

## Suggested Limits for Room Loudness

Sones	dBA		Sones	dBA	
1.3-4.0	32-48	Private Homes (Rural and Suburban)	5.0-15.0	51-67	Corridors and Halls, Cocktail Lounges, Washrooms, Toilets
1.7-5.0	36-51	Conference Rooms	7.0-21.0	56-72	Hotel Kitchens and Laundries, Supermarkets
2.0-6.0	38-54	Hotel Rooms, Libraries, Movie Theaters, Executive Offices	12.0-36	64-80	Light Machinery, Assembly Lines
2.5-8.0	41-58	Schools and Classrooms, Hospital Wards, Operating Rooms	15.0-50	67-84	Machine Shops
3.0-9.0	44-60	Courtrooms, Museums, Apartments, Private Homes	25-60	74-87	Heavy Machinery
4.0-12.0	48-64	Restaurants, Lobbies, General Open Offices, Banks			

From AMCA Publication 302 (Application of Sone Ratings for Non-Ducted Air Moving Devices with Room-Sone-dBA Correlations).

**Sone**—An internationally recognized unit of loudness. Sones signify, in a single number, the total sound output of the unit being tested. One sone is approximately equal to the sound of a modern refrigerator in a kitchen. A 6-sone fan, for example, sounds twice as loud to the human ear as a 3-sone fan.

**dB (Decibel)**—A measure of the sound produced by an air moving device.

**dB(A)**—Sound level reading on the A-weighted scale of a sound meter. This A-weighting adjusts response of the meter to approximate that of the human ear.