

Course Information

INSERT EARPHONES WORKSHOP

About the course

The **Insert Earphones Workshop** provides hands-on training in the safe and effective use of insert earphones and earmuffs for occupational audiometry.

The latest version of *Australian Standard 1269.4 Auditory assessment (2014)* lists an innovative earphone arrangement for testing in noisy areas: earphones inserted in the ears plus high attenuation (noise-reducing) earmuffs fitted over the top.

What are insert earphones?

Insert earphones plug into the audiometer as usual, however the test tones are conducted through a thin tube which is inserted into an earplug. The earplug is then placed inside the client's ear canal.



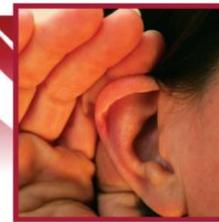
Insert earphone

Earmuffs

Insert earphones alone provide a reasonable level of external noise reduction, however research by NAL (National Acoustics Laboratories) demonstrated a much greater reduction is achieved when a pair of specific, high rated earmuffs is fitted over the top.

Benefits of using the insert earphones + earmuff combination

- **High noise reduction.** This new configuration achieves very high levels of attenuation (noise reduction) at the ear.
- **Flexibility of testing location.** Better noise reduction means Standards/legislation-compliant audiometric testing is possible in many rooms that would previously be too noisy to conduct audiometry without a booth.
- **Cost effective.** Compared to a booth (still the 'gold standard' for audiometry), the required equipment costs are significantly lower.
- **Portable.** Takes up roughly the same space as a pair of standard audiometer headphones, so can be easily transported between locations.
- **Same annual calibration costs.** Most calibration laboratories will charge the same amount to calibrate insert earphones as standard earphones.
- **Enhanced perception of quality.** Many customers report that clients can question the accuracy of the test and quality of the service when they hear external noise during a test. This new equipment provides extra levels of noise reduction so many everyday sounds in the clinic are heavily muted or inaudible.
- **Avoid the problems associated with earphone enclosures.** In extremely quiet rooms it's possible to use earphone enclosures ("cups" fitted over the earphones) instead of a booth to achieve reduction of background noise during a test. While enclosures can reduce some noise they also come with a few issues that can lead to inaccurate test results; for instance, the need to apply correction figures, tight fitting and uncomfortable, highly variable noise reduction depending on ear anatomy, pressure causing ear canals to "collapse"/close off and more.... The insert earphones and earmuff combination avoids these problems.



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Why get training?

When using insert earphones, the audiometric tester inserts an expanding earplug deeply into the client's ear canal. This is an "invasive" technique and therefore requires formal instruction to complete the task safely. Training is also required in getting a "good fit" in order to achieve a high level of noise reduction.

We provide course handouts and all practice equipment, as well as one-on-one supervised practice.

The workshop content is developed from **Australian Standard/New Zealand Standard 1269.4 Auditory assessment** (the key reference document in occupational audiometry), National Acoustic Laboratories research and audiologists with over 20 years of teaching and clinical practice.

Pre-requisite

The **Insert Earphones Workshop** is only offered to graduates of the **Occupational Audiometry Course** conducted by The Hearing Company. This ensures competence in Australian Standards audiometry and otoscopy, allowing a focus on developing new skills during the workshop.

The 4-day **Occupational Audiometry Course** provides students with thorough training in the practical skills and knowledge required to conduct Standards/legislation-compliant audiometric assessments. Importantly, this course includes thorough training in how to safely and effectively conduct otoscopy (ear inspection).

About the presenter

The course presenter is Glenn Johnson, an Occupational Audiologist (hearing specialist) with over 20 years' experience in clinical practice, hearing rehabilitation, teaching, management and consulting. In his role as Director/Principal Audiologist at The Hearing Company, Glenn has been involved in designing materials and presenting courses to over 1,000 students throughout Australia and the Asia Pacific region.

Course venue & contact hours

The workshop will be held at a CBD location. The course runs from 8.30am to 12.30pm and morning tea is provided.

Attendance certificate

Participants will receive an attendance certificate from The Hearing Company, Australia's leading provider of occupational audiometry training.

Pre-course preparation

There is no reading or other pre-course preparation required.

Registration

To register for the workshop, complete a [registration form](#) and return to our Course Coordinator, Lynne Miles: admin@hearingcompany.com.au

If you have any queries about the course please contact, on Lynne on 0478 776 039 or email admin@hearingcompany.com.au.