

BRAUN



Comparison of readings from
Braun thermometers

I want to compare readings from different thermometer types and measurement sites. Why do I get different readings? Are they correct?

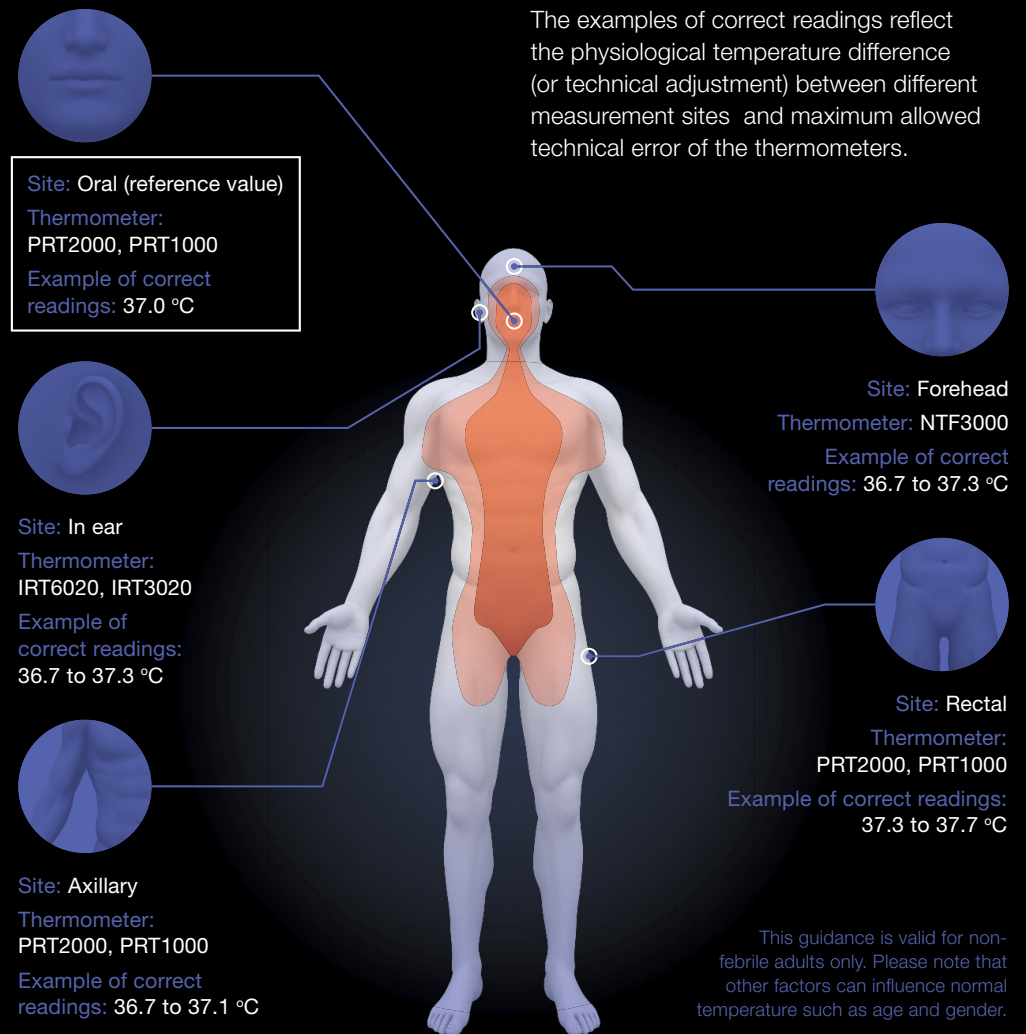
You can take a temperature reading from a number of different locations on the body including the mouth, ear, armpit, rectum and forehead. Depending on where you take a temperature reading, you can get varying results. This is perfectly normal, as temperatures differ at different body zones. E.g. body temperature in the rectum is the highest, as this is a closed cavity.

Our diagram aims to explain what is considered a correct temperature reading for the different body zones. An example of using one of our Braun thermometers is as follows: A PRT2000 might give a reading of 37.0°C when used orally and readings of 36.7°C or 37.7°C at other places on the body, due to natural differences among sites and within accepted measurement tolerances.

Thermometer type and measurement site	Thermometer	Physiological temperature difference (or technical adjustment)	Maximum technical error	Example of correct readings for Braun thermometers when comparing measurements in different sites (physiological difference and technical errors on each measurement add up)
Digital stick - Oral	PRT2000, PRT1000	Reference Value (RV)	± 0.1 °C	37.0 °C
Digital stick - Axillary		RV - 0.1 °C		36.7 to 37.1 °C
Digital stick - Rectal		RV + 0.5 °C		37.3 to 37.7 °C
Tympanic - In ear	IRT6020, IRT3020	Adjusted to RV	± 0.2 °C	36.7 to 37.3 °C
Forehead - Touch	NTF3000	Adjusted to RV	± 0.2 °C	36.7 to 37.3 °C

Based on a meta-analysis from Sund-Levander et al. 2002. Normal oral, rectal, tympanic and axillary body temperature in adult men and women: a systematic literature review. Scan J Caring Sci 2002 16:122-128.

Example of correct readings at different locations by different thermometer types, equivalent to reference value of 37 °C measured orally



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