

## Check List for Sound Testing

### A Quiet Site

The measurements we take are very sensitive to noise such as someone talking in an adjacent room, hammering, grinding, walking up and down stairs, use of a compressor / generator or other external groundwork equipment. Such noises can adversely affect the test results. It is important that all trades should be suspended for the duration of the testing (about 2 to 3 hours for a typical set of tests), or workmen sent to another part of the site where their work will not affect the test area. We can carry out sound testing out of normal weekday working hours or over a weekend. There will be an additional cost for this.

### Completion

Rooms should be available in pairs, either vertically (separated by the party floor) or horizontally (separated by the party wall) and should be complete but unfurnished.

- All wall and ceiling surfaces must be complete and skimmed
- Skirting boards, architraves and covings fitted
- All kitchen units in place
- Electrical sockets, light fittings and switches in place
- All windows in place and fully closeable with fully working trickle vents
- Internal doors in place and fully closeable
- External doors to flats and houses must also be fitted

We will require power on site to carry out sound testing. If power is not available, please make this known to us at the time of booking the tests.

### Floor finishes

Carpets and laminates should not be fitted as impact testing should take place on the bare floor i.e. directly on the surface of the chipboard floating floor or on the surface of the concrete floating screed with the exception of "Type 1" floor which is a concrete floor with a soft covering. If a proprietary 'acoustic underlay' is used as an impact layer on a timber floor, then this can be left in place and we will test using a piece of MDF or plywood under the tapping machine. If a laminate or timber floor finish is to be supplied by the builder/developer, then impact testing should be carried out on a sample of the floor finish, at least 1 square metre.

### Access and preparation

We will use our discretion to select rooms for testing unless specific arrangements have been made with the building control officer. Therefore, there must be reasonable and safe access to all parts of the building to be tested. Rooms should be cleared of all building materials, tools etc. and the floors swept clean. Staircases and corridors must be free of obstructions and trip hazards.

### Plans and other details

To prepare a full report, we will need plans of the building showing the room layouts and flat or plot numbers. We will need full details of the floor construction, the ceiling construction and wall construction, including densities of plasterboard and concrete etc. We will require the full names and addresses of the client, the builder/developer and the principal contractor.

### Safety

Our test engineers will attend site in their own safety equipment (PPE) i.e. ear defenders, hard hat, safety shoes and high-visibility vest or coat and will comply with all site safety requirements. Any other persons wishing to be present during testing should provide their own safety equipment as listed above.