



## Aviation Headset Purchasing Guidelines

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You will need a headset for your flight lessons. Here are some things to consider when purchasing your aviation headset.

There are two types of aviation headsets. Passive and Active Noise Reduction (ANR). (Sometimes ANR is also called Electronic Noise Cancelling-ENC). Many pilots start training with a passive headset and move into a noise-cancelling headset when they start their first pilot job. Whichever you choose, know that you'll likely want to upgrade to an ANR headset at some point.

One thing we can't stress enough-if you decide to buy an ANR headset, don't spend less than \$700-\$900. The ANR headsets that sell for less than \$700 don't hold up well over time; you're better off buying a passive headset.

### Passive Headsets

- Pros: Always Work, Durable, "Fool Proof", Last Forever, Low Maintenance, Cost Effective
- Cons: Noisy, Uncomfortable After 6+ Hours of Flying

### ANR Headsets

- Pros: Comfortable, Quiet, "What the Pros Use"
- Cons: Need Batteries, Higher Expense, More Fragile than Passive

**To clarify:** DO NOT buy an ANR headset for less than \$700 (unless one of the models listed below). You're better off buying a passive David Clark headset.

### Passive Headset Recommendations (prices are approximate)

- David Clark H20-10 (\$425)
- David Clark H10-13.4 (\$350)

### ANR Headset Recommendations (prices are approximate)

- Bose A30 (\$1,299)
- Bose A20 (\$995-1,299)
- Lightspeed Zulu 3 (\$899-1,199)
- David Clark ONE-X (\$995)
- Lightspeed Zulu
- Lightspeed Sierra (\$699)