

Noise from Residential Equipment Guidelines

Under WA noise legislation, “**specified equipment**” is defined as any equipment that requires the constant presence of an operator for normal use. Examples of specified equipment include many household items such as lawnmowers, power tools, basketball and musical instruments. Equipment which could be turned on and left running, such as an air conditioner or stereo system, are not considered to be specified equipment.

This guide outlines measures within regulation 14 of the *Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997* to control noise from tools and equipment used in the residential homes. If the following conditions are not met, noise emissions must comply with ordinary assigned levels under the regulations.

Specified equipment must be used according to the following conditions:

1. The equipment is only to be used between the hours of:

<u>Start</u>	<u>Finish</u>	<u>Days</u>
7am	7pm	Monday to Saturday
9am	7pm	Sundays and Public Holidays

2. The equipment must not be used:

- For more than **TWO hours on any one day**; or
- For a **musical instrument, for more than ONE hour on any one day**

3. The equipment **must be used in a reasonable manner**; AND

4. The use of the equipment **must not interfere with the health and amenity of surrounding neighbours.**

Under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA)*, a person who emits or causes or allows noise to be emitted, which unreasonably interferes with the health, welfare, convenience, comfort or amenity of any person, commits an offence.

In assessing what constitutes unreasonable noise, City of Kwinana Environmental Health Officers consider:

- The magnitude of the noise emission (how loud it is);
- The duration of the noise emission (how long it goes for);
- How often the noise emissions of that type occur; and
- The purpose for which the equipment is used.

Should the annoyance from specified equipment be an ongoing issue, you may lodge a written complaint to the City’s Environmental Health Services detailing the nature, source of noise, time and length of the noise. You will be requested to complete a written log over a period of time, usually for a minimum of two weeks.

For further information contact:

City of Kwinana Environmental Health Services
Corner of Gilmore Avenue and Sulphur Road
KWINANA WA 6167
Phone: 08 9439 0200
Email: health@kwinana.wa.gov.au

or PO Box 21
KWINANA WA 6966

Disclaimer: This document is a guide only. For full details refer to the Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997 at www.slp.wa.gov.au