

# Considerate Neighbour

## Be a Considerate Neighbour

1. Amplified music is the most commonly complained about noise, so keep the volume down, reduce the bass and position speakers away from party walls, floors and ceilings, this applies to TV's too. In the summer, keep windows shut and avoid playing music outside.
2. If you are having a party, warn neighbours in advance, or even invite them. Keep windows and doors shut, and ensure the volume is turned right down after 11pm, or if you receive complaints.
3. Make sure washing machines and fridges are located away from party walls, and on a mat or carpet to reduce vibration. When buying a new appliance ask about noise ratings, and choose the quieter option.
4. If you have a house alarm, register a key holder with South Gloucestershire Councils Environmental Protection team on (01454 868001) and the Police. If your alarm is sounding while you are away and a key holder cannot be found, the Council has the powers to obtain a warrant to silence the alarm, and charge the householder.
5. Carry out noisy DIY when it will least disturb your neighbours, and warn them in advance.
6. Before exposing your floorboards or laying laminate flooring consider the layout of the room, especially if you live in a flat or terraced house. Many leases prohibit hard floors due to the effect of impact noise on the adjoining flats.
7. Use garden power tools thoughtfully, avoiding their use early in the morning, late at night, or when your neighbours are trying to relax in the sunshine. Splashing fountains and wind chimes can also be annoying at night.
8. If your dog constantly barks, it is probably lonely, bored or unhappy. If you have to leave your dog, make sure it has enough exercise, leave a radio on for company or get a neighbour to look in.
9. Finally, consider the volume of your voice; avoid slamming doors and thundering up and down stairs.

**Free Internet access is available at all South Gloucestershire libraries**

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