FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

PRODUCT TECHNOLOGY

What is Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphone technology?

Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphone technology is a method of reducing unwanted noise by electronically creating a signal that is the mirror image of the unwanted noise. Microphones in the earcups monitor sound at the user’s ear and externally. The monitored sound (music and noise) is compared to the sound the user wants to hear (the signal coming from the audio input – this could be music or silence). The difference between the monitored sound (from the earcup’s microphone) and the sound the user wants to hear (music or silence) is noise. The electronics in the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones instantly process the noise signal, and a precise equal and opposite signal (correction signal) is created. This opposite signal is then sent to the speaker in the earcup along with the sound the user wants to hear (again, this could be music or silence). The result is three signals being presented to the user’s ear:

1. Noise (monitored by the earcup microphones) from the environment.
2. The sound the user wants to hear (music or silence) from the audio input.
3. The correction signal from the system electronics.

The noise and correction signal nearly cancel each other \((1 + (-1) = 0)\), providing a clean, high-fidelity sound signal at the ear.
### What is TriPort® acoustic headphone structure?
Proprietary TriPort acoustic headphone structure utilizes external ports to vent the earcups and effectively enlarge the acoustic volume, without increasing the size of the earcup. The result is better audio and active noise reduction from a smaller, lighter, more comfortable headphone. TriPort acoustic headphone structure is used in all of our consumer headphones and headsets.

### How is the total noise cancellation in the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones achieved?
The QuietComfort 25 headphones utilize both active and passive noise reduction technologies. They use a sophisticated proprietary electronics approach to active noise reduction, placing microphones both inside and outside the earcups. The electronics system senses the sound in almost any environment and then measures, compares and reacts – instant by instant – to produce an opposing cancellation signal. The passive noise reduction is achieved by the combination of the acoustic design and materials chosen for the earcups and cushions.

### What is Active EQ?
Active EQ (equalization) involves electronically tuning the frequency response to closely match the proprietary Bose response curve for headphone audio. The closer the frequency response comes to matching the target curve, the more lifelike the audio performance.

### What is full-spectrum noise reduction?
Think of a piano keyboard as the full spectrum of human hearing, from the low notes at one end, to the mid-range notes in the middle, to the high notes at the opposite end. Through a combination of advanced active electronics and passive attenuation, the QuietComfort 25 headphones reduce noise across the full range of human hearing (all of the keys on the keyboard). Other noise reduction headphones may be effective at only some frequencies (only some of the keys on the full keyboard).

### What is electronic noise floor?
Noise floor is the electronic “hiss” that may be heard with some noise reduction headphones. This noise can be annoying and can take away from your listening enjoyment. The QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones use sophisticated electronic circuitry to minimize noise floor and make it virtually undetectable.
Why do QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones use digital technology?

We make conscious decisions about which technology is used in each of our products. In order to create a small-sized, around-ear Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphone with Bose noise reduction, we used an advanced digital electronic chip. It allows the circuit board to be much smaller, because we are able to use fewer electronic components than before. To reduce noise cancellation to a single digital chip, the analog outputs of the microphones must be converted into digital signals. In the past, converting these signals with the precision needed for high fidelity and low noise floor added delay, which compromised performance by slowing the ability to quickly react to noise. The technology in the QC®25 headphones reduces this delay to negligible levels, allowing for our best noise reduction performance from an around-ear headphone.

GENERAL PRODUCT INFORMATION

What are the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones?

The Bose QuietComfort 25 headphones are our best-performing headphones for the customer who prefers an around-ear style. They deliver our industry-leading audio performance and noise reduction that allows users to hear more of their music and movies – while traveling, at the office or at home.

How much noise do the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones cancel?

It is difficult to establish one number that is valid for all the different environments and situations where the headphones can be used. The headphones will reduce unwanted noise to a level that is noticeably more comfortable when compared to the same situation without using the headphones. We encourage consumers to try it for themselves in a variety of situations, both with and without an external audio source.

How do you compare to headphones that say they can cancel 99% of noise?

The QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones compare very favorably to other noise reduction headphones. Bose doesn’t make claims about percentage reduction because a single number can’t tell you much about what you will hear when you use the product. Does the product reduce 99% of the noise at one frequency or across a wide range of frequencies? How is the measurement done – to reflect the way people hear different sound levels and frequencies? All of these questions must be asked before any such claim is meaningful.

A better way to compare noise reduction headphones is with your ears. Many Bose retail outlets provide an opportunity to listen to the product. Bose also offers a 30-day trial, so you can see how the product performs in real life. When you do, we believe you will appreciate the Bose difference resulting from proprietary technology and expertise developed over three decades of research.
### What type of sound quality do the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones provide?

Active EQ, TriPort® acoustic headphone structure, and a low noise floor enable QuietComfort 25 headphones to achieve high standards in headphone audio performance. Active EQ enhances the clarity throughout the entire spectrum of sound for lifelike audio reproduction. TriPort acoustic headphone structure fosters a bass response not commonly found in such small headphones, and a low noise floor reduces the annoyance of an electronic hiss commonly found in other noise reduction headphones.

### Can you listen to music when the battery runs down? What type of sound quality do the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones provide when listening to unpowered audio?

These headphones allow users to continue to listen to their source even if the battery power is depleted. Without power, neither active noise cancellation nor Active EQ is able to function. Audio performance in the unpowered state is similar to that of Bose audio headphones (such as the Bose AE2 audio headphones).

### How comfortable are the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones?

The headphones were designed to maximize all of the features that contribute to user comfort, especially when using the headphones for extended periods of time. All materials have been selected for their comfort and light weight. The earcups rotate for a uniform, comfortable seal. Most importantly, the headband applies a light clamping force, specifically designed with the user’s comfort in mind.

### What is the warranty on the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones?

The limited warranty on these headphones is one year in the U.S. Additional details are furnished on the warranty card included with the headphones.

### Do the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling® headphones come with the 30-day return policy?

Yes. In North America and some international markets, the headphones are covered by a 30-day return policy.

### PRODUCT COST

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<tr>
<td>How much do the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones cost?</td>
<td>The QuietComfort 25 headphones cost $299.95.</td>
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Why are the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones more expensive than other headphones? 

One of the reasons Bose Corporation has been successful is because our founder, Dr. Amar Bose, established a company that is committed to producing nothing but the very best products. When comparing prices, you must compare performance. Using proprietary technology and building on decades of research, the QuietComfort 25 headphones grant the user the ultimate headphone experience.

We offer a 30-day return policy to give you the opportunity to try them and compare the noise reduction, audio performance, comfort and convenience for yourself. We recognize some consumers will choose to purchase less-costly products. However, we also know that when consumers are looking for the best in terms of performance and quality, Bose products not only deliver, but they also do so at a great value.

How much is the shipping and handling? 

Standard shipping and handling costs may vary according to sales channel.

Is there sales tax? 

In the U.S., consumers are required by federal law to pay state sales tax.

How much will it cost in shipping to return the headphones? 

The headphones can be returned by whatever shipping means you choose. We do suggest that you purchase insurance to protect your investment during shipping.

PARTS INFORMATION

What is included with the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones? 

The following contents are included with the headphones:

- Detachable audio cable with inline microphone and remote control for select iPod, iPhone and iPad models
- Airline adapter
- AAA battery
- Carrying case
- Owner’s Guide
What is the purpose of the extra adapter? The dual plug adapter is for use on aircraft that are outfitted with a dual audio jack. (Without this adapter, the user will hear the music or movie audio in only one earcup.) The adapter is also an audio attenuator, which reduces the volume of the airline audio system’s output, allowing for greater volume control. The attenuating dual plug adapter has no effect on the amount of noise reduction.

What replacement parts are available? The following items can be purchased as replacement parts or accessories. The material number is provided for each:

- Standard audio attenuator cable (Material Number 309748-0020).
- Bose QuietComfort® 25 remote and microphone accessory, Black (Material Number 720875-0010) for use with select iPod, iPhone and iPad models.
- Bose QuietComfort® 25 remote and microphone accessory, White (Material Number 720875-0020) for use with select iPod, iPhone and iPad models.
- Dual plug adapter (Material Number 027598).
- Carrying case, Black (Material Number 720937-0010).
- Carrying case, White (Material Number 720937-0020).
- Replacement earcup cushion kit, Black (Material Number 720876-0010).
- Replacement earcup cushion kit, White (Material Number 720876-0020).
- 5-foot (1.5m) extension cable (Material Number 309761-0010).
- 20-foot (6.2m) extension cable (Material Number 309764-0010).

Is the QuietComfort 25 audio cable with remote and microphone compatible with my QuietComfort 2 and/or QuietComfort 15 headphones? No. The earlier QuietComfort 2 and QuietComfort 15 headphones are not compatible with this cable.
## COMPATIBILITY

**With which Apple products are the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones compatible?**

Made for:
- iPhone 5s, iPhone 5c, iPhone 5, iPhone 4s, iPhone 4, iPhone 3GS
- iPad Air, iPad mini with Retina display, iPad (3rd and 4th generation), iPad mini, iPad 2, iPad, iPod touch (2nd through 5th generation)
- iPod classic, iPod nano (4th through 7th generation), and iPod shuffle (3rd and 4th generation)

**What happens if I plug my headphones with inline remote and microphone into another digital music player or mobile phone?**

The volume up and down buttons will not work with other non Apple products. The answer/end function may or may not operate properly, as this function varies from device model to model. The cable with inline remote and microphone included with the Bose QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones is designed for use with most iPod, iPhone or iPad models.

**What happens if I plug my headphones into an older iPod, iPhone or iPad model that isn’t on the compatibility list?**

The cable with inline remote and microphone included with the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones is only designed for use with most iPod, iPhone and iPad models. It is incompatible with the original iPhone; the headset will not physically plug into the mobile phone. Other older iPod, iPhone and iPad models will play tracks, but volume control will not function. Depressing the answer/end button may have some effect on music and phone calls, but the exact response has not been determined.

For use with older iPod and iPhone models not in the compatibility list, the standard audio attenuator cable is recommended.

**What does the inline remote control do?**

With the inline remote control, you can adjust volume, play/pause tracks, skip forward/back on tracks, fast-forward or rewind within tracks and change playlists. Depending on your iPhone model, you also may be able to answer/end phone calls, switch between calls and decline an incoming call. The microphone supports mobile communications, and you can access certain voice applications, such as Siri, VoiceOver or Voice Control, where available.
## Q&A

### Bose® QuietComfort® 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling® headphones

**How are the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones different from the other headsets designed to be used with the iPod, iPhone or iPad?**

The QuietComfort 25 headphones offer significant noise reduction, Bose audio performance and a comfortable around-ear fit for a better overall listening experience.

**Is the headset made by Apple? How do I know that it will function with my iPod, iPhone or iPad correctly?**

The QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones are designed and built by Bose to exacting standards. The headphones have received Apple certification to confirm they are compatible with select iPod, iPhone and iPad models.

## PRODUCT USAGE

**How do the earcups rotate to fold for storage?**

The earcups rotate in one direction only. To rotate them, hold the earcup marked L in your left hand and the earcup marked R in your right hand. Gently rotate your thumbs together until each earcup turns 90°. Then pivot the right earcup up into the space inside the headband to allow for compact storage in the case. While both earcups pivot up, it is recommended to pivot the right cup to make dressing the cable in the case easier.

**Can I use the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones with my portable or home audio source?**

Yes. In addition to providing high-performance active noise reduction, the headphones can be used to listen to your favorite audio sources. These include CD players, DVD players, MP3 players and personal computers, along with select iPod, iPhone and iPad models.

Please note: Some audio equipment is built for ¼-inch-sized (6.3mm) plugs. You will need to use a ¼-inch stereo headphone adapter plug, sold separately.

**Can the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling® headphones be used with Lifestyle® systems?**

Lifestyle® systems are designed with a standard headphone jack. The headphones can be plugged into these systems with no adapter needed.
### Can the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones be used with Wave® systems?

The original Wave® products were designed without a headphone jack. For consumers who would like to do so, connecting headphones to original Wave® products requires the purchase of an additional RCA-to-mini-stereo-jack accessory. This is available from Bose at 1-800-444-BOSE. (The material number is 029100.)

The Wave® music system and the Wave® radio series II and later have been designed with a standard headphone jack. The headphones can be plugged into these systems with no adapter needed.

### I am a pilot; can I use the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones to fly?

**No.** These headphones do not include features required to meet the needs of pilots, nor do they meet FAA standards for aviation communication. The Bose A20® Aviation Headset is designed exclusively to meet these needs. For further information on the A20 Aviation Headset, contact Bose Corporation at 1-800-444-BOSE.

### Can QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones be brought onboard an airline?

**Yes.** Just as you can bring your own digital music player or laptop computer onboard, you can bring your own personal headphones onboard. However, as with any electronic device, there are FAA restrictions on use during takeoff and landing. You are required to obey the directions of flight attendants throughout the flight.

### Can I use the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones to watch an in-flight movie or listen to in-flight audio programming?

**Yes.** You can use the standard audio cable to connect these headphones to the in-flight entertainment system and access both the movie audio and music channels. On some airplanes, you can plug the cable directly into the in-flight entertainment system’s audio jack. Other airplanes have a dual audio jack, so you will need to plug the cable into the dual plug adapter before connecting to the airplane audio jack. Depending on the aircraft, you may also want to use the included attenuating adapter for greater volume control.

### Can I use the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones while driving my car?

**No.** We do not recommend using these while driving. Many state laws prohibit using headphones while operating a motor vehicle. It is your responsibility to learn and adhere to the law in the states in which you drive. However, passengers may enjoy using QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones while riding in an automobile to remove engine and road noise.
Can the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones be used overseas? Yes. Most intercontinental aircraft utilize an audio jack that is compatible with the standard headphone plug at the end of the cable. Others may use a different jack that can be accessed by using the dual adapter that is supplied with the headphones.

Can I use the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones outside in the rain or snow? The headphones are not designed for use in wet environments. It is very important that no moisture be allowed to enter the headphones either through the ports or the earcups. If any water does get into the system, there may be serious damage to the headphones.

What if the volume is too high or too low? The volume control on the selected audio source can be used for volume adjustments. If the volume on the source cannot be lowered enough, the attenuating adapter with single or dual plugs can be used to achieve the desired output volume.

In addition, if you are using an iPod, iPhone or iPad, you can use the inline remote to adjust the source volume by pressing the top (+)/bottom (-) buttons on the remote.

Are the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones “wireless” headphones? No. However, the noise reduction technology can be used without the need for any cable attachments. “Wireless” is an industry term used for electronics that transmit information via radio frequency – the electronics in QuietComfort 25 headphones do not do this.

How many batteries do the headphones need? To operate the headphones, one 1.5V AAA size Alkaline or Lithium primary battery is needed. The battery will provide power for approximately 35 hours of use. The on/off indicator light on the right earcup will flash when there are approximately five hours of battery life remaining. When the battery is exhausted, the headphone will produce a soft audible clicking noise for about a minute before shutting down. Of course, user conditions and batteries may vary; therefore, it is always a good idea to keep an extra AAA battery in the carrying case.
## Q&As

**Bose® QuietComfort® 25**
**Acoustic Noise Cancelling® headphones**

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<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
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<tr>
<td>Can I use rechargeable batteries?</td>
<td>Yes, with a reduced runtime. The difference in capacity and voltage of rechargeable AAA compared to alkaline batteries shortens the useful run time of the batteries by approximately 20%. The use of NiMH low-self discharge AAA size batteries is a good match for the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones for customers who prefer to use rechargeable batteries. One thing to note is the low-battery indicator light is not calibrated for the lower voltage of rechargeable batteries; it may not be a reliable indicator of remaining run time, however, the QuietComfort 25 headphones will continue to operate normally while the light flashes until the battery is depleted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How are the headphones cleaned?</td>
<td>The headphones do not require scheduled cleaning. However, if some cleaning is necessary, gently wipe the outside surfaces with a slightly moist cloth. Be careful not to allow any moisture to enter the headphones through the ports or earcups. In addition, be certain not to force any dirt or debris into the ports. Do not blow air into, or vacuum, the ports or the interior of the earcups.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What do I do if the earcup cushions come off?</td>
<td>The earcup cushions are held in place by a mounting flange. That flange snaps under eight small tabs located around the inside of the earcup. If an earcup cushion becomes partially or completely detached, push its mounting flange back into the earcup. Then use your finger or thumb to press around the edge of the mounting flange, making sure it snaps in place under all eight tabs around the earcup. If the earcup cushions are not properly installed, the noise reduction properties of the headphones will be diminished.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Why would I want to replace the cushions?</td>
<td>The earcup cushions have been designed using materials that should provide years of long-lasting, comfortable performance. Replacement cushions are offered in the event that the cushions become excessively dirty or damaged in some way. A comfortable, effective cushion seal is important for a great experience with your headphones.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are the headphones durable?</td>
<td>Yes. The headphones carry a one-year limited warranty in the U.S. for defects in materials and workmanship. We recommend you store the headphones in their carrying case when not in use. The case will help protect the integrity of the headphones and the high-performance headphone speaker drivers from over-compression.</td>
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</table>
Are the QuietComfort® 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling® headphones subject to electromagnetic interference (EMI)?

Certain wireless electrical devices, such as mobile phones and wireless computer networks, may cause some static interference with audio products. The interference depends on the specific device and the distance from the audio product.

The EMI shielding of the QuietComfort 25 headphones includes circuitry designed to minimize the potential for interference from wireless Internet networks or mobile phones. They have been tested and conform to all electromagnetic emission levels, safety and other directives/specifications presently required by the Council of European Communities (CE).

PRODUCT DIFFERENTIATION

How are the enhanced QuietComfort headphones different from the earlier versions of QuietComfort headphones?

The original QuietComfort headphones were introduced in 2000. In 2003, Bose Corporation introduced the champagne-colored QuietComfort 2 headphones, which included:

- A single, detachable audio cable.
- Fold-flat storage.
- Elimination of the inline control box.
- Reduction of noise floor/electronic hiss.
- Improved audio performance.

In 2005, Bose updated the QuietComfort 2 headphones with new silver-chrome styling and improved audio performance. The headband also was redesigned for greater durability, and increased shielding of electromagnetic interference (EMI) was added.

In 2006, Bose introduced the QuietComfort 3 headphones, a smaller, on-ear version of our acclaimed QuietComfort 2 headphones. These offer similar overall performance, with the convenience of a smaller form factor and a rechargeable lithium-ion battery.

In 2009, Bose QuietComfort 15 headphones were introduced, with a significant improvement in noise reduction performance, with no compromise in audio performance or comfortable fit. In 2011, we included an additional audio attenuator cable with inline microphone and remote for convenient control of select iPod, iPhone and iPad models.

The Bose QuietComfort 25 headphones feature a new look from previous QuietComfort headphones. They maintain the comfort of the previous generation while improving audio and noise reduction performance. A pivot was added to allow for a significant reduction in the size of the headphone while stored in its case.
Do the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones reduce more noise than the original QuietComfort headphones?

Yes. Earlier versions of QuietComfort headphones all provided essentially the same level of noise reduction. The QuietComfort 15 headphones improved active noise cancelling and passive attenuation for a significant improvement in the amount of noise reduction. The QuietComfort 25 headphones make improvements to the total noise reduction mainly at low frequencies.

Do the enhanced QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones deliver better audio reproduction than the earlier versions of QuietComfort headphones?

Since their introduction in 2000, the audio performance of the QuietComfort headphones has been periodically improved for more lifelike audio reproduction. The champagne-colored QuietComfort 2 headphones, introduced in 2003, dramatically reduced the electronic hiss/noise floor of the original version. The silver-and-chrome QuietComfort 2 headphones, introduced in 2005, included a subtle refinement that affects the full audio spectrum, with the most noticeable improvement in the higher-frequency range. The QuietComfort 15 headphones maintained this acclaimed audio performance, while the noise reduction was significantly improved. The QuietComfort 25 headphones continue to improve the audio performance with a smoother and more balanced audio response.

Do the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones deliver better audio reproduction than Bose® audio headphones?

Yes. Although all of our consumer headphones utilize TriPort® acoustic headphone structure – which enables a bass response not commonly found in headphones – QuietComfort 25 headphones utilize Active EQ to closely match the Bose target curve for headphone audio. In addition, the noise reduction technology allows you to enjoy your music with less distraction from noise around you; you can hear more without having to turn up the volume.

I am a pilot; can I use the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones to fly?

No. These headphones do not include features that would be required to meet the needs of pilots, nor do they meet FAA standards for aviation communication. The Bose A20® Aviation Headset is designed exclusively to meet these needs. For further information on the A20® Aviation Headset, contact Bose Corporation at 1-800-444-BOSE.

Are the QuietComfort® 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling® headphones appropriate for industrial use as a hearing-protection device?

No. The QuietComfort 25 headphones were not designed for use in industrial situations requiring hearing protection. Tests that should be performed on such a product, such as making sure the product is not damaged by chemicals or solvents, have not been done. The audio cable could become tangled in machinery, posing a safety hazard. Finally, the noise reduction rating (NRR) as defined by the government cannot be measured for this product because the test method specified by law is generally recognized to be inaccurate when applied to active devices.
PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

What are the mechanical specifications of the cables and connector?

- **Cable length**: 5.5 ft./66 in./1.68m
- **Interface connector**: Commercial mini-plug (3.5mm diameter)

What are the noise reduction specifications? Is there an NRR rating?

Bose Corporation does not provide a noise reduction rating (NRR) or attenuation specification for our QuietComfort headphones.

The 1970s-era NRR standard for rating industrial hearing-protection devices was developed long before active noise reduction headphones were commercially available. In fact, NRR, as defined by the government, cannot be determined for this product because the test method specified by law is generally recognized to be inaccurate when applied to active devices.

OTHER ISSUES

Will the QuietComfort 25 Acoustic Noise Cancelling headphones help consumers that suffer from tinnitus, hyperacusis or autism?

Bose Corporation does not make any claims about relief of tinnitus, hyperacusis or autism, and we have not conducted any long-term clinical studies of the headphones' effect on these conditions. Tinnitus, hyperacusis and autism are complex conditions that are not easily addressed. Some consumers have reported the headphones improve their situation, but others have not experienced any improvement.

With the Bose Corporation 30-day trial period, we can suggest consumers try the QuietComfort 25 headphones personally to see if they experience an improvement.
Can you get a pressure sensation when trying on noise reduction headphones?

Our QuietComfort® headphones, including QC®25 headphones, cannot create any “static” pressure in the earcups. We infrequently receive reports from people who believe they are feeling some such pressure. The only explanation we have is that the perceived sonic effect one hears when wearing any well-performing ANR headphone – where the low-frequency sound in one’s environment is significantly reduced – also can be caused when one’s eardrums are under a pressure difference, which can happen in a fast-moving elevator or a descending airplane. Some people may associate this sound with a sense of pressure.

Airline travelers quickly learn to yawn or swallow to “pop” their ears when the world sounds like this, as the plane ascends or descends. The sonic effect of ANR, by reducing the low-frequency noise, can obscure this trigger we’ve all learned, and you may feel some discomfort if you don’t “pop” your ears soon enough to avoid any discomfort. The first time of two you fly with any of our QuietComfort headphones, pay particular attention to swallowing early to equalize the pressure in your ears.

LEGAL DISCLAIMER

Made for iPhone 5s, iPhone 5c, iPhone 5, iPhone 4s, iPhone 4, iPhone 3GS, iPad Air, iPad mini with Retina display, iPad (3rd and 4th generation), iPad mini, iPad 2, iPad, iPod touch (2nd through 5th generation), iPod classic, iPod nano (4th through 7th generation), and iPod shuffle (3rd and 4th generation).

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