Dust concentrations in everyday life

Dust is everywhere. At what point is the permanent inhalation of dust problematic? Limit values provide the answers.

- **Vacuum cleaning**: 0.005 mg/m³
- **Cooking**: 0.01 mg/m³
- **Roasting/grilling**: 0.05 mg/m³
- **Limit value for particulate matter (fine dust) in Germany (annual mean value)**: 0.4 mg/m³
- **Fine dust alarm level red in Beijing**: 4 mg/m³
- **Mandatory German limit for employer care in bakeries**: 15 - 40 mg/m³
- **Smoking a cigarette**: 1.25 mg/m³
- **Passive smoking (50 cm away)**: 0.5 mg/m³
- **Holi Festival (peak value)**: 6.2 mg/m²

**Occupational exposure limit value for fine dust in Germany (lifetime working limit value)**: 1.25 mg/m³

**Typical dust concentrations in everyday life**

- **Roasting/grilling**: 0.715 mg/m³
- **New Year’s Eve fireworks**: 1 mg/m³
- **Spraying paint**: <0.01 mg/m³
- **Dust generation during the sanding of paints and coatings**: <0.01 mg/m³
- **Dust generation during the sanding of paints and coatings**: 0.005 mg/m³
- **Vacuum cleaning**: 0.005 mg/m³
- **Cooking**: 0.01 mg/m³
- **Limit value for particulate matter (fine dust) in Germany (annual mean value)**: 0.03 mg/m³

**Typical dust concentrations when handling paints and coatings**

- **Spraying paint**: <0.01 mg/m³

**Generation of house dust per day (based on area, not volume)**: 6.2 mg/m³

**Deutsches Lackinstitut**