

BUILDING BIOLOGY EVALUATION GUIDELINES FOR SLEEPING AREAS

The Building Biology Evaluation Guidelines are based on the precautionary principle. They are specifically designed for sleeping areas associated with long-term risks and a most sensitive window of opportunity for regeneration. They are based on the experience and knowledge of the building biology community and focus on achievability. In addition, scientific studies and other recommendations are also consulted. With its professional approach, building biology testing methods help identify, minimize and avoid environmental risk factors within an individual's framework of possibility. It is the Standard's goal to identify, locate and assess potential sources of risk by considering all subcategories in a holistic manner and implementing the best possible diagnostic tools available with analytic expertise in order to create indoor living environments that are as exposure-free and natural as practicable.

No Anomaly This category provides the highest degree of precaution. It reflects the unexposed natural conditions or the common and nearly inevitable background level of our modern living environment.

Slight Anomaly As a precaution and especially with regard to sensitive and ill people, remediation should be carried out whenever it is possible.

Severe Anomaly Values in this category are not acceptable from a building biology point of view, they call for action. Remediation should be carried out soon. In addition to numerous case histories, scientific studies indicate biological effects and health problems within this reference range.

Extreme Anomaly These values call for immediate and rigorous action. In this category international guidelines and recommendations for public and occupational exposures may be reached or even exceeded.

If several sources of risk are identified within a single subcategory or for different subcategories, one should be more critical in the final assessment.

Guiding Principle:

Any risk reduction is worth aiming at. Guideline values are meant as a guide. Nature is the ultimate standard.

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No Anomaly	Slight Anomaly	Severe Anomaly	Extreme Anomaly
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1 AC ELECTRIC FIELDS (Low Frequency, ELF/VLF)

Field strength with ground potential in volt per meter	V/m	< 1	1 - 5	5 - 50	> 50
Body voltage with ground potential in millivolt	mV	< 10	10 - 100	100 - 1000	> 1000
Field strength potential-free in volt per meter	V/m	< 0.3	0.3 - 1.5	1.5 - 10	> 10

2 AC MAGNETIC FIELDS (Low Frequency, ELF/VLF)

Flux density in nanotesla	nT	< 20	20 - 100	100 - 500	> 500
in milligauss	mG	< 0.2	0.2 - 1	1 - 5	> 5

3 RADIO-FREQUENCY RADIATION (High Frequency, Electromagnetic Waves)

Power density in microwatt per square meter	µW/m²	< 0.1	0.1 - 10	10 - 1000	> 1000
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Values apply to single RF sources, e.g. GSM, UMTS, TETRA, LTE, WiMAX, Radio, TV, WLAN, DECT, Bluetooth..., and refer to peak measurements. They do not apply to rotating-antenna radar.

More critical RF sources like pulsed or periodic signals (GSM, TETRA, DECT, WLAN, digital broadcasting...) and broadband technologies with pulsed signals/patterns (UMTS, LTE...) should be assessed more seriously, especially at higher levels, and less critical RF sources like non-pulsed and non-periodic signals (FM, short, medium, long wave, analog broadcasting...) should be assessed more generously, especially at lower levels.