

Four Strategies For Communicating with a Deaf Employee

1

Gain Attention



- Put yourself in their line of vision.
- Wave or gently tap their shoulder or desk.
- Maintain eye contact during conversation.

2

Speak Clearly



- Speak at a natural pace and normal volume.
- Avoid long and complicated sentences.
- Avoid covering your mouth.
- Use body language and visual cues to help you get your message across.

3

Conducive Environment



- Don't stand too close in front of your employee. It will be harder to read lips and see visual cues.
- Be in a room with adequate lighting.
- Limit background noise.

4

Check for Understanding



- Provide context at the start of your conversation.
- Repeat or rephrase what you have said if needed.
- Ask your employee for feedback on how you can improve your communication.