

# PRODUCT REVIEW



## AirHeadz...Free Yourself!

Over the years I have field tested and reported on a few items that have had the opportunity to change the face of metal detecting. This latest product is no exception.

As metal detectors have vastly progressed over the last decade, so have some of the accessories for detecting. I say some accessories for a reason, there is not a lot that can be changed about a steel coin probe (screwdriver) or a sand scoop, real innovations in the last few years have been made in how you hear your detector.

There have been significant changes in detector headphones over the years. Today's detectorist demand specialized headphones that are specifically designed and engineered for detecting. Gone are the days of using music headphones that only offered marginally acceptable sound and were lacking in other areas crucial to both the varied detecting environments and the many advances made in current detector technology. Here is the shopping list that I and many others look for in our headphones.

**Quality of Sound:** Better detectors use tonal changes in sound along with visual ID. Some of these changes in target sound are so slight that many times they are mistaken for background noises and in worst cases for junk signals due to a headphones lack of clarity. The highest of quality phones are needed to bring forward good signals from the background noise.

**Faint Signal Recognition:** We now have many detectors that are finding targets deeper than thought possible a few years ago. Headphones for these detectors must be able to process even the slightest sound and get that signal to the operator in such a way that the detectorist never needs to question whether there is a signal under their coil. I have worked areas of such extreme mineralization that even though I could still hunt the areas, I was uncomfortable with my headphones response. More than once I have had to stop and spend a lot of time trying to hear through the background noise to hear a target signal that is all but covered by the phones inability to respond to sounds other than background.

**Comfort Factor:** Many detectorists, myself included, use different headphones depending on where and when we are hunting. Tight larger muffed sealed phones for windy cold days, ear buds or ear canal phones for hot days with little wind. I even have a set of headphones for hunting in areas where I have a concern for critters such as snakes. It is little wonder why so many of us feel the need to always

carry a large assortment of phones.

Surprisingly, even with all of these choices, I still could not find one headphone that had all of the qualities that I required. So, in actuality, I still did not have what I was truly looking for.

**Durability:** When spending well into the hundreds of dollars for "Best" quality headphones, I expect to have headphones that are the highest quality, both in audio response and construction as well. I have to have a headphone that I will not pull the cord apart every time I snag it on a tree limb or a cactus.

I haven't been able to find a single set of headphones that met the entire "shopping list" until a few weeks ago.

I had the opportunity to hunt with a set of headphones that not only met my every expectation, but answered questions that I had not even asked yet.

AirHeadz provided me with pre-production headphones that I immediately knew I would like. AirHeadz were specifically designed for detecting by a detectorist working with an engineer whose only job is sound. Put a detectorist, a sound person and an idea in the same room and great things are bound to happen and they did!

After wearing the AirHeadz phones for a few hours I was convinced that these phones were what I had been looking for. Lightweight, superior sound quality, great tonal ranges everything I wanted plus a lot more.

AirHeadz really are the first of their kind. The phones were the most comfortable I have used in years. They are lightweight to the point I forgot I had them on a couple of times. The AirHeadz muffs are large enough that they covered my ears entirely and fit snugly against my head without being tight. This set of phones was also fitted with gel ear pads and cotton "muff socks" (optional) that wick away all the moisture making them even more comfortable.

AirHeadz uses a full ear muff that takes out, all but the strongest, direct wind noise. Since it is a true ear muff, the

