

# Speech Masking

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**MASK FOR SRT WHEN THERE IS A 40DB DIFFERENCE UNDER HEADPHONES (60DB WITH INSERTS) BETWEEN THE UNMASKED SRT OF THE WORST EAR AND THE BEST BONE CONDUCTION SCORE.**

## **The Rule:**

You must deliver speech spectrum masking noise/speech noise (if you don't have speech noise, white noise is acceptable) to the NTE when there is a difference between unmasked SRT of TE and BEST bone conduction threshold of the NTE (at 500,1000,2000, or 4000Hz [some states require 250Hz]), exceeding interaural attenuation of the given transducer:

- TDH-39 Headphone 40dB Interaural attenuation
- Insert Headphones 60dB (not 70dB as used when masking for air conduction with inserts)

## **Masking Instructions for SRT**

1. NTE: Set speech masking to at SRT of the NTE + 10dB
2. TE: Present a spondee at previously established SRT
3. Increase speech masking level at 5dB intervals 3 times until the SRT in the TE hasn't changed
4. Record SRT in the proper box on the audiogram in dB HL
5. Record final or effective masking level on the audiogram (along the bottom where indicated)

**IF YOU MASKED FOR AIR CONDUCTION, YOU MUST MASK WRS TESTING 100% OF THE TIME**

## **Masking Instructions for Word Recognition Score (WRS) Testing:**

1. TE: Set attenuator in to MCL + 10dB
2. NTE: Add speech masking noise (or white noise) at MCL of the TE - 20dB
3. Present 25 words
4. Record WRS results, show masking level used in the Presentation Level box