

Sound Level Meters

DT Workshop Equipment Reference — D&T / STEM resource for school workshops | Measuring & Inspection



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A sound level meter measures noise levels in decibels, verifying that workshop machines stay within safe limits and demonstrating how hearing damage accumulates. It is used for hearing protection checks, noise audits and STEM experiments.

Key Features

- Ranges 30-130 dB typical
- A and C weighting filters
- Fast and slow response times
- MAX hold for peak readings
- Tripod mounts and analogue outputs

Typical Uses in the Workshop

- Measure machine and workshop noise levels
- Check that ear protection is needed
- Demonstrate sound level differences
- Noise audits for safety records

Safe Operation

1. Set weighting to A for hearing risk checks
2. Hold the meter at ear height with the mic forward
3. Measure over a minute at the working position
4. Record the average and peak values
5. Repeat at several stations for a map

SAFETY NOTES

- Do not use in rain or wet conditions
- Keep the microphone away from dust and wind
- Do not point the unit at your own ears when testing
- Wear ear protection in genuinely loud areas
- Calibrate the meter against a known source yearly

Maintenance & Consumables

- Clean the microphone grille gently
- Replace batteries and check calibration
- Windshield foam keeps wind noise out
- Store in its case
- Calibrate or verify annually

Specification & Buying Notes

A class 2 sound level meter with A weighting and MAX hold is right for school use. Include a windshield. Data-logging models export readings for student analysis.