TV Headsets

A TV headset sends the TV's sound straight to your ears. You hear every word clearly — without turning the TV up loud for everyone else. If you keep asking "what did they say?" while others say it sounds fine, this is the fix.

The four worth knowing

TV Ears — simplest of all

Their headsets connect to almost any TV, clarify voices, and let you set your own volume while others listen normally. The popular Digital model is plug-and-play — no pairing, no apps. Best if: you want the simplest thing that works.

Sennheiser RS 175 — best sound quality

A wireless system with its own transmitter box that plugs into the TV's optical or audio output. The over-ear headphones have surround and bass buttons, stay comfortable through long movies, and you can walk to the kitchen without losing sound. Best if: sound quality matters most and you want to move around freely.

Bose TV Speaker — the whole room hears better

One honest note first: Bose does not sell a headset made just for TV. Their fix is the Bose TV Speaker — a small soundbar with a Dialogue Mode button that lifts voices out of the background noise. Best if: you want one simple upgrade the whole room benefits from.

Sony WH-1000XM5 — one great pair for everything

Top-rated noise-canceling headphones that also pair to your TV over Bluetooth. Great sound, very comfortable, and they work with your phone and travel too (a newer XM6 model also exists). One honest catch: regular TV Bluetooth can lag slightly behind lips on some TVs — Sony's own TVs handle it best. Best if: you want one great pair of headphones for everything.

How they connect, in plain words

- **Optical cable.** A small square-ish plug from the TV to the headset's base — the most reliable sound. TV Ears and Sennheiser both support it.
- **Bluetooth.** Pairs like a phone does — convenient, but on some TVs the voices lag slightly behind the lips.

What matters most for seniors

- **Simple controls.** Volume right on the headset — avoid anything that needs an app for basic listening.
- **Hearing aids.** TV Ears are designed to be worn with hearing aids in. Over-ear models can press on them — try before you commit.

When to call Sean instead

- Connecting a headset to your specific TV — optical, Bluetooth, or another output.
- Choosing between models before you buy — bring the room and Sean will match the right one.

Call Sean at (813) 770-6082.