

FINAL VERSION

**Sound system equipment –
Part 7: Headphones and earphones**



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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

SOUND SYSTEM EQUIPMENT –

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FOREWORD

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This consolidated version of the official IEC Standard and its amendment has been prepared for user convenience.

IEC 60268-7 edition 3.1 contains the third edition (2010-01) [documents 100/1621/FDIS and 100/1641/RVD] and its corrigendum (2012-11), and its amendment 1 (2020-09) [documents 100/3316/CDV and 100/1641/RVD].

This Final version does not show where the technical content is modified by amendment 1. A separate Redline version with all changes highlighted is available in this publication.

International Standard IEC 60268-7 has been prepared by IEC technical committee TC 100: Audio, video and multimedia systems and equipment.

This third edition constitutes a technical revision. This edition contains the following changes:

- clause/subclause renumbering in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2;
- addition of a measurement system using HATS;
- addition of details on pinna simulators for high measurement reproducibility, see Annex A.

This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

A list of all parts of IEC 60268 series, published under the general title *Sound system equipment*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of the base publication and its amendment will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC web site under "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific publication. At this date, the publication will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

A bilingual version of this publication may be issued at a later date.

INTRODUCTION to Amendment 1

This Amendment 1 contains the following significant technical changes with respect to IEC 60268-7:2010:

- evaluation of free-field compensated frequency response has been added;
- evaluation of diffuse-field compensated frequency response has been added;
- the Bibliography has been updated;
- some normative references have been updated;
- the term "HATS" and its definition has been added.

SOUND SYSTEM EQUIPMENT –

Part 7: Headphones and earphones

1 Scope

This part of IEC 60268, is applicable to headphones, headsets, earphones and earsets, intended to be used on, or in, the human ear. It also applies to equipment, such as pre-amplifiers, passive networks and power supplies which form an integral part of the headphone system.

It does not deal with:

- a) safety, for which reference should be made to IEC 62368-1 or another appropriate standard;
- b) the characteristics of microphones of headsets, for which reference should be made to IEC 60268-4;
- c) earphones and other devices for hearing aids, for which reference should be made to IEC 60118-0;
- d) headphones for audiometry;
- e) headphones and other devices which form part of an active ear-defender system, although some of its provisions may be applicable.

This standard specifies the characteristics which should be included by the manufacturer in specifications, and relevant methods of measurement. It includes a classification of the different types of earphone, mainly characterized by the way in which the transducer is coupled acoustically to the ear, and a classification code which may also be used for marking.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

IEC 60038, *IEC standard voltages*

IEC 60050(801):1994, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary – Chapter 801: Acoustics and electroacoustics*

IEC 60068-1, *Environmental testing – Part 1: General and guidance*

IEC 60086-1, *Primary batteries – Part 1: General*

IEC Guide 106, *Guide for specifying environmental conditions for equipment performance rating*

IEC 60263, *Scales and sizes for plotting frequency characteristics and polar diagrams*

IEC 60268-1, *Sound system equipment – Part 1: General*

IEC 60268-2, *Sound system equipment – Part 2: Explanation of general terms and calculation methods*