



Babycom Home Doppler Usage Tips

Thank you for your Babycom purchase. The Babycom Home Doppler Fetal Heartbeat Monitor is easy to use – but it can take some practice. Here are some tips...

To test to see if your Babycom is working properly, apply a liberal amount of transmission gel to the transducer head and place it to your chest and see if you hear your heartbeat. If you're able to hear your heartbeat, then the Babycom is working and you'll need a little more practice finding your baby's heartbeat

If you can't hear your baby's heartbeat, there are a few reasons why you may not be picking up your baby's heartbeat. The Babycom cannot pick up your baby's heartbeat if the signal is of poor quality due to handle position, fetal position, maternal position; fetal or maternal movement; lack of gel; noise or interference. Please keep in mind that your baby's heart is still very tiny -- it can take practice finding the right spot.

If you see LP or 888 on the digital display, that stands for Low Power. Replace the battery.

Here are some other tips:

- Make sure you're using a liberal amount of transmission gel (that's very important)
- Try different positions
- For best results, keep the transducer handle as still as possible to maintain a steady signal
- Move the transducer head very slowly – it's easy to pass over the heartbeat if you move too fast
- Early in pregnancy a full bladder may help
- Early in pregnancy start in line with the belly button right above the pubic hair. As your pregnancy progresses you'll find the heartbeat higher up the abdomen
- Tilt the transducer head down toward the pubic bone
- You may hear the same heartbeat a few inches apart -- it is common to pick up the heartbeat in two places
- If you're hearing static, trying turning the volume down

The fetal heart sounds like the hoof beats of a galloping horse. A rushing wind-like sound is audible from the placenta. The fetal heart rate usually ranges between 140 to 160 beats per minute, approximately twice the maternal rate. The mother's heart rate can be checked by taking the pulse.

From experience, we know that the digital display will show lower numbers when there is a movement of the transducer while the number of heartbeats is being calculated or lower numbers will appear on the digital display if the Babycom is picking up the mother's heartbeat. Once a clear fetal heart signal is established, the Babycom will automatically calculate the derived fetal heart rate and display it on the LCD after approximately 8 seconds. If you don't have the Babycom transducer "locked" on to the baby's heartbeat for approximately 8 seconds, it won't register on the digital display.

The best way to use the Babycom -- or any other Doppler -- is by finding the spot where the heartbeat sounds the clearest, and at that point start from the beginning, by shutting the monitor off, adding gel, and turning the monitor back on.

I'd also suggest re-reading the instruction booklet that came with the Babycom. There are detailed instructions and tips for its use.

We also recommend that you take the Babycom with you to your next doctor's appointment so that he/she can show you the best place to look for your baby's heartbeat and offer other tips.

For more information, please visit Babycom USA at <http://www.babycomusa.com>