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Acoustics - Determination of occupational noise exposure - Methodology (ISO 9612:2025)

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# Acoustics - Determination of occupational noise exposure - Methodology (ISO 9612:2025)

Acoustique - Détermination de l'exposition au bruit en milieu de travail - Méthodologie (ISO 9612:2025)

Akustik - Bestimmung der Lärmexposition am Arbeitsplatz - Methodik (ISO 9612:2025)

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#### EN ISO 9612:2025 (E)

Contents	Page
European foreword	9
European toreworu	J

#### **European foreword**

This document (EN ISO 9612:2025) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 43 "Acoustics" in collaboration with Technical Committee CEN/TC 211 "Acoustics" the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by December 2025, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by December 2025.

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#### **Endorsement notice**

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# International Standard

## **ISO 9612**

# Acoustics — Determination of occupational noise exposure — Methodology

Acoustique — Détermination de l'exposition au bruit en milieu de travail — Méthodologie

Third edition 2025-05



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Co	<b>Contents</b> Pag				
Fore	eword		<b>v</b>		
Intr	oductio	n	vi		
1	Scop	е	1		
2	Norn	native references	1		
3	Term	is and definitions	1		
4	Symb	ools	3		
5	Instrumentation				
	5.1 5.2 5.3	Sound level meters and personal sound exposure meters	5 5		
6	Methodology - Chronological steps				
	6.1	Step 1: Work analysis			
	6.2	Step 2: Selection of the measurement strategy	6		
	6.3 6.4	Step 3: Measurements Step 4: Error handling and uncertainties			
	6.5	Step 5: Calculation and presentation of results and uncertainty			
7	Work	canalysis	6		
	7.1	General (UEC)			
	7.2 7.3	Defining homogeneous noise exposure groups (HEG)  Determination of a nominal day			
8	Selec 8.1	tion of measurement strategies	8		
	8.2	Measurement strategies			
9	Strategy 1 - Task-based measurement				
	9.1	Dividing the nominal day into tasks			
	9.2 9.3	Duration of tasks Measurement of $L_{p,A,\operatorname{eq}T_m}$ for tasks	8		
		9			
		9.3.1 General			
		9.3.2 Number of measurements			
		<ul><li>9.3.3 Time and duration of measurements</li><li>9.3.4 Calculation of the A-weighted equivalent continuous sound pressure level</li></ul>			
	9.4	Calculation of contribution from each task to daily noise exposure level	10		
	9.5	Determination of daily noise exposure level	11		
<b>10</b>		egy 2 - Job-based measurement			
	10.1 10.2	General Measurement plan – Number, duration and distribution of measurements			
	10.2	Measurements			
	10.4	Determination of daily noise exposure levels for workers in a homogeneous noise exposure group			
11	Strategy 3 — Full-day measurement				
	11.1	General Charming worth activities and monitoring managements			
	11.2 11.3	Observing work activities and monitoring measurements			
	11.4	Determination of daily noise exposure level			
12	Meas	urements			
	12.1	Selection of instrumentation			
	12.2 12.3	Field calibrationInstrument worn by the worker			
			_		

	12.4	Integrating-averaging sound level meter	16
13	Source	es of uncertainty and errors	17
	13.1	General	17
	13.2	Mechanical impacts on microphone	
	13.3	Wind and airflows	18
	13.4	Relevance of sound contributions	18
14	Calcul	ation of measurement uncertainties and presentation of the final results	18
<b>15</b>	Inforn	nation to be reported	18
Anne		formative) Example of a checklist to ensure that significant noise events are ted during the work analysis	21
Anne	<b>x B</b> (info	ormative) Guidance to the selection of measurement strategy	22
Anne	<b>x C</b> (nor	mative) Evaluation of measurement uncertainties	25
Anne		ormative) Example showing calculation of daily noise exposure level using task- measurements	34
Anne		formative) Example showing calculation of daily noise exposure level using sed measurements	39
Anne	-	formative) Sample calculation of daily noise exposure level using full-day irements	42
Anne	<b>x G</b> (info	ormative) Example calculation of daily noise exposure level for flexible workers	45
		mative) Uncertainty calculation for peak sound pressure levels	
Biblio	graphy	·	53

#### **Foreword**

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The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see <a href="https://www.iso.org/directives">www.iso.org/directives</a>).

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 43, *Acoustics*, Subcommittee SC 1, *Noise*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 211, *Acoustics*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 9612:2009), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

- A reshaping of the guidance on measurement of  $L_{p,A,eqT_m}$  for the task-based strategy (9.3).
- A revision of the measurement plan for the job-based strategy (10.2).
- The addition of Homogeneous noise Exposure Groups (HEG) sampling requirements for the full-day measurement strategy and the addition of criteria to validate sampling (11.3).
- Some precisions and clarifications on the instrumentation section.
- Some additions to the test report section: number of peak events,  $L_{\text{EX.8h.95}\%}$ .
- The addition of <u>C.7</u> in <u>Annex C</u>, which gives the formulae to calculate the measurement uncertainty when multiple nominal days are used. An <u>Annex H</u> is also introduced to clarify uncertainty of peak measurements.
- The introduction of a new <u>Annex G</u>.
- The introduction of a new Annex H.
- A full revision of the Excel calculation file attached to this document.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at <a href="https://www.iso.org/members.html">www.iso.org/members.html</a>.

#### Introduction

This document provides a stepwise approach to the determination of occupational noise exposure from noise level measurements. The procedure contains the following major steps: work analysis, selection of measurement strategy, measurements, error handling and uncertainty evaluations, calculations, and presentation of results. This document specifies three different measurement strategies: task-based measurement; job-based measurement; and full-day measurement. This document gives guidance on selecting an appropriate measurement strategy for a particular work situation and purpose of investigation. This document also provides an informative spreadsheet to allow calculation of measurement results and uncertainties. ISO is not responsible for errors that shall arise or occur with the use of this spreadsheet.

This document recognizes the use of hand-held sound level meters as well as personal sound exposure meters. The methods specified optimize the effort required for obtaining a given accuracy.

# Acoustics — Determination of occupational noise exposure — Methodology

#### 1 Scope

This document specifies a method for measuring workers' exposure to noise in a working environment and calculating the noise exposure level. This document deals with A-weighted levels but is applicable also to C-weighted levels. Three different strategies for measurement are specified. The method is applicable for detailed noise exposure studies or epidemiological studies of hearing damage or other adverse effects.

The measuring process requires observation and analysis of the noise exposure conditions so that the quality of the measurements can be controlled. This document provides methods for estimating the uncertainty of the results.

This document is not intended for assessment of masking of oral communication or assessment of infrasound, ultrasound and non-auditory effects of noise. It does not apply to the measurement of the noise exposure of the ear when hearing protectors are worn.

Results of the measurements performed in accordance with this document can provide useful information when defining priorities for noise control measures.

#### 2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 1999, Acoustics — Estimation of noise-induced hearing loss

ISO/IEC Guide 98-3, Uncertainty of measurement — Part 3: Guide to the expression of uncertainty in measurement (GUM:1995)

IEC 60942, Electroacoustics — Sound calibrators

IEC 61252, Electroacoustics — Specifications for personal sound exposure meters

IEC 61672-1, Electroacoustics — Sound level meters — Part 1: Specifications

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