

Prevent Noise from Karaoke and others!

Kyoto Prefectural Ordinance on Environmental Conservation and Creation stipulates noise standards and restrictions on the use of audio equipment, etc. for the operation of restaurants, cafes, karaoke establishments, and others.

In recent years, noise pollution has become an issue. It is not only caused by noise from traffic or industry but also from neighborhoods, including that from restaurants, advertising loudspeakers, and pianos and condenser units of neighboring households.

In particular, noise at night associated with operation of restaurants and bars is unpleasant disturbing the relaxation and sleep of the residents. Check if your shop or restaurant causes any trouble with noise to the neighbors.



In general, noise is defined as “unpleasant sound” or “unnecessary sound,” but perception of sound enormously differs depending on individuals; therefore, it is also crucial to deepen mutual understanding by communicating with the neighbors. Respect each other and prevent noise pollution in the community. Your cooperation is highly appreciated.



[Examples of Noise Prevention Measures]

To prevent noise, it is more effective to implement measures in advance. Taking measures after receiving complaints may cost unnecessary expenses and time.

- (1) Window: Adopt double-pane windows or insulate windows.
- (2) Wall and Ceiling: Install sound-absorbing and sound-insulating materials.
- (3) Exhaust Duct: Install it as high as possible.
- (4) Ventilation Fan: Adopt a silent type.
- (5) Condenser Unit: Select a quiet model, and install it away from property boundaries, etc.
- (6) Entrance/Exit: Install an inner door.
- (7) Speaker: Turn down the volume.
- (8) Outside the Building: Be mindful of the noise of talking, departing and arriving cars, and opening and closing doors.

Noise Regulation for Nighttime Operation of Business

<Subject Business>

Restaurants, bars, cafes, karaoke establishments including businesses using karaoke machines, and others.

Regulatory Standards for Noise for Nighttime Business Operation

Zones \ Hours	Noise Restricted Hours	Prohibited Hours from Using Audio Equipment
	10:00 p.m. – 06:00 a.m.	11:00 p.m. – 06:00 a.m.
Category 1 Low-rise Exclusive Residential District Category 2 Low-rise Exclusive Residential District Category 1 Medium-to-high-rise Exclusive Residential District Category 2 Medium-to-high-rise Exclusive Residential District Category 1 Residential District Category 2 Residential District Quasi-residential District Countryside Residential District	40dB	No use of audio equipment* (Excluding cases where soundproofing equipment has been installed so that no audio sound leaks out from the business facility)
Neighborhood Commercial District Commercial District Quasi-industrial District	50dB	
Industrial District	55dB	

*Audio equipment includes karaoke machines, stereo systems, jukeboxes, cable broadcasting systems, PA systems, etc.

<Recommendation, Order, and Penalty>

- If a party responsible does not comply with the above regulatory standards, the City of Kyoto may recommend it to cease the subject action, improve its facility, change its open hours, or take other necessary measures. (Recommendation)
- If the party fails to comply with the Recommendation, the City of Kyoto may order it to comply with the Recommendation. (Order)
- Any party violating the Order shall be punished by a fine of not more than 50,000JPY. (Penalty)

<Contact> ※ Assistance available in Japanese only

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