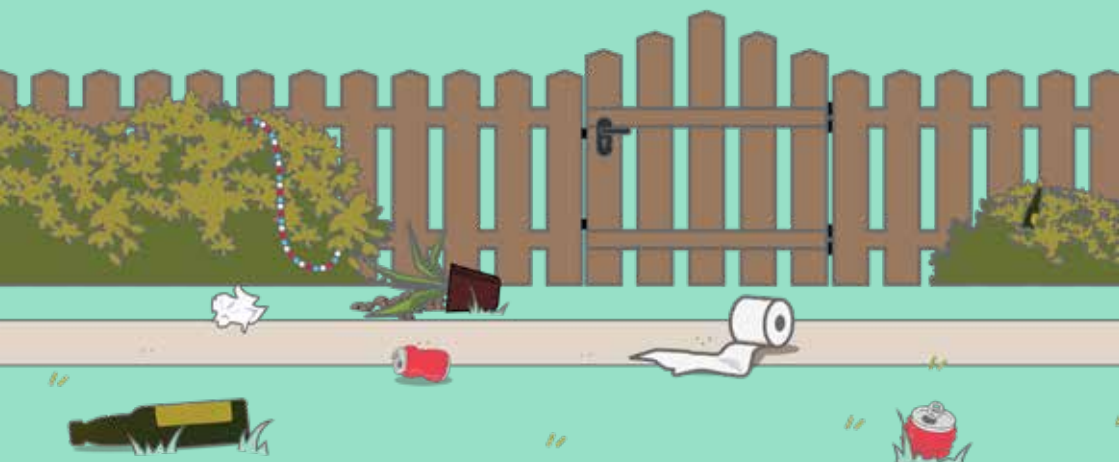


Make the effort to be a good neighbour – it will make your life easier and your home a nicer place to live.



How to be a good neighbour

step-by-step guide

How to be a good neighbour

Make the effort to be a good neighbour – it will make your life easier and your home a nicer place to live.

- **Introduce yourself!**
Say hello, and get to know your neighbours.
- **What's their lifestyle?**
Sometimes, you can prevent problems starting, for example if your neighbours work nights, quiet mornings will be important for them. If they have young children, quiet evenings will be important to them. Tell them about your lifestyle too. If you do a lot of noisy work, or if your teenage child plays the drums, let them know and mention that if it's getting too loud, they shouldn't hesitate to let you know.
- **Be aware of shared walls.**
If you're in a terrace, flat or semi-detached house, put noisy household appliances such as washing machines and tumble dryers – even TVs and speakers – away from shared walls if possible. If you live above someone, consider putting linoleum or rubber matting underneath your appliances to deaden or muffle the noise, and remember that someone downstairs can hear you walking around (so minimise how often you wear high heels indoors, for example).
- **Control your dog.** Keep your dog on a lead if it has a habit of running off and make sure you clean up after it. If you have problems controlling your dog's barking or whining, consider seeking advice from your local vet or a local animal organisation.

- **Practice polite parking.** When you park your vehicle, be sure not to block anyone's access, or make them have to pull out of a very tight spot. Don't over-rev the engine of your car or motorcycle early in the morning or late at night. Park in front of your home, not your neighbours'. Avoid slamming your doors or shining your headlights into your neighbour's windows late at night.
- **Alert your neighbours to parties.** If you're planning a party, be sure to give your neighbours plenty of warning, letting them know when it's going to start and how long you expect it to last. Leave them a telephone number to contact if they need to ask you to turn it down.
- **Keep your garden tidy.** Mow your lawn regularly and keep your flowers, trees and bushes trimmed.
- **Put rubbish out on the right day.** Only put your rubbish out on the day it's due for collection. If you accidentally miss the collection, bring it back onto your property and try to contain it well. Rubbish can attract vermin, insects, and other pests, and is also unsightly.
- **Talk to your neighbours!** Above all, keep them in the loop. Remember if anything you are planning to do may affect them, minimise it and let them know in advance.
- **Be aware of your surroundings,** as well as theirs. Even if you're not in a neighbourhood watch community, keep your eye on anyone you don't know acting suspiciously around your neighbour's property. When in doubt, call the police on 101 for a non-emergency or 999 for emergencies.

If you would like to receive this information in another format, for example in large print, in another language, or in Braille, please call 01732 749400 or email help@wkha.org.uk.

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