

Table 1 The Speed of Sound in Common Materials

State	Material	Speed at 0°C (m/s)
solid	aluminum	5104
	glass	5050
	steel	5050
	maple wood	4110
	bone (human)	4040
	pine wood	3320
solid/liquid	brain	1530
liquid	fresh water	1493 (at 25°C)
	sea water	1470 (depends on salt content)
	alcohol	1241
gas (at atmospheric pressure)	hydrogen	1270
	helium	970
	nitrogen	350 (at 20°C)
	air	332
	oxygen	317
	carbon dioxide	258

Table 1 Sound Intensity Levels for Various Sources

Source	Intensity level (dB)	Intensity (W/m ²)
threshold of hearing	0	10 ⁻¹²
normal breathing	10	10 ⁻¹¹
average whisper at 2 m	20	10 ⁻¹⁰
empty theatre	30	10 ⁻⁹
residential area at night	40	10 ⁻⁸
quiet restaurant	50	10 ⁻⁷
two-person conversation	60	10 ⁻⁶
busy street traffic	70	10 ⁻⁵
vacuum cleaner	80	10 ⁻⁴
at the foot of Niagara Falls	90	10 ⁻³
loud stereo in average room	90	10 ⁻³
passing subway train	90	10 ⁻³
maximum level in concert hall (13th row)	100	10 ⁻²
pneumatic chisel	110	10 ⁻¹
maximum level at some rock concerts	120	1
propeller plane taking off	120	1
threshold of pain	130	10 ¹
military jet taking off	140	10 ²
wind tunnel	150	10 ³
space rocket	160	10 ⁴
instant perforation of the eardrum	160	10 ⁴