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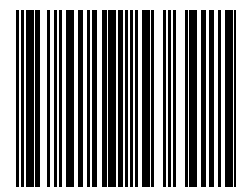
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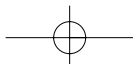


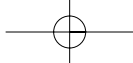
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OFFICE OF THE  
DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER

The Building Regulations 2000  
The Building (Approved Inspectors etc) Regulations 2000

## Resistance to the passage of sound



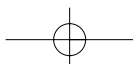
### APPROVED DOCUMENT

- E1** Protection against sound from other parts of the building and adjoining buildings
- E2** Protection against sound within a dwelling-house etc
- E3** Reverberation in the common internal parts of buildings containing flats or rooms for residential purposes
- E4** Acoustic conditions in schools

Regulation 20A The Building Regulations 2000 (as amended)  
Regulation 12A The Building (Approved Inspectors etc) Regulations 2000 (as amended)

Coming into effect 1 July 2003

2003 EDITION



## MAIN CHANGES IN THE 2003 EDITION

This edition of Approved Document E – Resistance to the passage of sound, replaces the 1992 edition. The main changes are:

### **E1 Protection against sound from other parts of the building and adjoining buildings**

(a) This Requirement now includes rooms for residential purposes as well as dwelling-houses and flats. “Room for residential purposes” means a room, or suite of rooms, which is not a dwelling-house or flat and which is used by one or more persons to live and sleep in, including rooms in hotels, hostels, boarding houses, halls of residence and residential homes but not including rooms in hospitals, or other similar establishments, used for patient accommodation.

(b) Performance standards are given for walls, floors and stairs having a separating function, in new buildings and buildings formed by change of use. Site testing of sound insulation is intended on a sampling basis.

### **E2 Protection against sound within a dwelling-house etc**

(c) This is a new requirement that sets standards for the sound insulation of walls and floors in dwelling-houses, flats and rooms for residential purposes. Site testing is not intended.

### **E3 Reverberation in the common internal parts of buildings containing flats or rooms for residential purposes**

(d) This is a new Requirement to control reverberation in the common parts of buildings containing flats or rooms for residential purposes. Site testing is not intended.

### **E4 Acoustic conditions in schools**

(e) All new school buildings are now controlled under the Building Regulations, and this Requirement covers the sound insulation, reverberation time and indoor ambient noise levels. Guidance on meeting the Requirement is given in Building Bulletin 93, to be published by DfES in 2003.

## APPROVED DOCUMENTS

E

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## Approved Documents

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The following documents have been approved and issued by the Secretary of State for the purpose of providing practical guidance with respect to the requirements of the Building Regulations 2000 (as amended).

**Approved Document A – Structure:** 1992 Edition, fourth impression (with amendments) 1994, further amended 2000

**Approved Document B – Fire safety:** 2000 Edition, amended 2000 and 2002

**Approved Document C – Site preparation and resistance to moisture:** 1992 Edition, second impression (with amendments) 1992, further amended 2000

**Approved Document D – Toxic substances:** amended 1992, further amended 2000

**Approved Document E – Resistance to the passage of sound:** 2003 Edition

**Approved Document F – Ventilation:** 1995 Edition, amended 2000

**Approved Document G – Hygiene:** 1992 Edition, second impression (with amendments) 1992, further amended 2000

**Approved Document H – Drainage and waste disposal:** 2002 Edition

**Approved document J – Combustion appliances and fuel storage systems:** 2002 Edition

**Approved Document K – Protection from falling, collision and impact:** 1998 Edition, amended 2000

**Approved document L1 – Conservation of fuel and power in dwellings:** 2002 Edition

**Approved document L2 – Conservation of fuel and power in buildings other than dwellings:** 2002 Edition

**Approved Document M – Access and facilities for disabled people:** 1999 Edition, amended 2000

**Approved Document N – Glazing - safety in relation to impact, opening and cleaning:** 1998 Edition, amended 2000

**Approved Document to support regulation 7 – materials and workmanship:** 1999 Edition, amended 2000