

The Insider's Guide to Saving Money

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Automobiles, Health, Home, Technology

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Have you ever had to deal with unwanted noise? I have the perfect solution, the NoiseBuster Electronic Noise Canceling Safety Earmuff model PA4000, made by Pro Tech Technologies Inc. I tested these in a very noisy environment and they blocked out most of the unwanted sound. The NoiseBuster Earmuff was specifically designed for the industrial worker, but is also an excellent choice for do-it-yourself users of lawnmowers and power tools, as well as for motor sports fans when used in conjunction with scanners. You can also listen to your portable audio player while wearing your NoiseBuster. The product delivers up to 20dB of ANR (Active Noise Reduction) and has a passive NRR (Noise Reduction Rating) of 26dB.

ANR is the most effective defense against low frequency noise. Low frequency noise consists of powerful sound waves that can travel great distances and cannot be absorbed by conventional passive materials. Noises generated by engines, fans, motors and other similar devices are typically dominated by low frequencies. The passive component of the NoiseBuster is ANSI (American National Standards Institute) - certified at 26 NRR, which provides superior attenuation of mid- and high-frequency noise. These units are actually used by some of the commercial airlines which deal with all kinds of low-frequency noise.

Prolonged exposure to noise, including low frequency noise, is known to cause many detrimental psychological and physiological effects including: fatigue, anxiety and depression; loss of concentration and productivity; and headaches, high blood pressure and hearing loss. Low frequency noise interferes with communication because it masks consonant sounds, the sounds that make speech intelligible.

You can also listen to audio because it has Stereo input, (3.5 mm audio jack) for MP3 players or other devices. This allows you to enjoy music at safer volume levels and without the distortion of audio quality and intelligibility. The earmuff housing is made from a tough ABS molding, which is connected by an adjustable metal headband, with a removable head cushion. Surrounding the ear is a soft pliable cushion, which after a while I found a bit uncomfortable from the pressure against my head. The NoiseBuster has a very well protected On/off power switch and red LED power indicator when it's on. It uses a single AA battery, which provides 65 hours of use. This item was much heavier than some others on the market, at a total weight of 17 oz. with the battery inserted. The product is resistant to water, moisture, contaminants, mechanical shock and vibration and comes with only a six-month warranty. It also includes a Durable carrying case and a 3.5mm audio interface cable.

Get the highest-performing hearing protector available at an unbelievably low price! For more information go to <http://www.noisebuster.net/>.

I found the following information interesting in reference to recent studies on Non-Auditory Effects of Noise. A University of Michigan study observed factory workers wearing blood pressure monitors on the job. With every 10-13 decibel increase in workplace noise, the worker's blood pressure increased by two points. A German study discovered that living in a noisy neighborhood--where traffic raised decibel levels above 60dB- tripled a woman's risk of heart attack and doubled a man's risk.

Pro Tech Technologies Inc. also makes audio noise-canceling headphones that are extremely affordable and quite comfy. I tested the NoiseBuster, Model NB-FX, and was impressed, due to their low price point of only \$69.00. This is a great product if you travel. The solid adjustable headband folds in 4 places, which makes it convenient for travel. These lightweight headphones are able to cancel 18-20dB of noise across a more extended frequency range (40 - 1,200 Hz).

There are many noise-canceling headphones manufactured today. While the price range of some are very high, there are also some very inexpensive units. The problem with the lesser priced units is that they also sound cheap. I can not say that about the Model NB-FX. The sound quality was as good as some of the higher end products. The ear cups cover most of the ear and are comfortable.

It also comes with a soft carrying pouch, airline adapter, AAA battery and has a 90 day warranty. These noise-canceling headphones are the best value for your money if you're looking for portable headphones. For more information go to <http://www.noisebuster.net/>.