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# Noise Hazards

## ROADWAY SAFETY

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## Is Too Much Noise a Serious Problem?

**You can lose your hearing. You can lose your life.**

### On the job

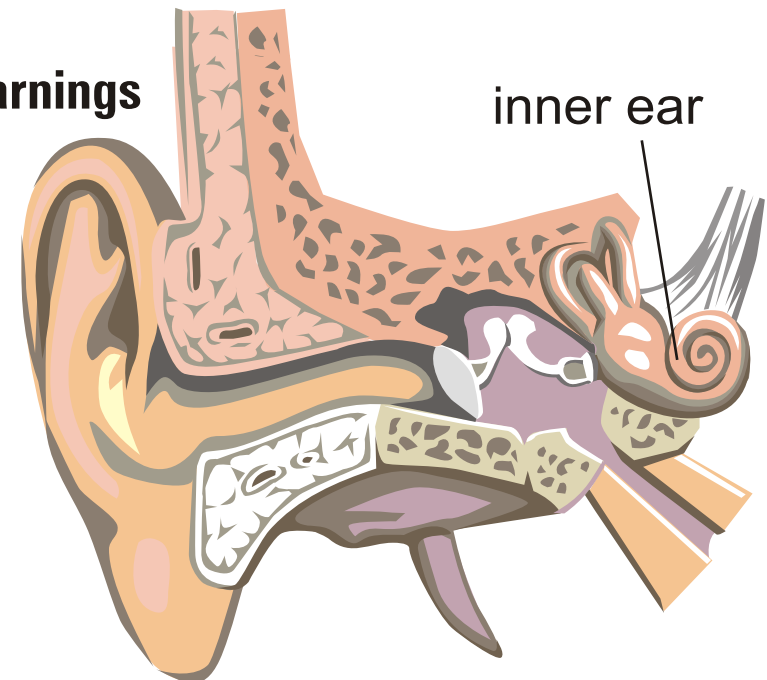
- Noise can distract you, you may not hear warnings
- Noise damages the nerves in the inner ear, they cannot be repaired

### After 15 to 20 years in the trade

- You may suffer permanent hearing loss
- You may suffer constant ringing (tinnitus)

### If you suffer hearing loss

- You cannot hear well, especially when there is background noise
- It can affect your family and personal life

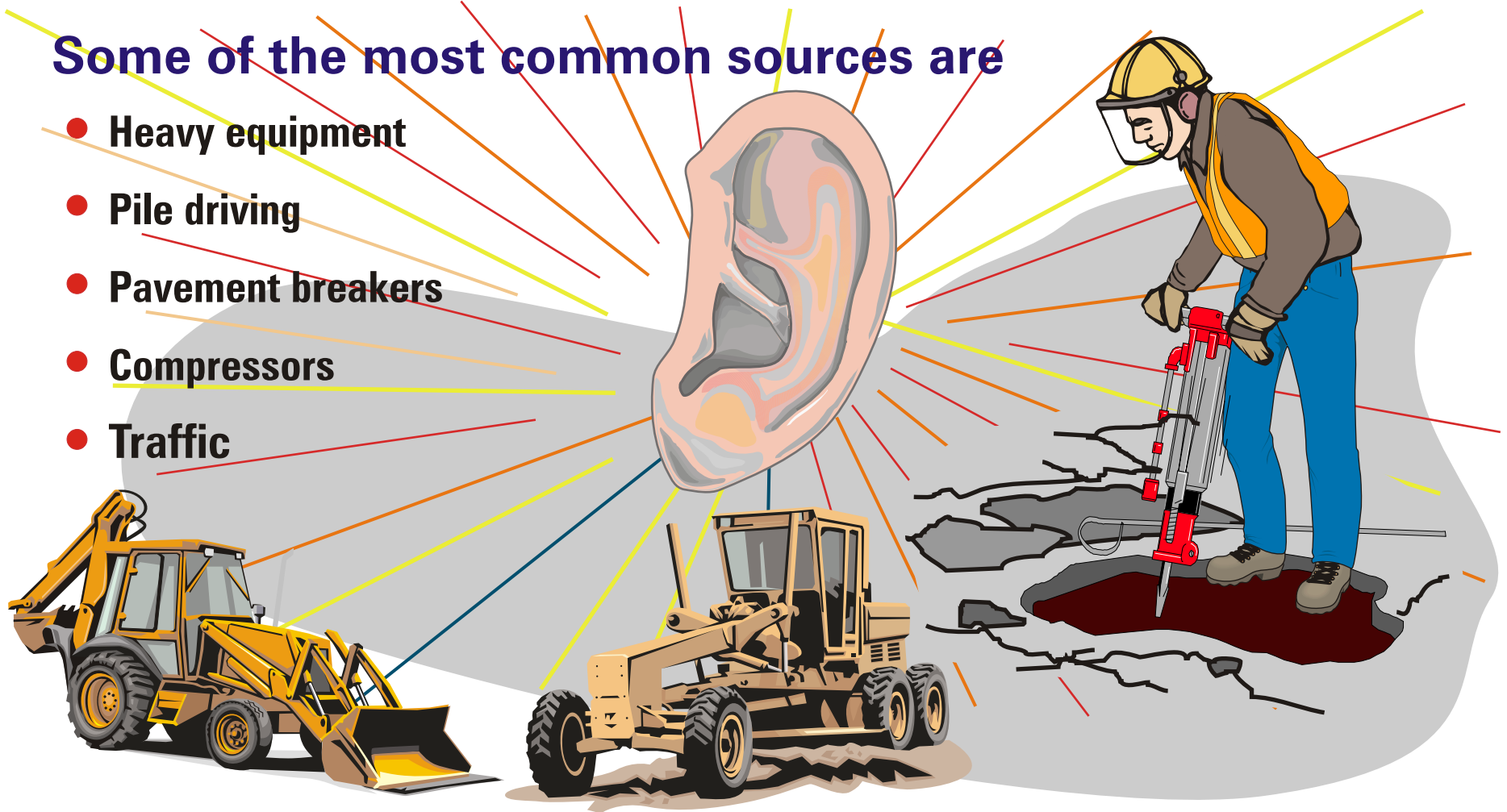


# What Noise Sources Are Most Common?

There are many noise sources in road work.

Some of the most common sources are

- Heavy equipment
- Pile driving
- Pavement breakers
- Compressors
- Traffic





# Noise Hazards

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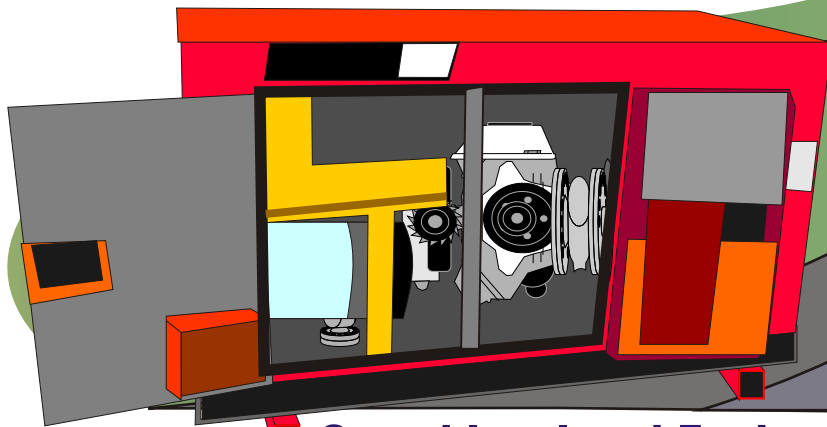
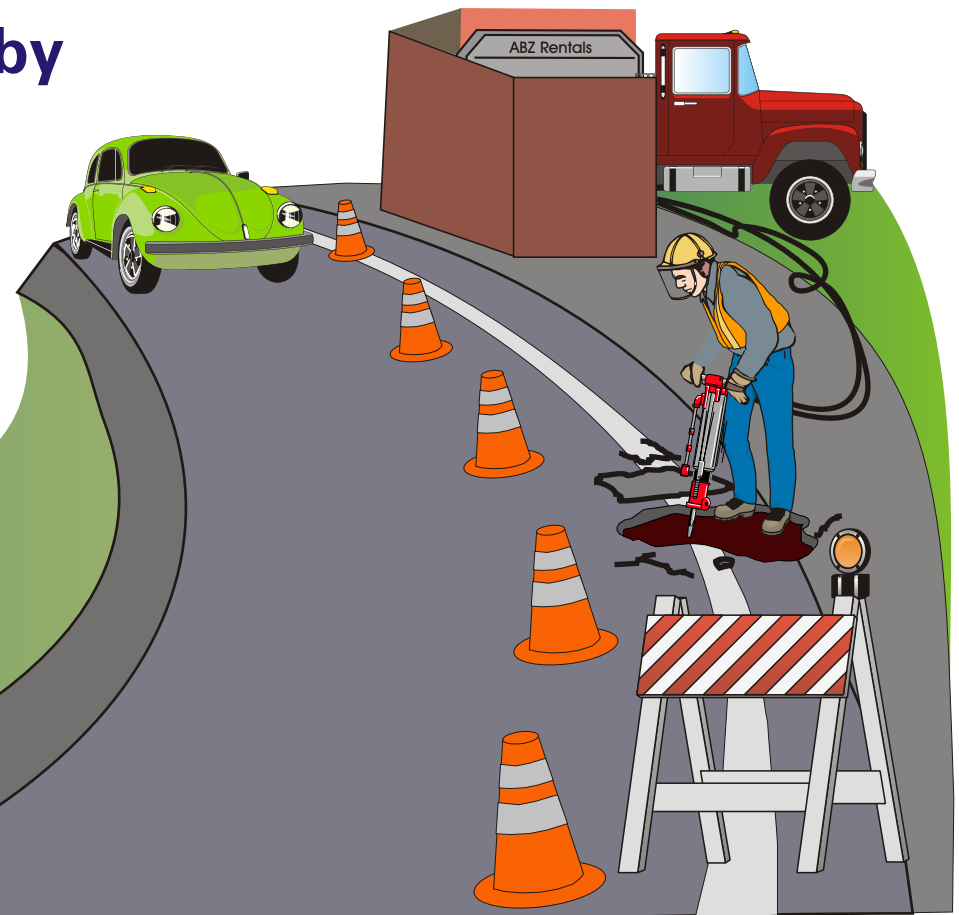


# Could Road Work Be Less Noisy?

**Yes. There are efforts to make it quieter.**

**Noise levels can be reduced by**

- **Buying/renting quieter equipment**
- **Keeping equipment well maintained**
- **Move noisy equipment away**
- **Sound barriers around equipment**



■ **Sound Insulated Equipment**

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# How Do We Protect Our Hearing Now?

**Wear hearing protection.**

**If you must shout to talk with someone 3 feet away, you need protection from noise**

- Use hearing protectors provided by your employer
- Notify employer if proper hearing protection is not available
- Make sure hearing protection fits and is comfortable
- Follow instructions for proper hearing protection use
- Get a hearing test about once a year so you'll know your hearing protection is working

