

Sound Masking Return on Investment for Corporate Offices



Sound masking is a low-cost, high-impact acoustic solution that enhances speech privacy, improves employee focus, and supports compliance with general data protection and workplace confidentiality regulations.

Key ROI Drivers

Speech Privacy & Compliance

Protects sensitive business information from being overheard; supports compliance with privacy standards such as GLBA, HIPAA, GDPR, and internal confidentiality policies.

Productivity Gains

Reduces time lost to distractions and improves concentration in open-office environments¹.

Cost Avoidance

Reduces the need for costly private office buildouts.

Employee Experience & Retention

Creates a more focused, less stressful work environment that boosts satisfaction and retention².

Sound Masking ROI Estimates by Facility Size

Facility Type	Typical Staff	Est. Square Footage (175/employee)	Installed Cost (@ \$3 / sq. ft.)	Annual Productivity ROI	Additional Benefits
Small Office	25	4,375	\$13,125	\$35,000 - \$50,000	Improved privacy, reduced distractions
Medium Office	100	17,500	\$52,500	\$140,000 - \$200,000	Compliance support, space optimization
Large Office	500	87,500	\$262,500	\$700,000 - \$1,000,000+	Strong privacy protection, enhanced workplace culture

Assumptions for ROI Calculation:

- Avg salary: \$75,000/year (\$36/hr)
- Daily productivity lost to noise: 1 hr/employee³
- Sound masking recovers 15–20% of lost time⁴
- 240 annual workdays



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Conclusion

Sound masking provides an immediate and measurable ROI for corporate offices of all sizes. Even small-scale installations offer fast payback—typically within one year—while larger offices can realize hundreds of thousands in annual gains through improved productivity and compliance risk reduction.

**Ready to calculate ROI for your specific
office layout?**

**Contact Lencore for a free, customized
quote and design consultation.**

References:

1. University of California, Irvine (2013). "The Cost of Interrupted Work: More Speed and Stress."
2. Leesman Index Reports (Ongoing). "Workplace experience benchmarks."
3. Steelcase (2005). "The Office Code: How Office Workers Get Things Done."
4. BSI Group (2015). "Productivity in the Modern Workplace."

