Know Your Blood Pressure Numbers!

What do my blood pressure numbers mean?

Your blood pressure is measured using two numbers:

- The <u>top number</u> is your systolic blood pressure or SBP. This measures the blood pressure in your arteries when your heart beats.
- The <u>bottom number</u> is your diastolic blood pressure or DBP. This measures the blood pressure in your arteries between heart beats.



Here is an example of how to read the measurements:

- If your monitor reads 120 systolic and 80 diastolic, you would say your blood pressure is "120 over 80"
- The way your doctor would write this down is 120/80 mmHg.









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When measuring your blood pressure at home, use this helpful chart to understand your blood pressure levels.

	Normal blood pressure	SBP: Less than 120
		DBP: Less than 80
	Elevated (higher) blood pressure	SBP: Between 120-129
		DBP: Less than 80
0	Hypertension (high blood pressure)	SBP: 130 or higher
		DBP: 80 or higher







