

Controlling Noise: Basic Concepts

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Typical sound levels	
dB	Source and distance (where applicable)
0	Threshold of human hearing
25 – 35	Inside an unoccupied house
35 – 40	Background noise in a quiet occupied living room
55 – 60	Normal voice at 1 metre distance
70 – 90	Average volume of TV or radio
80	Vacuum cleaner
80	Person shouting at 1 metre
80 – 100	Truck passing at 10 metres
120 +	Jet plane take off at 100 metres