



Speaking just a little slower helped us hear each other better on our amazing Austin SegCity Tour.

Hearing matters

Speak a little slower, and people will hear you better

By **Jodi N. González**

Statesman Content Marketing

When you tell someone you cannot hear well, they often speak louder.

That extra volume doesn't always help. The problem is compounded because speaking louder annoys the person who is talking, and can make you feel yelled at. The trick is getting people to speak a little slower without yelling. Here are some tips.

Avoid saying, "I have trouble hearing" or "What? I can't hear you." People typically respond to these phrases with unnecessary volume. Instead, remember the following three phrases for future use: "Can you repeat that a little slower, please?" or "I missed the first part of

GOLDEN HEARING RULE

Speaking a little slower provides better hearing on multiple levels.



THE
BETTER HEARING CENTER
OF AUSTIN

2500 W. William Cannon,
Suite 501
3808 Spicewood Springs,
Suite 103

512-282-4327
www.betterhearingofaustin.com

that, please say it again a little slower," or "Please slow down a little so I can understand you better."

When you use one of these phrases, most people will react to you in three helpful ways. No. 1: They look at

you. Eye contact helps you understand speech much better. No. 2: They will s-l-o-w d-o-w-n a little. This provides a TRIPLE bonus. Speaking slower naturally encourages better pronunciation, along with a deeper, easier to understand tone and allows you more time to figure out what is being said. No. 3: Being asked to speak slower makes a person feel like what they are saying is important, which makes them feel good.

Here's one more helpful hint. Add this simple phrase to your voice mail, "If your message is important, please speak slowly and clearly so I can write it all down." Like magic, people will leave you clearer and easier to understand voice mail messages.