Say It in CI
A Dictionary of Mapping Terms for Cochlear Implant Users

Following is a list of words that people with cochlear implants have used to describe the quality of sound during or after mapping sessions. The terms also may relate to sounds users have experienced that may indicate a problem with equipment (i.e., a processor cord). Note that how one individual perceives a sound may not be the same as another person might, thus words on this list could mean entirely different things to different people. When choosing a term(s) to describe your listening experience, be prepared to explain it in more detail to your audiologist.

Bang	Distorted	Mechanical	Sharp
Barking	Droning	Metallic	Shrill
Bass	Ducks Quacking	Metal Pipe	Sibilant (too hissy)
Beeping	Ducks Underwater	Microphonish	Signal to Noise Ratio
Blaring	Dulled	Motorboating	Snap
Blunted	Echoing/Echoey	Muffled	Soft
Blurred	Electronic	Multiple Voices	Solid
Booming	Fading	Murky	Spongy
Bottom of a	Far Away	Mushy	Squashed
Barrel/Well	Flat	Muted	Squawky
Breathy	Flour-y	Nasal	Squeal
Buzzy	Fluctuating	Off the Station (radio	Squeezed
Cartoonish	Fog Horn	out of tune)	Static/Police Radio-
Chimes	Frog in Throat	Ooooom	like
Chipmunk	Fuzzy	Out of Focus	Tapping
Chirpy	Fuzzy on the Edges	Out There (Voices	Thin
Chopped Up	Garbled	sound disconnected	Throaty
Clangy	Gargling/Gargly	from bodies)	Tinkley
Clashy	Grating	Piss-y ("P" sounds)	Tinny
Clear	Gravelly	Pitch	Tunnel-Like/Metal
Clicking	Growly	Plinky	Tunnel
Clinking	Gurgling	Pointy (like "crisp")	Tweety
Clipping	Harsh	Quacking	Underwater
Compressed	Helium	Raspy	Vibrating
Cottony	Hissy/"essi" (too	Resonant	Warbling
Crackling	much, or not enough	Resonating	Whiny
Crinkling	"s")	Reverberating	Whispery
Crisp	Hoarse	Roaring	Whistling
Cut Off	Hollow	Robotic	White Noise
Cutting Out	Indistinct	Rough	Zipper-y
Cymbals	Intermittent	Rumbling	
Damped	Jumping Out	Screechy	
Disembodied	Layered	Shadow Voices	