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Fingernails On A Blackboard Music To Our Ears?

POSTED BY SUBIN MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2011



There are a lot of difference between listening to music and screeching tone of fingernails on a blackboard. The difference was visible in front of the listener, the level of irritation may be displayed when you hear the screeching fingernail, but a feeling of relaxation comes when you hear the music.

Researcher Michael Oehler, University of Cologne in Germany, tried to present an explanation for this situation. He said as part of certain sounds, like the sound of fingernails scraping on a blackboard is amplified so that the annoyance of the noise is increased. Increase in the level of irritation can lead to stress and the level will increase with the increase in volume.

Michael, who is also professor of media and music management, felt that the screeching sound affects the ear to the maximum frequency, between 2000 and 4000 hertz.

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This level is quite high for human hearing, and to avoid the noise, the ear canal runs in a special way, instead of reducing the frequency, improves the sound even more. A solution that has been designed by Oehler, was that the pitch must be reduced and noise disturbance may sound bearable.

He knows the sound level should be reduced, but at what level, he has no idea, and would require further research in this area. The study will be presented at the annual meeting of the Society of American acoustic, to be held in San Diego this week.

One of the important things that were mentioned in this research is 'perception. "Attitudes do matter, and to prove that he conducted an experiment in which he recorded the sound of chalk on the blackboard and asked stripes people to hear it.

The difference was that one group was told that it is a contemporary music and the other group was told that it was striking chalk on a blackboard. Pleasantness was more experienced in the group, who listened to the music.

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