

The Ear

Body & health

Outer, middle and inner — how a pressure wave becomes a nerve signal.

Each section does one job, and hands over to the next.

Section	Contains	Does
Outer	Pinna, ear canal	Collects and funnels sound
Middle	Eardrum, malleus, incus, stapes	Amplifies about 20 times
Inner	Cochlea, semicircular canals	Converts to nerve signals; balance

The semicircular canals sense head rotation, which is why an ear infection can cause dizziness rather than deafness.