

THE COMMUNITY CODE

DO

Do be aware of who your neighbours are. Are they elderly? Do they work at night?

Do think about your neighbours, especially when you are doing something noisy, e.g. playing music or carrying out DIY.

Do mow your lawn at a respectable time.

Do be co-operative if asked by a neighbour to reduce noise.

Do keep the hi-fi level down, especially after 11pm.

Do realise that your pleasure should not lead to your neighbour's distress.

Do remember that noise and vibration transmits easily through walls and floors.

Do wear slippers or go barefoot if you live in a flat or maisonette, remember your floor may be someone else's ceiling. Carpets and heavy curtains help to absorb sound.

Do ensure that another keyholder can be called to deal with house or car alarms.

DON'T

Don't carry out noisy DIY work after 9pm or before 10am on weekends, and if possible never on Sundays. Drilling and hammering are particularly disturbing.

Don't play music at a level which annoys your neighbours in their own space. Keep the bass level down.

Don't take a radio or hi-fi speakers outside.

Don't have loud, late parties.

Don't use domestic appliances late at night e.g. vacuum cleaners or washing machines.

Don't leave dogs alone for long periods. If you have to, get a friend or neighbour to check on them.

Don't allow children to play noisily. If you live in a flat don't allow children to jump about on the floor in a way that disturbs neighbour's below.

Don't sound car horns, slam doors or rev engines at night.

Don't slam doors at any time.

NOISE AND ANNOYANCE

Low level sound of the wrong type at the wrong time can be just as annoying as loud sounds. Very high levels of sound at a disco, for example, may not be annoying because they are "wanted". This leads to the definition of noise as "unwanted sound".

It is also not only the type of sound that makes it annoying, but also when it occurs and how long it goes on for.

Everyone has a right to reasonable enjoyment of their own space. Be aware of who your neighbour's are. They may be elderly, shift workers, or have young children. Be courteous and sensitive to their needs. Common civility is the first step to being a good neighbour.

TYPES OF NOISE

Your noise is likely to annoy your neighbour if:

You play music too loudly for too long.

You carry out DIY like hammering, drilling or car repairs.

You tread heavy footsteps if you live in the flat above.

You allow your dog to bark excessively. This often happens when dogs are left alone.

Your children play noisily.

Your house or car alarms are left sounding.

You mow your lawn early in the morning.

You and your partner argue with raised voices.

You slam doors.

The information provided in this leaflet was correct at the time of printing.
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HOW TO BE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR