

Sssh, be  
yew quiet!

Sound advice for a  
quiet neighbourhood



[www.northnorfolk.org](http://www.northnorfolk.org)



# Sssh, be yew quiet!

## Dogs barking?

All dogs bark, but constant barking can drive even the friendliest of neighbours to distraction. You may not even know your dog barks while you are not home, so if your neighbour complains, bear in mind it will have taken them a while to get to the point where they have felt it necessary to confront you, so do consider ways to resolve the situation.

Maybe your dog is lonely, so try not to leave him alone for long periods of time. He might like a radio – play it quietly though – don't replace one noise with another!

Our 'is your dog barking too much' leaflet is a handy guide to keeping your dog happy and content and can be downloaded from our website at [www.northnorfolk.org/environment/18863.asp](http://www.northnorfolk.org/environment/18863.asp)

## Dogs Barking?



All dogs bark, but constant barking will drive your neighbours mad. Be neighbourly and consider ways to minimise how much noise your dog makes.

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## Party at yours

The best way to not upset your neighbours with party noise is to invite them. If it's not their cup of tea, do inform them in any case, if they know you are going to be entertaining, they are less likely to complain (unless the party's still in full swing at 4am).

There is a widely believed myth that you can make as much noise as you like before 11pm, it really is a myth. So, even if your party is during the day, consideration for others around you should still be given.

Bear in mind that noise travels, so consider the location of speakers and your TV. If you prefer your music played loud, try headphones instead (although note high volume and/or long term use could damage your hearing).

## Party at Yours



Having a party? Invite the neighbours along! Otherwise, be neighbourly, let them know and keep the music and noise down.

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# DIY DIN

They might not be keen to assist, but your neighbour is likely to appreciate your consideration if you let them know you are planning to undertake noisy DIY tasks.

Try and conduct the work during 'office hours' when your neighbours are likely to be at work or school, although bear in mind that you may have a shift worker living next door. A friendly chat is the best way to start.

Music is a great accompaniment to DIY, not too loud though. A combination of drilling and loud music is a sure fire way to upset your neighbour unnecessarily.

# False alarm?

Don't alarm your neighbours. Although alarms are designed to make a noise, a misfiring one is not a good one and your neighbours will not thank you for it.

If you have an alarm installed, remember to get it serviced regularly and make sure you register a key holder with us. You can do this online at:

[www.northnorfolk.org/environment/18863.asp](http://www.northnorfolk.org/environment/18863.asp)

# Causing a commotion?

Falling out with someone in your household is often unavoidable. Sharing a row with your neighbours, however, is. Do bear in mind that in mind, and try not to shout when you are indoors, and especially when you are outdoors – your neighbours may be enjoying their garden, too.

Doors don't need to be slammed. You can add stickers to cupboard doors so that they don't make as much noise when they are closed.

Housework is no fun, but it's even less fun for your neighbour if you conduct it late at night or first thing in the morning. Washing machines and vacuum cleaners are especially noisy, so do bear your neighbours in mind when using them.

## DIY Din



Let your neighbours know if you are undertaking DIY at home, and be neighbourly and consider the time of day you do it.

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## False Alarm?



If you have a burglar alarm, be neighbourly and ensure you get it serviced regularly. Get your key holder registered with North Norfolk District Council.

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## Causing a Commotion?



**YOU DON'T HAVE TO SHOUT!**  
Noise travels, so be neighbourly and keep noise to a minimum, in your house and in your garden.

**Ssshh, be yew quiet!**

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# If you need to make a complaint

If chatting to your neighbour (or their landlord if they are a tenant) is not having the desired effect, we are here to help. To help us help you, it's a good idea to keep a diary of the noise you are complaining about. Include as much information as possible, including the time of day, duration and type of noise and how it is impacting on your day to day business. We try to resolve noise problems informally where possible and initially we may contact the person causing the noise to make them aware that complaints have been made to us.

If the noise persists after an individual has been advised and/or warned, we will attempt to gather evidence to prove that the noise complained about is what is termed a 'statutory noise nuisance'. If we conclude that someone is causing a statutory noise nuisance we will issue a 'noise abatement' order. This tells the person what they must do to stop making a noise nuisance or else face further legal action.

See our 'statutory nuisance guide' at  
[www.northnorfolk.org/environment/18863.asp](http://www.northnorfolk.org/environment/18863.asp)



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