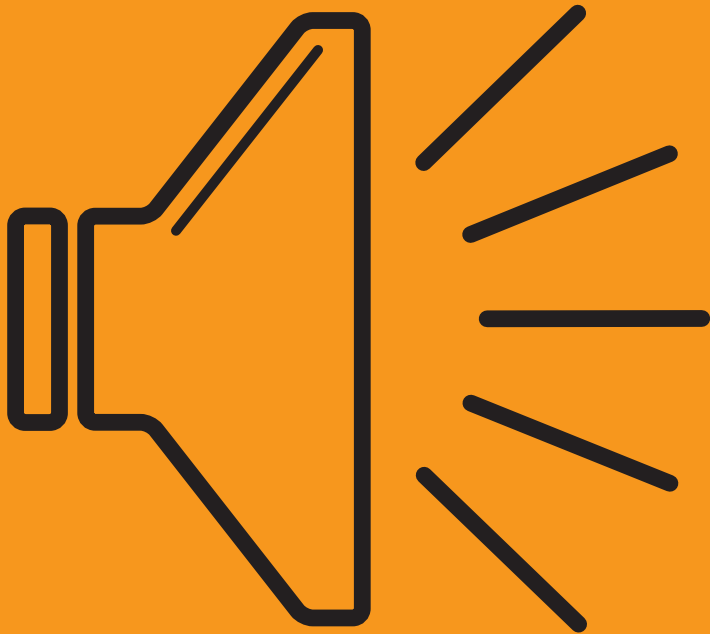


HOW LOUD?



Do you know the level of the noise you're hearing? Remember that any noise above 85 decibels (dB) may be hazardous to your hearing, even if it only lasts for a short while.

Under the Workplace *Health and Safety Regulations 1998*, employers must conduct a noise assessment if equipment being used has the potential to generate a continuous noise exposure greater than 85 decibels over a full eight hours.



| Source | Decibel level |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Compressor | 101-123 |
| Blaster | 107-120 |
| Compound mitre saw | 100-120 |
| Air gouger | 105-115 |
| Abrasive cutter | 100-115 |
| Pneumatic nail gun | 95-115 |
| Chainsaw | 95-115 |
| Mining drill | 108-113 |
| Gas turbine | 92-112 |
| Diesel generator | 107-111 |
| Jack hammer | 90-110 |
| Grinder | 83-110 |
| Metal saw | 105-108 |
| Impact wrench | 104-107 |
| Impact gun | 91-107 |
| Guillotine | 94-103 |
| Reving truck | 100-102 |

This assessment should be done by a competent person, and repeated every five years. The assessment will show if measures to reduce these noise levels must be implemented; it will also indicate if audiometric testing is required.

Division 4 of the *Workplace Health and Safety Regulations 1998* sets out these requirements.

| Source | Decibel level |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| Cross cut saw | 98-101 |
| Welding machine | 99-100 |
| Router | 98-100 |
| Brake rivetter | 97-99 |
| Profile cutter | 95-98 |
| Blower/pump | 95-96 |
| Wood plane | 94-96 |
| Band saw | 94-95 |
| Lawn mower | 85-95 |
| Prime mover | 90-94 |
| Crusher | 89-94 |
| Back hoe | 82-94 |
| Belt sander | 82-92 |
| Restaurant | 40-50 |
| Office | 30-40 |
| Classroom | 20-30 |



Please note

This information is for guidance only and is not to be taken as an expression of the law. It should be read in conjunction with the *Workplace Health and Safety Act 1995*, the *Workplace Health and Safety Regulations 1998* and any other relevant legislation. Copies of the legislation can be purchased from Print Applied Technology: call (03) 6233 3289 or freecall 1800 030 940. It is also available on the Internet at www.thelaw.tas.gov.au

This guide was produced by staff from WorkCover Tasmania and Workplace Standards Tasmania.

We welcome your feedback on this guide.

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