Reduce Noise from Table Saw

When it comes to working with power tools, noise is a fact of life. But it's more than just a minor annoyance — long-term exposure to the noise from power tools can cause hearing loss. The first line of defense is good hearing protection, like a set of earmuffs or earplugs. Here are a few other simple solutions for turning down the noise coming from your table saw.

Reduce Vibration

When it comes to stationary, belt-driven power tools, vibration is one of the biggest contributing factors to noise. The first step in reducing vibration is to make sure the pulleys are aligned and securely attached to their shafts. If this doesn't alleviate the problem, try replacing the stock V-belt and die-cast pulleys with a link belt and machined steel pulleys, like those shown at right. These components run smoother than the ones that most likely came with your tool and they can greatly reduce the amount of vibration.

Stabilize the Blade

Another common source of noise is the blade in your table saw. Blade manufacturers have come a long way as far as developing blades that run quieter and with less vibration. But some blades still seem to have an ear-piercing ring to them.

Fortunately, there's a simple solution. Adding a blade stabilizer (photo at left) to your table saw can help quiet down a noisy blade. The stabilizer is nothing more than a flat, ground-steel plate that stiffens the blade to prevent it from flexing, thereby cancelling out much of the noise.