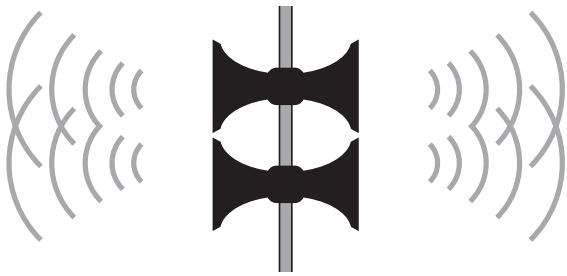




Siren warning system

Information for citizens



Warnings of impending danger

The City of Dresden possesses a modern siren warning system, which serves to alert – and if necessary inform – the local population quickly and effectively in exceptional situations of impending danger. Electronic sirens are installed over practically the entire area of the city and are able to transmit public text announcements in addition to the actual alarm tone. The siren signals used are defined uniformly for the whole of Saxony. They comprise a sequence of rising and falling tones with corresponding pauses, and may be supplemented with spoken announcements – either as a recording or by a live speaker – before or after the alarm sequence.

Regular system testing

Regular test alarms serve to check the proper functional condition of the technical installations. In Dresden, this testing is conducted **four times a year – always at 3 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each quarter**. The alarms are immediately identifiable as test alarms for the general public, but nevertheless strengthen overall awareness of the siren warning system.

What to do if an alarm sounds

Tell your neighbours and passers-by what you have heard!
Repeat especially the accompanying announcements!
Provide assistance to children and to elderly or disabled persons!
Help also persons who are deaf or unable to understand German!
Follow instructions given by the authorities precisely and without delay!
Do not block the emergency telephone lines with mere requests for information! Call the emergency telephone numbers only in cases of life-threatening emergencies and accidents!
Only use the mobile telephone networks if this is urgently necessary!
Keep your calls brief!
Keep network capacities free for the emergency services!
Listen to the radio (e.g. car radio) to obtain further information!
If you and your neighbours are not directly affected, stay well away from the danger zone!
Fast emergency response depends on clear roads!

The siren signals

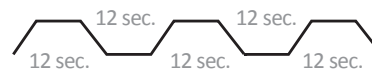
Test alarm

1 tone lasting 12 seconds, followed by the announcement: “Achtung, Achtung. Hier spricht die Feuerwehr. Das ist ein Probealarm.” (“Attention, attention. This is the fire brigade speaking. This is a test alarm.”)



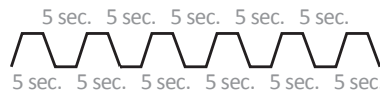
Fire alarm

3 tones lasting 12 seconds each, with 12 seconds pause between tones



Danger warning

Wailing alarm over a period of 1 minute, i.e. 6 tones lasting 5 seconds each, with 5 seconds pause between tones; supplemented with announcements before or after the siren signal



All clear

One continuous tone of one minute



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