

Decibel Chart

	Noise Level (decibels)	Common Sounds
Safe Zone	0	Lowest audible sound
	50	Quiet empty barn, babbling trout stream, gentle breeze
	60	Normal conversation
	70	Chicken coop, farrowing area
	85	Tractor or combine idling, barn cleaner, conveyor, elevator: At this decibel level, noise may begin to affect your hearing if you are exposed to it for more than 8 hours per day.
Danger Zone	90	Blower compressor, pneumatic wrench, harvesting silage (no cab), full throttle lawn mower: As noise gets louder the "safe" time decreases; damage can occur if you're exposed to it for more than 4 hours per day.
	100	Tractor at 80% load, squealing sows, power tools, hand-held metal grinder: 1 hour of exposure per day is the limit at this decibel level.
	110	Average walkman set above the halfway mark, full-throttle combine, 10-HP vane-axial barn fan: Anything over 15 minutes exposure per day can cause damage.
	120	Thunderclap (near), bad muffler, old chain saw: The danger is immediate
	140	Gunshot, engine backfire, dynamite blast, jet engine: Any length of exposure time is dangerous, and may actually cause ear pain.