

Student Handout

Noise exposure

Noise in service areas may reach harmful levels that can cause hearing loss. Exposure to sound over 85 decibels over an 8-hour period requires hearing protection, and employers are required to inform workers if sound levels are at 82 decibels or above.

Examples of hazards

- grinding
- engine revving
- sanding
- pneumatic wrenches

Safety tips

- Wear approved hearing protection whenever you enter an area posted as having high levels of noise, whether it is noisy when you enter or not. Noisy equipment can start up at any time.
- Ensure your hearing protection is the right type for the environment and that it is comfortable.
- Ear buds (headphones) are not hearing protection. High levels of sound from music can cause hearing loss and prevent you from hearing warning signals.

