

Noise is annoying

Rules for more consideration

Turning music up full bore and annoying others? Partying until the early hours without considering others? Performing noisy work at home or in the garden after hours even if this disturbs others? Noise is annoying – particularly for the people nearby. But the perpetrators of the noise are not always aware of this or don't deem it important. The Dresden "Polizeiverordnung Sicherheit und Ordnung" stipulate what's allowed and what's not. Anyone familiar with the most important rules on noise protection can behave themselves properly and counter others with objective arguments.

Quiet times

Quiet times at night and at midday serve to protect against noise pollution, and must be respected.

No noise must be made at the following times:

- Monday to Thursday and Sundays from 10pm to 7am the next day
- Fridays and Saturdays from midnight to 8am the next day
- Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays between 1pm and 3pm.

Exception: The midday quiet time on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays do not apply to events run by schools, child day-care facilities and associations. The law on Sundays and public holidays in the Free State of Saxony (SächsSFG) once again specially protects Sundays and public holidays to ensure no one disrupts the peace on these days.

And incidentally, anyone citing the sounds of snow shovelling before 7am on weekdays in winter as noise pollution is barking up the wrong tree. Snow needs to be cleared off pavements by 7am Monday to Saturday to ensure no one slips. On Sundays and public holidays this can be done by 9am. And snow can continue to be shovelled until 8pm any day where necessary.

Music and restaurants/pubs

Music can of course be played or listened to; it just must not cause unreasonable disturbance to others. Particular attention must thus be paid to volume: In the case of open windows, on balconies, on terraces and in gardens, anywhere outdoors and out of vehicles. Anyone who thinks this only applies during quiet times is mistaken. Time is irrelevant, and so is the music source. For the rest, noise from shops in Dresden must similarly not affect neighbouring residents, and any loudspeakers must be aimed at the shop entrance. Street music and art in the city centre requires a permit, as do private fireworks right across the city, except on New Year's Eve.

Restaurants, pubs and event venues must be mindful of their surroundings when located in built-up areas or near residential homes. They must not cause any noise that unreasonably disturbs others. The establishments must keep their windows and doors closed if necessary.

Disposal of scrap glass

Please only dispose of scrap glass in the citywide containers at the set times:

- Daily from 7am to 8pm,
- Sundays and on public holidays it is not permit.

This is to protect local residents from noise pollution.

Gardening and housework

Noisy gardening work and housework are not permitted on Sundays or public holidays. The law on Sundays and public holidays in the Free State of Saxony (SächsSFG) particularly protects these days. On the other days, such work may only be performed until 8pm in Dresden. They may commence from 7am Monday to Friday, and from 8am on Saturdays. An afternoon quiet time between 1 and 3pm must also be upheld on Saturdays. Special times must be respected for machinery work involving leaf blowers or grass trimmers; these times can be found in the Equipment and Machinery Noise Protection Ordinance (32nd Verordnung zur Durchführung des Bundes-Immissionsschutzgesetzes, BImSchV). Disruptive gardening work and housework include hammering, sawing, drilling, chopping wood, beating rugs, lawn mowing and edging, shredding, trimming hedges, or blowing or collecting leaves. Please pay attention to environmental seals when purchasing equipment.

How can you avoid noise pollution?

Read up on the rules and abide by them yourself. Setting a good example may make other people more reluctant to break rules. Make sure those around you know what is considered to be noise pollution. Keep in contact with your neighbours, engage in conversation, and maintain interaction. That's the only way understanding and consideration will grow.

For example, you could

- Hang this flyer up in an apartment building for everyone to see, or give it to a specific neighbour.
- Let others know when a party is being planned, or simply invite them to come along.
- Inform neighbours if you're moving in or doing renovations, or ask them for help and tools.
- Let people know if someone is sick and needs peace and quiet, or if someone works shifts.
- Speak openly if you feel you're being disturbed, or seek allies beforehand.

What can you do in a case of noise disturbance?

Speak to the person responsible, and try to explain the situation to them. Remain as calm and objective as possible. If the matter cannot be resolved through conversation, you can also contact the Administrative Office (Ordnungsamt), where you can report noise disturbances and breaches of public safety and order. Further information is available online at:

www.dresden.de/ordnungundsicherheit

Contact:

Public Order Office/Ordnungsamt
Municipal Enforcement Service/Gemeindlicher Vollzugsdienst
Control Room/Führungs- und Einsatzzentrale
Telephone +49 (3 51) 4 88 63 33

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