4 WAYS TO QUIET A NOISY MACHINE

1. Treat the Room
   - **Maximum noise reduction:** 6-9 decibels (30-40% decrease in loudness).
   - **Advantages:** No inconvenience to workers.
   - **Disadvantages:** Almost all of the room must be treated regardless of the size of the noise source.
   - "QFA" – Quilted Fiberglass Sound Absorption Products...or Polywrap Baffles or Sanitary Baffles, depending upon specifics of application.

2. Treat the Wall Behind the Noise
   - **Maximum noise reduction:** 1-2 decibels if noise source sprays noise out into room, 4-6 decibels if noise is sprayed directly onto wall (such as noisy vent on the back of a machine).
   - **Advantages:** No inconvenience to workers.
   - **How much QFA?** Treat the wall behind the machine with about twice the square footage of the “shadow” of the machine on the wall.

3. Build a Barrier or Partial Enclosure
   - **Maximum noise reduction:** 6-15 decibels.
   - **Advantages:** Very good noise reduction.
   - **Concerns:** May have to incorporate view windows for visibility and/or sliding panels for access.
   - **What Size?** At a minimum, 8’ high. Typically they should be double the height of the noise source.
   - "BSC" or “BBC” sound absorption/noise barrier composites.

4. Build a Complete Enclosure
   - **Noise reduction:** Up to 20-30 decibels.
   - **Advantages:** maximum noise reduction.
   - **Concerns:** May have to incorporate view windows for visibility and/or sliding panels for access as well as ventilation baffle(s) for air flow.
   - "BSC” or “BBC” sound absorption/noise barrier composites.