

Entertainment venue noise

Indoor and outdoor noise

[The Northern Territory Noise Management Framework Guideline](#)¹ (the guideline) outlines what you can and can't do when it comes to entertainment venue noise. It also provides advice on how the community can make a complaint about a particular noise problem.

Section 3.4 of the framework guideline covers noise matters from indoor entertainment venues such as:

- noise from hotels
- cabarets
- night clubs
- reception centres
- skating rinks
- restaurants
- cafes
- health and fitness centres
- recording and rehearsal studios
- theatres
- amusement parks and parlours
- retail stores
- shops
- public halls or clubs

It also covers outdoor noise from sports and other large outdoor arenas that are used for open-air concerts. Any noise complaint involving these premises should be directed to the responsible agency as covered in table 2.1 of the guideline.

Getting the balance right

To provide the balanced approach to entertainment venue noise management the NT EPA has adopted the “agent of change” principle.

The “agent of change” is the person or developer/entity that creates a change by building a residential development close to a venue with music or is a venue that introduces music close to residential or other sensitive noise receptor uses.

To see how it applies in situations involving entertainment venue noise see section 3.4.5 of the guideline.

¹ https://ntepa.nt.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/566356/noise_management_framework_guideline.pdf

Music noise from indoor and outdoor entertainment venues

Noise from clubs, hotels and bars can be disruptive to nearby residences especially late at night. Noise can be from music noise, patron noise and other related activities.

The [Northern Territory Liquor Commission](#)² has the primary responsibility for regulating noise from these indoor entertainment noise sources. Noise requirements are often included in a venue's liquor licence or development permit.

The NT EPA has the primary regulatory responsibility for large outdoor music events.

The guideline provides recommended noise levels for indoor and outdoor entertainment venues (recommended project specific assigned noise levels) which are summarised in figure 3.3 of the guideline.

Further information

Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority

Website: <https://ntepa.nt.gov.au/your-environment/noise>

Email: pollution@nt.gov.au

Pollution hotline: 1800 064 567

General queries: 08 8924 4218 and ask for the noise regulation section.

² <https://justice.nt.gov.au/regulatory-services/licensing-boards-committees-and-advisory-councils/liquor-commission/complaints>