# 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.

#### **Cost Avoidance**

Reduces the need for costly private office buildouts.

#### **Productivity Gains**

Reduces time lost to distractions and improves concentration in open-office environments<sup>1</sup>.

#### **Employee Experience & Retention**

Creates a more focused, less stressful work environment that boosts satisfaction and retention<sup>2</sup>.

### 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:

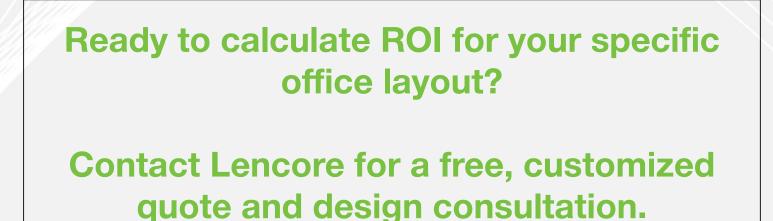
- Avg salary: \$75,000/year (\$36/hr)
- Daily productivity lost to noise: 1 hr/employee<sup>3</sup>
- Sound masking recovers 15–20% of lost time<sup>4</sup>
- · 240 annual workdays



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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.



**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."



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