



Types of Stuttering

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Part Word/Syllable Repetition

The first sound or syllable of a word is repeated. There is no struggle or tension.

*I want the **b-b-b**-ball.*

Whole Word Repetition

A whole word is repeated without tension or struggle.

*I want **the the the** the ball.*

Phrase Repetition

Part of a sentence is repeated. It is typically 2-4 words repeated without tension or struggle.

*I **want I want I want** the ball.*

Prolongations

One sound is said longer than normal. The sound is extended without struggle or tension.

*I **w-----ant** the ball.*

Blocks

There is tension and struggle in saying a word or sound. The tension can be in the throat (voice box), tongue, or lips. The sound seems to get “stuck.” A block can be a repetition and/or a prolongation with tension.

*I **www----ww---want** the ball.*

Silent Block

There is tension and struggle when starting to say a word without any sound. The mouth and/or tongue look like they are beginning to say a word and may repeat movement or hold still.

*I (**mouth holds the shape of “w” without sound**) **want** the ball.*

Interjections

Interjections are a sound or word that doesn’t add any additional meaning to a sentence. Many people use these when they are thinking about what they want to say. Some examples are: “like” “um” and “uh.” Interjections aren’t stuttering, but they can disrupt the flow of speech. People use interjections to hold their turn talking.

*I **ummm** want the ball.*

Secondary Behaviors

Secondary behaviors are movements of the head, hands or body during a moment of stuttering. They can be continuous movements during talking such as poor eye contact or fidgeting with the hands. It can also be a rapid movement only during stuttered words.

Abandoned word/sentence

An abandoned word or sentences occur when a person begins to stutter on a word or anticipates they will stutter. The word or sentence is changed to avoid the difficult to say word.

*I **www**-Can I have the ball?*

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Final Word Repetition

Final word repetitions are like a part word repetitions, but the end of the word is repeated. This isn't a classic form of stuttering, but it is a disruption of the natural flow of speech.

I **want-ant** the **ball-all**.

Interrupted Words or Broken Words

Broken words happen when there is a longer pause than typical in the middle of a word sometimes accompanied by an inhalation or exhalation. This is not a classic form of stuttering, but disrupts the flow of speech.

I **wa-(inhale)-nt** the ball.