that lets you attach it to your belt for during the daytime.

Most baby monitors for the deaf have a vibrating pad built-in, but some vibrating pads are sold separately. These can be hooked up to a compatible baby monitor.

- ❖ **have flashing lights** to give visual cues during the daytime.
- ❖ **may prefer video features** to see your child but it typically does not alert you.

In honor of Mother's Day BABY MONITORS

When a person with a hearing loss becomes a parent, they may worry about how they will know that their baby is crying, especially at night when they are sleeping. There are actually quite a few baby monitoring systems available for people who have a hard time hearing even for those that have no hearing at all.

Determining the best device for you:

Baby Cry Monitors alert adults in another room when Baby needs attention. Devices for people with hearing loss incorporate a flashing light system or a vibrating alert. Determining the best device for you depends on a number of factors:

Existing system: If the family already has an alert system installed in the home (such as the Silent Call, Sonic Alert or Alertmaster systems) a cry monitor is available that will be compatible with the existing system.

Portability: An alerting device connected to a large table lamp may not be effective when Mom is moving around the house or garden. Either multiple receivers will need to be stationed around the house or pager-like vibrators can be worn close to the body to alert the parent anywhere within range of the signal.

Sensitivity: Some systems allow for sensitivity adjustment. If your baby tends to sigh and coo while sleeping, the monitor with this feature can be adjusted to ignore those quieter sounds. On the other hand, if you want to be alerted to whispers and quiet whimpers, the device can be set for higher sensitivity.

Channels and Frequency: Families living in apartment buildings may experience interference from other monitors in the area. In general, a higher frequency model (900 Mhz & 2.4Ghz) will have less interference and will work over a larger distance. Channels may help to eliminate interference from other wireless devices in the home (TV channel changers, cordless telephones, etc.)

Extra Parent Units: It may be handy to have more than one parent unit, in case you want to share the care.

*Taken from E-Michigan Deaf and Hard of Hearing People
http://www.michdhh.org/assistive_devices/baby_cry_monitor.html*

BABY MONITORS

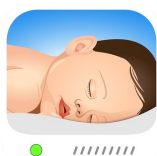
Common Pitfalls

When purchasing a baby monitor intended to be used by a hearing-impaired person, it is important to know the monitor's range.

If the unit uses the Internet, then range is not a problem, but if not, you need to check its maximum range (i.e. 1,000 or 2,000 ft). Some monitors may have a limited reach and not be ideal for a large house.

In addition, consider how portable the unit needs to be: Will it be used only in one room or does it need to be carried from one room to another or even outside?

Aside from regular baby monitors, you can now buy and download baby alarms for your smartphone, so you can keep an eye on your baby wherever you are. One of the advantages of using these monitors is they are compact and you can put it in your pocket or by your pillow. Baby cams and baby monitors have become more and more advanced. Now, those with multiple iDevices can actually monitor their child from a different room and even over 3G or LTE anywhere in the world with many of these apps. Here are a couple of examples:



Cloud Baby Monitor
\$3.99

~ **Unlimited Range Video Baby Monitor (Wi-Fi, 3G, LTE, Bluetooth)**

- broadcasts both video and audio
- allows you to speak to your baby
- play a lullaby from afar
- has an unlimited broadcasting range
- is for iPhone, iPad, iPod touch or a Mac with no configuration

You can watch baby when at home or when you are away, granted that you've already accepted your parent unit's request on the baby unit device.



Baby Monitor FREE

If your baby is asleep and you are in another room, the baby monitor

will detect if your baby is crying and alert you by a call or a text message. Other features include:

- Image surveillance - take a picture of your baby if the alarm is triggered and sends it to another phone
- A sleep diary which allows you to take notes and see how long time your baby has been sleeping
- Tips on how to get your baby to sleep and other useful facts
- Sends a warning text message if battery is getting low
- Is for Android Smartphones

WHERE TO FIND MORE INFORMATION:

For more information about baby monitor apps for smartphones, type in **Baby Monitors Apps** and several suggestions will come up

To buy equipment: Baby Monitors with a variety of options and personalities can be purchased through companies such as Harris Communications, MaxiAids or Hear-More. You can type in a search for **baby monitors for deaf and hard of hearing** and several choices will come up.



Harris Communications

15155 Technology Drive
Eden Prairie, MN 55344

Voice: 800-825-6758

TTY: 800-825-9187

VP: 952-388-2152

Website:

www.harriscomm.com/

Maxi-Aids, Inc.

42 Executive Blvd.,
Farmingdale, NY 11735

Voice: 800-522-6294

TTY: 800-281-3555

Website:

www.maxiaids.com

Hear-More

42 Executive Blvd.
Farmingdale, NY 11735

Voice: 800-881-4327

TTY: 800-281-3555

VP: 631-752-1145

Website:

www.hearmore.com

