Cambridge University Press 978-0-521-13733-1 - Why is it So Loud? and Other Questions About Sound Nicolas Brasch Excerpt More information

Q: How do you measure how loud something is?

A: We measure the volume of a sound in **decibels** (dB). There is a decibel scale which starts at 0, but the lowest sound that people can hear is 10. A jet aircraft overhead is about 130 on the decibel scale and the loudest rock bands in the world can make sounds that are about 150 dB. Cambridge University Press 978-0-521-13733-1 - Why is it So Loud? and Other Questions About Sound Nicolas Brasch Excerpt More information

Q: How does soundproofing work?

air space ·

glass pane

A: When we want to make a place quieter, we can use some objects to stop, or reduce, the noise reaching that place by **absorbing** some of the sound. For **soundproofing**, we use materials such as wool or foam that are very absorbent and can stop a lot of noise getting through.

Double glazing

We use double glazing to soundproof homes and offices. There are two panes of glass with a space in the middle. Most noise bounces off the first pane of glass. The air space absorbs any noise that gets through the first pane so it cannot get through the second pane of glass.

> < The<mark>se soundproofing</mark> pyramids are made from carbon and othe<mark>r materials.</mark>

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