

# Noise in Confined Spaces



Noise produced in confined spaces can be particularly harmful because of reflection off walls.

Noise levels from a source inside a small confined space can be up to to 10 times greater than the same source placed outdoors!



*The safe exposure limit is 85 dB for no more than 8 hours per day to reduce the risk of hearing loss.*

Normal conversation  
**60 dB**

Leaf Blower or hair dryer  
**90 dB**

Concert  
**110 dB**

Gunshot/fireworks  
**140 dB**



*How long can you be exposed to a loud noise before it's dangerous?*

	Noise level (outdoors)	Safe exposure limit	Safe exposure limit in a small confined space
Drill	87 dB	5 hours	30 minutes
Belt Sander	90 dB	2.5 hours	15 minutes
Welding Machine	100 dB	15 minutes	1.5 minutes
Jackhammer	130 dB	No safe exposure time	

*Hearing Loss is irreversible, permanent, and preventable. Before entering a noisy area or using a tool, make sure you have the proper hearing protection!*