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5.0.1 Background

There are currently no Building Standards to protect the occupants or users of a non-domestic *building* from noise but the need may arise for such standards at a later date.

Standard 5.1 is included here because there are situations in which it is necessary for a non-domestic *building* or part of a *building* to have a *separating wall* or *separating floor* that resists the transmission of sound to an adjacent *dwelling* .

5.1 Resisting sound transmission to dwellings

5.1 Functional standard

5.1.0 Application of requirements

standard
5.1
mandatory

Every *building* must be designed and constructed in such a way that each wall and floor separating one *dwelling* from another, or one *dwelling* from another part of the *building*, or one *dwelling* from a *building* other than a *dwelling*, will limit the transmission of noise to the *dwelling* to a level that will not threaten the health of the occupants of the *dwelling* or inconvenience them in the course of normal domestic activities provided the source noise is not in excess of that from normal domestic activities.

Limitation:

This standard does not apply to:

- (a) fully detached houses; or
- (b) roofs or walkways with access solely for maintenance, or solely for the use, of the residents of the *dwelling* below.

5.1.0 Application of requirements

Standard 5.1 is included here because there are situations in which it is necessary for a non-domestic *building* to have a separating wall or *separating floor* that resists the transmission of sound to a *dwelling* .

In most cases this will be very obvious as a *dwelling* will be created at the same time as the non-domestic *building* and the guidance in 'Domestic Buildings – Section 5: Noise' will be followed as a matter of course.

Occasionally the need for sound-resisting construction may be less obvious. An example of this would be where a new shop is built onto the side of an existing *domestic building* and the existing external wall to the *domestic building* becomes a separating wall. This new separating wall would need to be resistant to the transmission of sound. Note that for the purposes of this example, it is assumed that there is a legal right to utilise this existing wall. In such situations and similar situations the guidance in 'Domestic buildings – Section 5: Noise' should be used.

Conversions

In the case of conversions, as specified in Regulation 4, the *building* as converted shall meet the requirement of this standard (Regulation 12, Schedule 6).