



Noise Manual for Urban Development

Indications for urban land-use planning

STUTTGART | 
Amt für Umweltschutz

Baden-Württemberg

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- Home
- Preface
- Site map

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Planning foundations
- 3. Traffic noise
- 4. Industrial noise
- 5. Noise from leisure and sports facilities
- 6. Planning indications
- 7. Literature
- 8. Links
- Imprint
- Download
- dB - Calculator

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People consider noise as one of the major environmental problems. But the principles of the "noise" phenomenon are sometimes hard to understand. This is the Federal Ministry of Economics of the Land of Baden-Württemberg published the "Noise Manual for Urban Development" (Städtebauliche Lärmfibel) in 1991 with indications for urban land-use planning; it was updated in 1994.

The online version of the Noise Manual for Urban Development was complemented, revised and updated. Another innovation is the possibility to listen to "noise".

Noise protection comprises noise prevention, noise reduction at the source and on the propagation path as well as on-site noise protection. The manual gives valuable information and indications for urban land-use planning and is therefore especially geared for architects and city planners.

For further information on the "Climate Booklet for Urban Development online" (Städtebauliche Klimafibel Online) with indications for urban land-use planning, please visit: www.staedtebauliche-klimafibel.de (available in English and German).

The ministry of economics also offers a "portal to the ecological development of cities and municipalities in Baden-Württemberg" (Portal zur ökologischen Stadt- und Gemeindeentwicklung in Baden-Württemberg) under oesge-bw.de (in German).

The translation was done by [Melanie Vogt](#) (certificate translator) from Berglen (Germany).

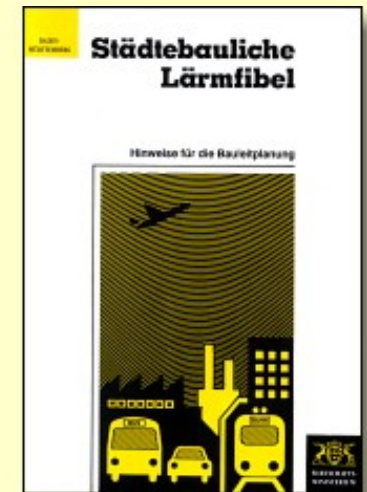


Table of contents (site map)

[Preface](#)

[1. Introduction](#)

[2. Planning foundations](#)

- [2.1](#) The physical terms "sound" and "noise"
- [2.2](#) Noise, sound emission and sound immission
- [2.3](#) General legal foundations
 - [2.3.1](#) Pollution control rights
 - [2.3.2](#) Building law
 - [2.3.3](#) Civil Code, Criminal Code and Administrative Offences Act
- [2.4](#) Acoustic principles
 - [2.4.1](#) Sound scale
 - [2.4.2](#) Methods of calculation
 - [2.4.3](#) Definitions of further terms
 - [2.4.4](#) Noise measurements
 - [2.4.4.1](#) Significance of noise measurements
 - [2.4.4.2](#) Process of measuring
 - [2.4.4.3](#) Measurement devices and their modes of operation
 - [2.4.4.4](#) Noise maps
- [2.5](#) Summary of noise assessment values based on immission values

[3. Traffic noise](#)

- [3.1](#) Road and railway noise
 - [3.1.1](#) Legal foundations
 - [3.1.2](#) Calculation and assessment foundations
 - [3.1.2.1](#) DIN 18005 and its application
 - [3.1.2.2](#) RLS-90 and its application
 - [3.1.2.3](#) Schall 03 and its application
 - [3.1.2.4](#) Traffic Noise Ordinance (16th Federal Immission Control Ordinance) and its application
 - [3.1.2.5](#) Guidelines for traffic noise protection at federal highways of public easement (VLärmSchR97)
- [3.2](#) Aircraft noise
 - [3.2.1](#) Legal foundations
 - [3.2.2](#) Assessment foundations

[4. Industrial noise](#)

- [4.1](#) Legal foundations
- [4.2](#) Calculation and assessment foundations
 - [4.2.1](#) DIN 18005
 - [4.2.2](#) TA Lärm
 - [4.2.3](#) VDI guideline 2571

[5. Noise from leisure and sports facilities](#)

- [5.1](#) Legal foundations
- [5.2](#) Calculation and assessment foundations
 - [5.2.1](#) "Sports and the environment" expert opinion by the Environment Minister of the Land of Lower Saxony
 - [5.2.2](#) Indications for the assessment of leisure noise
 - [5.2.3](#) VDI guideline 3770
 - [5.2.4](#) Ordinance on the Prevention of Noise from Sports Facilities (18th Federal Immission Control Ordinance)



6. Planning indications

[6.1](#) Noise abatement plans

[6.2](#) Traffic noise

[6.2.1](#) Road and rail traffic

[6.2.1.1](#) Reduction of emissions

[6.2.1.2](#) Planning of roads and railways (routing)

[6.2.1.3](#) Road and rail track surfaces

[6.2.1.4](#) Traffic volume and traffic calming

[6.2.1.5](#) Driving speed and traffic calming

[6.2.1.6](#) Noise barriers

[6.2.2](#) Air traffic

[6.3](#) Industrial noise

[6.3.1](#) Assessment of noise from industrial and commercial uses and installations

[6.3.2](#) Acoustically sensible structuring of commercial areas and sound allocation

[6.3.3](#) Land development

[6.3.4](#) Constructional noise abatement measures at the source of emission

[6.4](#) Noise from leisure and sports facilities

[6.5](#) Noise as a subject of weighing in city planning

7. List of literature

8. Links

[Imprint](#)

[Download](#)

[Decibel Calculator](#)

[HOME](#) [SITEMAP](#) [LINKS](#) [IMPRINT](#) [DOWNLOAD](#)

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Preface

More than 50 % of the German population feels annoyed by noise. Annoyances through road traffic noise make up two thirds, followed by aircraft noise, living noise and leisure noise as well as industrial noise. This is the result of the ever increasing need for the carriage of goods and passengers and the dense spatial intertwining of noise-producing and noise-sensitive uses.

It is mostly impossible to separate the different uses from each other and to maintain efficient noise protection distances as the territory available for settlement purposes is restricted.

This is why the federal government attaches great importance to preventive and active noise protection measures, which can be realized through methods of planning, preferring it to the otherwise remaining passive noise protection measures. This procedure works against the emergence of conflicts between economic and leisure activities as sources of noise on the one hand and healthy living on the other hand.

The federal government's target is to permanently reduce the number of people exposed to and affected by noise and therefore improve their quality of life. Noise maps for particularly affected areas are to serve as a basis for selective and efficient noise reduction measures.

The best noise protection measure is to prevent noise or to reduce it at its source already. But not all noise-producing activities in everyday life can be prevented or prohibited.

This is why preventive noise protection in urban land-use planning and mutual consideration as for the authorization of development proposals have to be important factors. A set of regulations for the evaluation of the numerous situations and sources of noise was developed to meet this requirement.

This website, which was created in the context of the federal government's noise protection concept, describes existing regulations, differentiates between their scopes and clarifies differences and coherences.

It also gives basic information on the methods of noise determination and evaluation especially for city planning measures and for the evaluation of the permissibility of development proposals.

This website also gives indications of how to pre-estimate the noise situation with the help of the procedures described in the manual. Nevertheless, it will still be necessary in many cases to determine the noise situation and required control measures through an expert opinion. The online version of the Noise Manual for Urban Development wants to form the basis of decision-making and working procedures.



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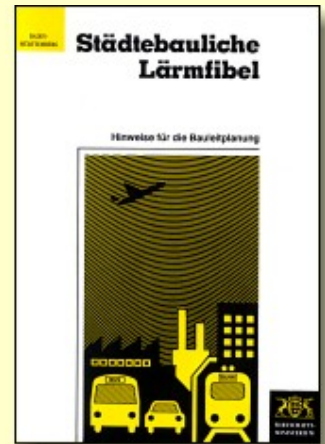
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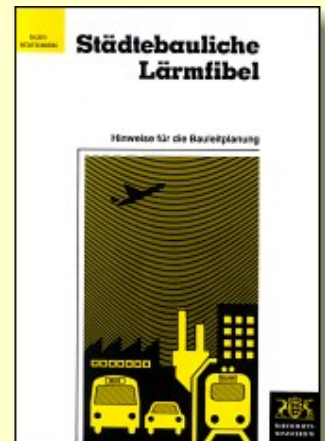
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Noise manual Chapter 3	NM-Chapter-3.pdf
Noise manual Chapter 4	NM-Chapter-4.pdf
Noise manual Chapter 5	NM-Chapter-5.pdf
Noise manual Chapter 6	NM-Chapter-6.pdf
Noise manual Chapter 7	Literature.pdf
Noise manual Chapter 8	Links.pdf
Noise manual Complete	NM-Complete.pdf (12,3 MB!)

Download: Acts, ordinances, provisions and directives	
4. BImSchV (4th Federal Immission Control Ordinance) (Genehmigungsbedürftige Anlagen; Installations subject to licensing)	4-BImSchV.pdf (84 KB)
16. BImSchV (16th Federal Immission Control Ordinance) (Verkehrslärmschutzverordnung; Traffic Noise Ordinance)	16-BImSchV.pdf (17 KB)
18. BImSchV (18th Federal Immission Control Ordinance) (Sportanlagenlärmschutzverordnung; Ordinance on the Prevention of Noise from Sports Facilities)	18-BImSchV.pdf (17 KB)
24. BImSchV (24th Federal Immission Control Ordinance) (Verkehrswege-Schallschutzmaßnahmen; Noise abatement measures at transport routes)	24-BImSchV.pdf (12 KB)
32. BImSchV (32nd Federal Immission Control Ordinance) (Geräte- und Maschinenlärmschutzverordnung; Ordinance on Equipment Noise Protection)	32-BImSchV.pdf (24 KB)
34. BImSchV (34th Federal Immission Control Ordinance) (Verordnung über die Lärmkartierung; Ordinance on Noise Mapping)	34-BImSchV.pdf (35 KB)
Allgemeine Verwaltungsvorschrift zum Schutz gegen Baulärm (General administrative regulation on the protection from building noise)	Baulaerm.pdf (10 KB)
Baugesetzbuch (Federal Building Code) - 1997	BauGB-1997.pdf (443 KB)
Baugesetzbuch (Federal Building Code) - 2004	BauGB-2004.pdf (448 KB) www.iuscomp.org/gla/statutes/BauGB.htm (English translation)
Novellierung des Baugesetzbuchs (Revision of the Federal Building Code)	BauGB-Nov.pdf (444 KB)



Baunutzungsverordnung (BauNVO, 1993; Federal Land Utilisation Ordinance)	BauNVO-1993.pdf (50 KB)
Biergartenverordnung Bayern (1999; Ordinance on Beer Gardens in Bavaria)	Biergarten-VO.pdf (22 KB)
Bürgerliches Gesetzbuch (BGB, state of 07/2005; German Civil Code)	BGB.pdf (1,6 MB) www.gesetze-im-internet.de/englisch_bgb/index.html (English translation of Books 1, 2 and 3)
Bundesfernstraßengesetz (Federal Highway Act)	BFStrG.pdf (74 KB)
Bundes-Immissionsschutzgesetz (BImSchG, latest revision on 23 October 2007; Federal Immission Control Act)	BImSchG-2007.pdf (329 KB) (German version) BImSchG-2007-en.pdf (383 KB) (English version)
Bundes-Immissionsschutz-Zuständigkeitsverordnung (BImSchGZuVO, 2004; Ordinance on the Responsibilities according to the Federal Immission Control Act)	BImSchGZuVO.pdf (101 KB)
EU Directive 2000/14/EC on the noise emission by equipment for use outdoors	EU-RL-2000-14-EG.pdf (771 KB) http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2000:162:0001:0078:EN:PDF (English version)
EU Directive 2002/49/EC on the assessment and management of environmental noise	EU-U-Laerm.pdf (285 KB) www.imagine-project.org/bestanden/2002-49-EC.pdf (English version)
Gesetz zur Umsetzung der EG-Richtlinie über die Bewertung und Bekämpfung von Umgebungslärm (2005; Act to implement the EC Directive on the assessment and management of environmental noise)	G-ULaermrichtlinie.pdf (460 KB)
Gaststättengesetz (GastG; Licensing Act)	GastG.pdf (32 KB)
Gesetz über Ordnungswidrigkeiten (OWiG; Administrative Offences Act)	OWiG.pdf (898 KB)
Gesetz zum Schutz gegen Fluglärm (FluLärmG; Aircraft Noise Act)	FluLaermG.pdf (16 KB) FluLaermG_en.pdf (English version)
Amendment to the Aircraft Noise Act (draft)	Schutz_Fluglaerm.pdf (244 KB)
Background paper on the amendment to the Aircraft Noise Act	Hg_Fluglaermgesetz.pdf (55 KB)
Landesbauordnung (Baden-Württemberg, 2000; Federal State Building Code of Baden-Württemberg)	LBO-BW-2000.pdf (222 KB)
Technische Anleitung zum Schutz gegen Lärm (TA-Lärm, 1998; Technical Instructions on Noise)	TA-Laerm.pdf (76 KB)
TA-Lärm "Was ist neu?" (DAL; TA Lärm "What is new?")	TA-L-neu.pdf (18 KB)
Straßenverkehrsgesetz (StVG; Road Traffic Act)	StVG.pdf (200 KB)

Straßenverkehrsordnung (StVO; Road Traffic Regulation)	StVO.pdf (900 KB)
Straßenverkehrszulassungsordnung (StVZO; Road Traffic Licensing Regulation)	StVZO.pdf (891 KB)
Verkehrslärmschutz an den Bundesfernstraßen in der Baulast des Bundes (VLärmSchR97; Guideline for traffic noise protection at federal highways of public easement)	VLärmSchR97.pdf (319 KB)
Verordnung über bauliche Schallschutzanforderungen nach dem Gesetz zum Schutz gegen Fluglärm (SchallschutzV; Sound Insulation Ordinance)	SchallschutzV.pdf (8 KB)
Verordnung zur Einführung der Geräte- und Maschinenlärmverordnung (2002; Ordinance on the Implementation of the Ordinance on Equipment Noise Protection)	VO-GM-Laerm.pdf (132 KB)

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Betroffenheit durch Straßenverkehrslärm (Stiftung Warentest and Umweltbundesamt, 2001; "Impacts from road traffic noise" by Stiftung Warentest and the Federal Environment Agency)	SWT-SV-Laerm.pdf (40 KB)
Beurteilung anlagenbezogener Verkehrsgeräusche (Bayerisches Landesamt für Umweltschutz; "Assessment of installation-related traffic noises" by the Bavarian State Agency for Environmental Protection)	Anlagen-Verkehr.pdf (137 KB)
Bewertung von Umweltgeräuschen (DAL; "Assessment of environmental noises" by the DAL)	Bewertung.pdf (19 KB)
Biergartengeräusche (Bayerisches Landesamt für Umweltschutz; "Noise from beer gardens" by the Bavarian State Agency for Environmental Protection)	Biergaerten.pdf (36 KB)
Geräusche von Kinderspielplätzen (Bayerisches Landesamt für Umweltschutz; "Noise from children's playgrounds" by the Bavarian State Agency for Environmental Protection)	Kinderspielplaetze.pdf (898 KB)
Hinweise zum Schutz gegen Schienenverkehr (Umweltbundesamt, 2001; "Indications for the protection from railway noise" by the Federal Environment Agency)	S-V-Laerm.pdf (427 KB)
Lärm bekämpfen - Ruhe schützen (Landesanstalt für Umweltschutz, LfU; "Combat noise - protect silence" by the Regional Office for Environmental Protection)	Laerm-bekaempfen.pdf (1,6 MB)
Lärmbelästigung in Baden-Württemberg 2004 (Landesanstalt für Umweltschutz, LfU; "Noise pollution in Baden-Württemberg in 2004" by the Regional Office for Environmental Protection)	Laermbel-B-W.pdf (428 KB)
Lärmbelästigung im Straßenverkehr (Stiftung Warentest and Umweltbundesamt, 2001; "Noise pollution in road traffic" by Stiftung Warentest and the Federal Environment Agency)	Laermbericht-2001.pdf (183 KB)
Lärmsanierung an Schienenwegen des Bundes (Deutsche Bahn, 2002; "Acoustic treatment measures at railways of public easement" by the German Railways)	Br-LaermS.pdf (885 KB)
Lärm und soziale Lebensqualität (Neufahrner Workshop zur Lärmwirkung, 2003; "Noise and the quality of social life" by the Neufahrner Workshop on the impact of noise)	Lebensqualitaet.pdf (180 KB)

Lärmschutz im Verkehr (Herausgeber: Bundesministerium für Verkehr und LÄRMKONTOR GmbH Hamburg; "Noise protection in traffic" published by the Federal Ministry of Transport and LÄRMKONTOR Ltd. Hamburg)	Laermschutz-BMV-2.pdf (350 KB)
Machbarkeitsstudie "Fluglärm und Lebensqualität" (Flughafen Frankfurt, 2003; Feasability study on "Aircraft noise and the quality of life" by Frankfurt airport)	MS-Fluglaerm-LQ.pdf (2,5 MB)
Notwendige rechtliche Verbesserungen beim Schutz vor Straßen- und Schienenverkehrslärm (Bayerisches Landesamt für Umweltschutz, 2005; "Necessary improvements of the legal situation as for the protection from road and railway noise" by the Bavarian State Agency for Environmental Protection)	Schutz-S-S-Laerm.pdf (123 KB)
Psst! Eine Information zum Thema Lärm (Landesanstalt für Umweltschutz, LfU; "Shush! Information on the subject of noise" by the Regional Office for Environmental Protection)	Psst.pdf (810 KB)
Rechtsgrundlagen des Lärmschutzes u. ihre Bedeutung für die Bauleitplanung (BEKON, Lärmschutz & Akustik GmbH; "Legal foundations of noise protection and their implications for urban-land use planning" by BEKON, Lärmschutz & Akustik Ltd.)	Rechtsgrundlagen.pdf (24 KB)
Schall - erfreulich und schädliche zugleich (Bayerisches Landesamt für Umweltschutz, 2001; "Sound - enjoyment and nuisance" by the Bavarian State Agency for Environmental Protection)	Schall.pdf (460 KB)
Schalldämm-Maß von Schallschutzfenstern (Bayerisches Landesamt für Umweltschutz; "Sound insulation values of soundproof windows" by the Bavarian State Agency for Environmental Protection)	S-D-Mass.pdf (75 KB)
Städtebauliche Lärmfibel (Land Brandenburg, 2001; "Noise Manual for Urban Development" by the Land of Brandenburg)	LF-Brandenburg.pdf (2,3 MB)
Vorbeugender Schallschutz im Wohnungsbau (Baublatt, Heft 12/2000; "Preventive noise abatement measures in house building" published in No. 12/2000 of the building journal Baublatt)	Baublatt-2000.pdf (25 KB)
Wirkungen von Schienen- und Straßenverkehrslärm (Zeus GmbH, 2003; "The impacts of railway and road traffic noise" by Zeus Ltd.)	Wirkungen-S-SV.pdf (1,2 MB)
Wissenswertes über die Schalldämmung von Fenstern (Dipl.-Ing. Wolf-Dietrich Kötz, Berlin; "Information on the sound insulation of windows" by Dipl.-Ing. Wolf-Dietrich Kötz, Berlin)	S-Fenster.pdf (70 KB)