

# Advice on Reducing Noise from Domestic Appliances

At Sandwell Council, we aim to ensure that all tenants enjoy a comfortable living environment. Noise from domestic appliances such as washing machines can negatively impact your neighbours.

## IMPACT OF NOISE FROM DOMESTIC APPLIANCES



While the use of domestic electrical appliances such as washing machines and vacuums make life in our home easier, the noise of appliances can negatively impact neighbours.

We understand that there are several tenants that work varied hours and time to do housework is limited.

To avoid neighbour disputes and maintain an environment that is comfortable for everyone, be mindful that noise disturbance can be minimised by some simple measures:

**Positioning** - Try to isolate the washing machine, tumble dryer or dishwasher where possible. Place it on a rubber mat or additional layers of carpet to reduce vibration. Making sure the machine is level helps it run properly and prevents movement.

**Timings** – Consider how the time you use your appliances, such as very late at night, may impact your neighbours. In flats sound travels easily, late-night usage may negatively impact your neighbours.

**Maintenance** – Try to keep your appliances in good condition as not maintaining it may make it noisier.

**Loading** – Following the recommended load size for washing machines and tumble dryers helps with better cleaning and energy efficiency but also helps reduce noise. Having too little or too many items within the washing machine can cause shaking.

## Concerns about noise made by neighbours:

We understand the frustration caused by noise from domestic appliances. Whilst we cannot always enforce action against your neighbour, you can read more on any further action taken for noise at <https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/consumer-advice/domestic-noise-nuisance>

