

Making an Impression


Follow these best-practice steps to make quality ear impressions every time.



STEP 1

Examine the ear

The first thing you want to do is examine the ear, preferably with a video otoscope.


-  **Pro Tip:** Your video otoscope is your best friend—an indispensable tool for cleanings, impressions and even patient acceptance.



STEP 2

Insert the otoplast

The size and type of otoplast you use makes a big difference in the outcome of your impression.


-  **Pro Tip:** We recommend using cotton, not foam, and flaring it before insertion.



STEP 3

Take the impression

Consider the shore of the silicone you use. In general, medium is recommended as it allows for good definition of landmarks and is pliable enough for easy removal.

-  **Pro Tip:** To help eliminate gaps, voids and ridges, keep the tip of the gun buried in material as you slowly pull it out.





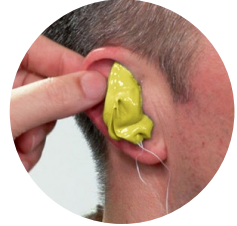
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STEP 4

Remove the impression

Wait five to eight minutes for the impression to completely cure before breaking the seal and removing from each ear.




-  **Pro tip:** Don't forget to look inside the ear one more time to ensure nothing is left over or injured.

STEP 5

Evaluate the impression

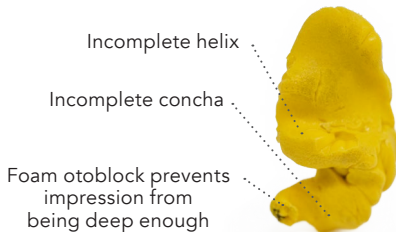
A good impression will be as deep as possible, have minimal gaps and voids, and give you as complete a picture as possible of the patient's ear.

-  **Pro tip:** Using a measuring tool may also help determine the right custom style for each patient.



Bad impression

Poor technique doesn't provide landmark identification



Good impression

Good technique ensures smooth impression and clear landmarks

