

## 10 Warning Signs of Dementia

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### Trouble understanding visual images or spatial relationships

Normal:	Dementia:
Vision changes that relate to cataract	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Difficulty reading</li><li>• Walks pass a mirror and thinks someone else is in the room</li></ul>



Source: St Luke's ElderCare Rehabilitation Department (Occupational Therapy)

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### Problems with words when speaking or writing

Normal:	Dementia:
Sometimes having trouble finding the right word	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Trouble following or joining conversations</li><li>• Problems finding the right word to name something</li></ul>



Source: St Luke's ElderCare Rehabilitation Department (Occupational Therapy)

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### Misplacing things and losing the ability to retrace steps

Normal:	Dementia:
Misplacing things from time to time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Placing things in bizarre places</li><li>• Losing things and cannot find them, accuse others of stealing</li></ul>



Source: St Luke's ElderCare Rehabilitation Department (Occupational Therapy)

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### Decreased or poor judgement

Normal:	Dementia:
Making a bad decision once in a while	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Poor judgement dealing with money</li><li>• Poor grooming</li></ul>



Source: St Luke's ElderCare Rehabilitation Department (Occupational Therapy)

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### Withdrawal from work or social activities

Normal:	Dementia:
Sometimes feeling weary of work, family, or social obligations	May withdraw from hobbies or social activities



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### Changes in mood or personality

Normal:	Dementia:
Developing very specific ways of doing things and becoming irritable when they are interrupted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Confusion, suspicion, fear, anxiety</li><li>• Easily upset when outside of "comfort" zone</li></ul>



Source: St Luke's ElderCare Rehabilitation Department (Occupational Therapy)