



Deaf Myths

<p>Myth #1: All people with a hearing loss are totally deaf.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hearing differences range from a slight hearing loss to hearing nothing.
<p>Myth #2: All Deaf people can read lips.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Many cannot lipread. Even the best “speech-readers” can misunderstand spoken words.
<p>Myth #3: Deaf people are “deaf and dumb” and cannot speak.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ “Deaf and dumb” is an offensive term, and inaccurate. Some Deaf can use speech, but prefer to communicate using sign language.
<p>Myth #4: Anyone who signs is an interpreter.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Becoming a skilled interpreter requires years of practice. Formal training and certification is required, as is abiding by codes of ethics.
<p>Myth #5: Deaf people are demanding.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Deaf individuals are often called demanding for wanting an interpreter or accommodations, but they are simply asking to have equal access to communication with hearing people.
<p>Myth #6: American Sign Language (ASL) is universal.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Most countries have their own sign language. ASL is used primarily in the United States.
<p>Myth #7: Deaf people don’t like hearing people.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Most Deaf people do like hearing people. Some may have had bad experiences and unfortunately developed negative attitudes.
<p>Myth #8: Deaf people are very quiet.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Deaf people can be quite vocal and make loud noises. Many are unaware of the sounds they make as they go about daily life.
<p>Myth #9: Deaf people don’t like music.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Many Deaf people enjoy music. Some feel the vibrations, some can hear a little bit of the music, while others can follow the words by reading the lyrics.
<p>Myth #10: It is okay to call Deaf people “hearing impaired.”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Many Deaf people feel offended by this term and do not feel “impaired” at all. Please check if they prefer “Deaf” or “Hard of Hearing.”