

EVERYBODY NEEDS GOOD NEIGHBOURS



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Your guide to a being a good neighbour

The choice of neighbours is not ours to make. One day they will arrive and live next door to you. They may move into the flat above or below you or perhaps they were living there when you moved in. Whoever your neighbours are it is important to be considerate to them so you can both enjoy living in your homes.

Sometimes you will hear your neighbours through the walls and this may lead to problems. Chances are you do not like the same kind of music or you have different daily routines which could also cause problems. Sometimes children, yours as well as theirs, will cause noise or nuisance.

That's why we have put this leaflet together, with our tenants, to provide helpful and practical advice on how you can be a good neighbour, wherever you live.



Meet Carol and Ian, our Housing Officers, who will offer practical advice for being a good neighbour throughout this leaflet.

HELPFUL TIPS TO START A GOOD NEIGHBOUR RELATIONSHIP

If you see your neighbours, take the time to say hello:



HELPFUL TIPS TO START A GOOD NEIGHBOUR RELATIONSHIP

Perhaps you could talk about the weather:



Morning Ben.
Isn't it a lovely day

Yep...

Tell your neighbours you are having a party. Ask your friends to keep the noise levels down when they leave as some people may be in bed:



Hiya Rose
I'm having a party on
Saturday and some
of my friends are
coming around.

Thanks For letting me know.
Can I come?

Maybe you can give your neighbours a helping hand:



Hi Tammy, do you
need a hand?

Yeah, thanks.
Can you take my
bag please?

HELPFUL TIPS TO START A GOOD NEIGHBOUR RELATIONSHIP

Be aware of the noise you make. Some people can tolerate noises better than others. Normally people like peace and quiet in the evening and at night. If you are a night owl, there are ways in which you can consider your neighbours:



Ben is being a considerate neighbour as he is listening to his music through earphones.

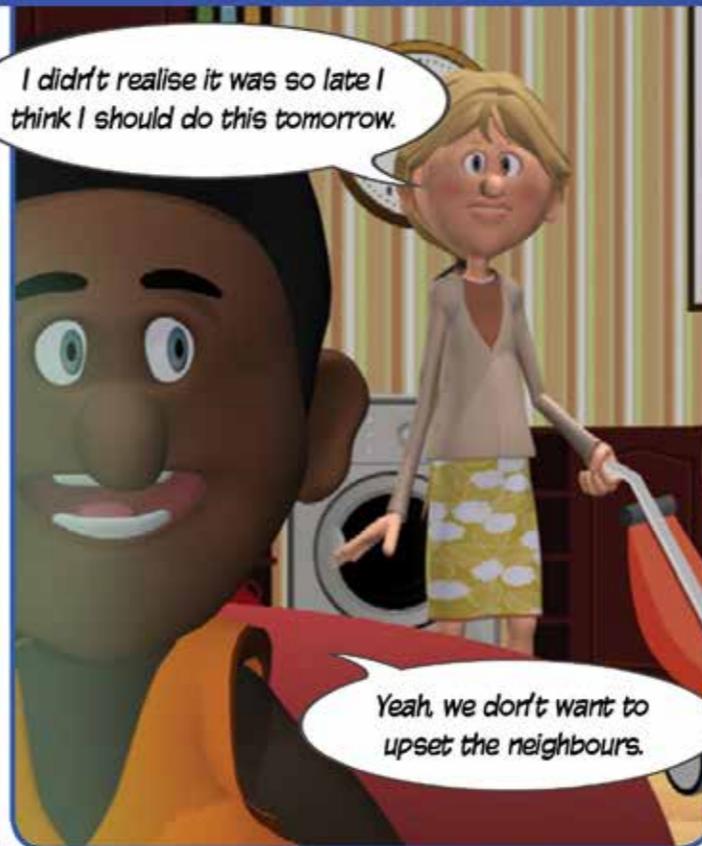
It's getting late. I'll stop now and finish this tomorrow.



Tammy is also being a considerate neighbour as she realises that it's too late to be hanging her pictures:

Be aware of when you are making noises and always consider your neighbour when it's late:

I didn't realise it was so late I think I should do this tomorrow.

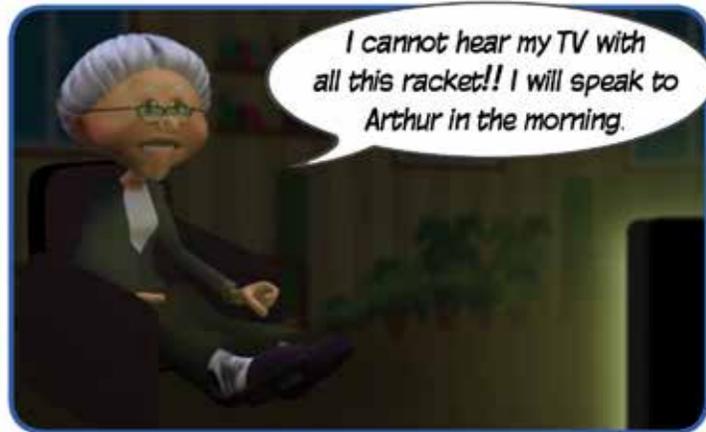


Yeah, we don't want to upset the neighbours.

If they can Hoover this late, I will play my military songs all night.



I cannot hear my TV with all this racket!! I will speak to Arthur in the morning.



HERE ARE SOME OF THE COMMON PROBLEMS CAUSED BY NEIGHBOURS AND HOW THEY COULD BE AVOIDED



Next time Tammy thinks about her neighbours and doesn't slam the door when she comes home.

Have a thought for your neighbours if you come home late at night:



Try and keep the noise down between 9pm at night until 8am in the morning, as this is when most people are sleeping.

If you put your washing machine on late this can cause problems as noise carries at night:



You could put rugs down in places you walk the most such as by the sofa, bed or in hallways. This could help reduce the noise you make.

If you live in a flat think about your neighbours before you install laminate flooring.



If you open your windows on a sunny day remember to keep the volume down if you are playing music or watching your TV.

When the sun shines, our noise levels increase.



HERE ARE SOME OF THE COMMON PROBLEMS CAUSED BY NEIGHBOURS AND HOW THEY COULD BE AVOIDED

When your visitors leave your home they could cause noise and nuisance:



Your visitors could wake up your neighbours if it is late.



If you have visitors to your home please ask them to keep the noise down when they leave.

Be aware of when you are making noises. Consider the effect it may have on your neighbours:



You must ask for permission to keep chickens in your garden.



Did you know it's illegal to ride a mini motor bike on the road, on the pavement and in a public place? This causes major problems in neighbourhoods.



DO YOU OWN A DOG?

Here are a few things that may cause a nuisance to your neighbours:

Dogs barking while you are out:

Hello Ben. Did you know Gizmo barks and howls whenever you are out.

Really?

Yes, he seems to bark at anyone who goes by. Can you keep him away from the window.

Ok I'll put him in the kitchen from now on. Can you let me know if this works?

Of course I can. Thanks for sorting this out.

Dogs mess is a huge problem on estates and in gardens. Responsible dog owners keep their dogs on a lead and clean up after them:



KEEPING YOUR HOME CLEAN AND TIDY

It's important to keep your home clean and tidy as it's part of your tenancy agreement.



An unclean house is an invitation for unwanted smells and an infestation of vermin. A house or flat crawling with vermin needs professional pest control. Don't let it come to that, keep your home clean and tidy.

If you need to get rid of garden waste or rubbish, you can take it to a local tip or arrange for us to collect it.

Not everyone likes gardening but it's part of your tenancy agreement to keep your garden neat and tidy.



If you are having difficulty managing your garden, please contact your Housing Officer to find out what help is available. They will also give you help and advice if you wish to consider moving to a home without a garden.

If you do have a bonfire, please only burn dry items and light the fire when it's dark. It's also polite to let your neighbours know just in case they have any washing out:



DO YOU LIVE IN A PROPERTY WHERE THERE IS A BALCONY?

If so here are a few tips for you...

Be careful about where you put your rubbish...



Even the little rubbish counts...



Please do not throw food from your balcony as it may attract mice and rats

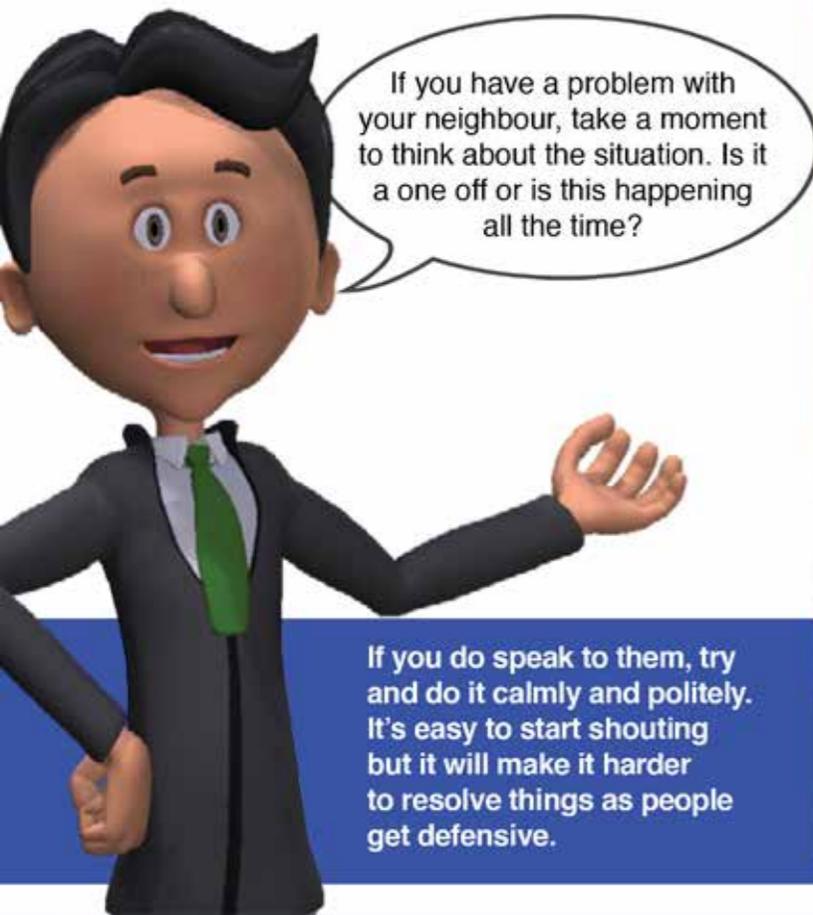
REMEMBER THAT COMMUNAL AREAS ARE FOR SHARING...

Please keep your communal areas clear and free of rubbish.

Remember to put your rubbish out on the date it's collected.

Get some help to remove your bulky household rubbish. We provide a bulky removal service or you could contact a charity who will collect your unwanted and suitable items, for free, and reuse them.



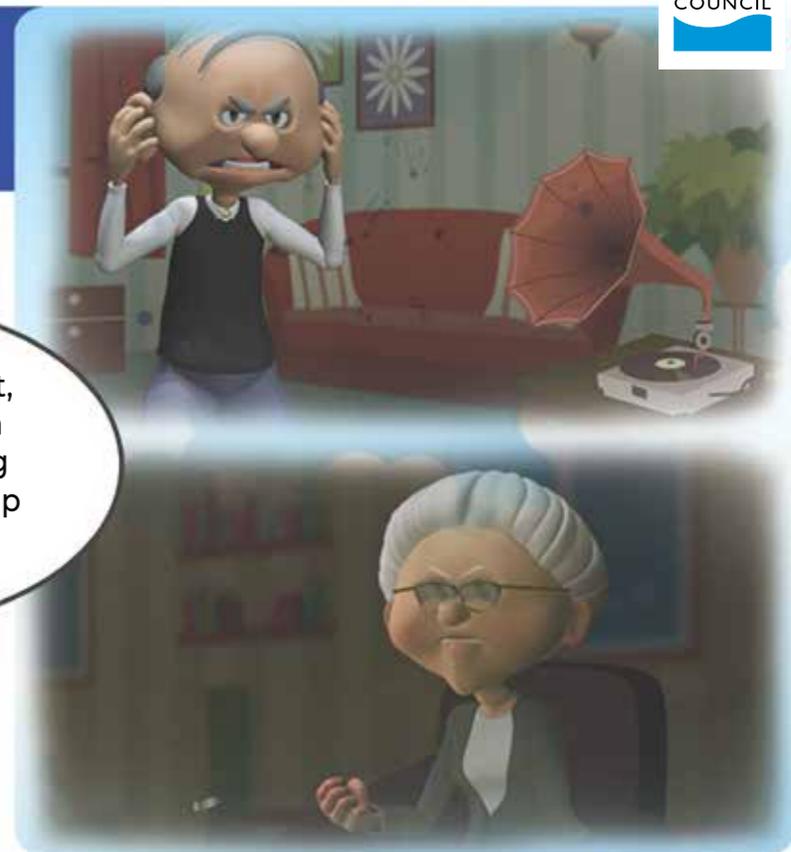


If you do speak to them, try and do it calmly and politely. It's easy to start shouting but it will make it harder to resolve things as people get defensive.

Before you take any hasty action ask yourself, am I being reasonable, can I speak to my neighbours first and tell them how their behaviour is affecting me or my family.



Don't leave it too long as things will get out of hand and you may start acting like the even worse neighbour yourself.



Remember - Everybody needs good neighbours!

*We hope you have
found this leaflet
useful!*



Dover District Council offices:

**Dover District Council, White Cliffs Business Park, Whitfield
Dover, Kent CT16 3PJ**

Dover Gateway, Castle Street, Dover, Kent CT16 1PD

**Email: doverhousing@dover.gov.uk
Telephone: 01304 821199**

**For more information visit our website:
www.dover.gov.uk/housing_for_tenants**

