



## Grannsamverkan Neighbourhood watch

An initiative in collaboration with:



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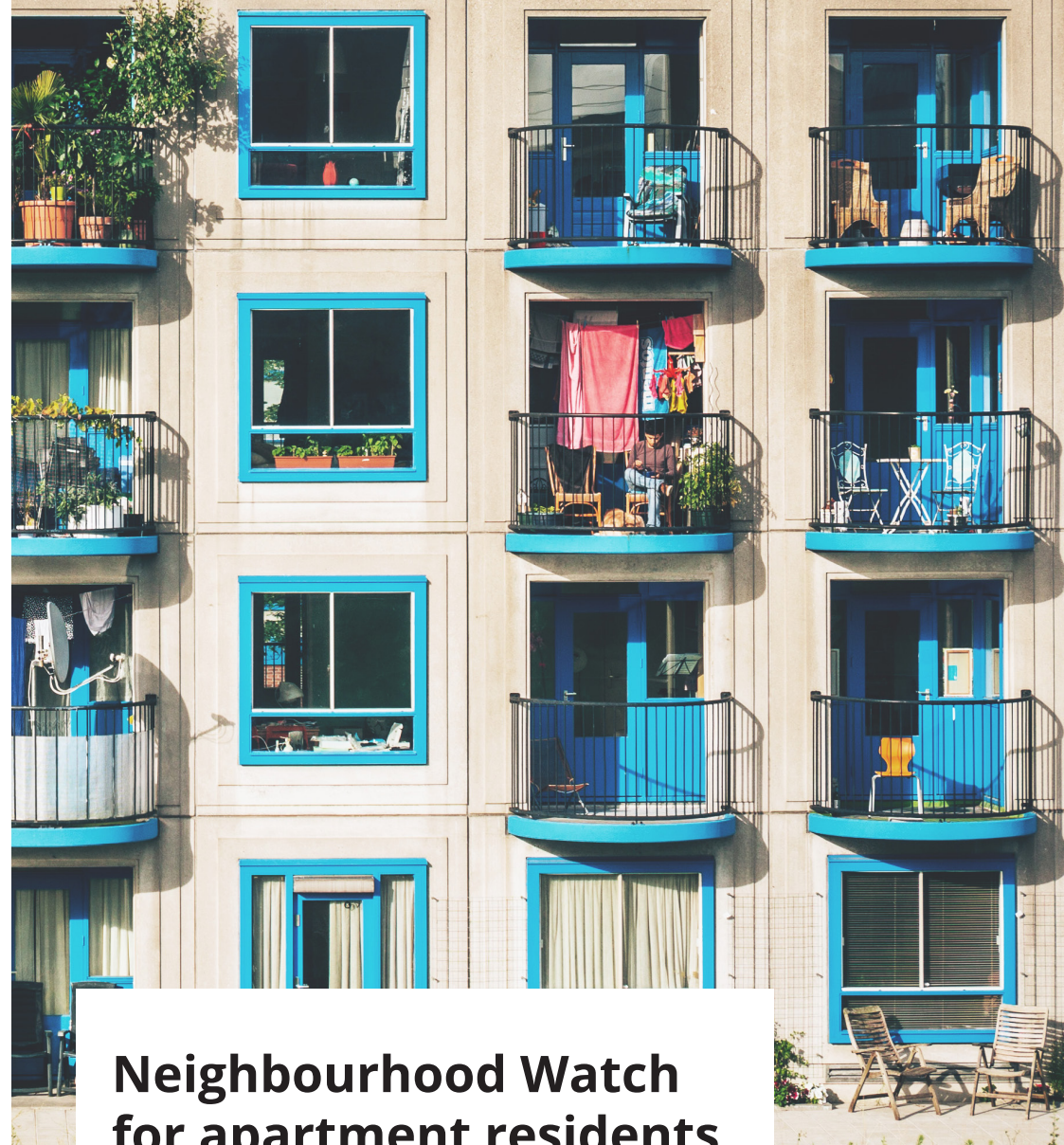
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It is free to take part in a Neighbourhood Watch. To find out more, contact the local police force, the municipal authorities or your insurance company.

For more information and forms, visit [www.samverkanmotbrott.se](http://www.samverkanmotbrott.se)



## Neighbourhood Watch for apartment residents

- Increase safety  
and reduce crime







**Make your apartment building and neighbourhood safer** by taking part in a Neighbourhood Watch, where we work together to **reduce crime** and disorder.

### Tip:

If you suspect or witness criminal activity, write down your observations, then go to [www.polisen.se](http://www.polisen.se) and tell the police what you saw or heard.

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## Minimum requirements for a Neighbourhood Watch

### 1. Vigilance

Be vigilant. Call the police on 114 14 if you notice any suspicious activity, or call 112 to report a crime in progress.

### 2. If you go away

Tell your neighbours you're going away.

### 3. Valuables

Store valuables securely – there are no safe places that thieves won't find.

### 4. Preventative measures

Study and learn preventative measures.

### Preventative measures

- Fit your front door with an approved lock.
- Consider installing an anti-pick device on the door.
- Make sure locks are installed on all windows and veranda doors – especially if you live on the ground floor, first floor or attic floor.
- Is your post visible on the floor next to the letterbox? Install a secure letterbox on the inside of the door. This will prevent thieves from seeing if you have post, or from opening the door with a letterbox tool.
- Install a lock cover on the inside of your door.
- Lock valuables and ID documents, e.g. your passport, in a certified safe.
- Security mark your valuables. This increases your chances of having stolen goods returned and makes it more difficult for thieves to sell the goods.
- Effective mechanical devices can be supplemented with an audio alarm. This shortens the amount of time a burglar is able to spend in your home and attracts neighbours' attention.
- Arrange for lights to automatically switch on and off, ideally at irregular intervals and only when it's dark outside.
- Programme a radio to switch on and off with a timer so that noise can be heard from indoors.
- Install an outdoor light with a motion sensor next to the entrance as well as next to any veranda doors, for instance in a courtyard.
- Do not store valuables in your attic or cellar.



# How can apartment residents start a Neighbourhood Watch?

**If you want to** organise a Neighbourhood Watch in your apartment building, start by contacting your neighbours to ask who is interested. Alternatively, you can ask your landlord or housing cooperative board to contact the other residents and gauge their interest. The next step is to contact the local police to establish a Neighbourhood Watch. Someone in your building should be appointed as a contact between the police and the other residents.

**If you live in a rented property** it is important to involve the landlord in the Neighbourhood Watch. For instance, your landlord might need to take actions such as securing the property against burglary, installing additional lighting around the building or providing premises for Neighbourhood Watch meetings.

**After the police have been contacted**, they will call the residents to an information meeting and provide the necessary training. Among other things, you will learn how a Neighbourhood Watch works and what to focus on in

## Tip:

In a housing cooperative, the contact person might be a member of the board who is already in contact with residents, e.g. via e-mail, sms or an app.



order to improve safety and prevent crime. Other entities such as fire and rescue services, landlords, businesses and insurance companies may also be involved in the training.

**The police will order signs and stickers** from the Swedish Theft Prevention Association (SSF Stöldskyddsöreningen) for displaying on doors and windows to show that there is an active Neighbourhood Watch in the building.

**These signs and stickers signal** that the residents in the building:

- Have been trained in Neighbourhood Watch and crime prevention.
- Have taken measures to prevent crime.
- Are extra vigilant.
- Know what action to take if criminal intent is suspected.

**However, it is not enough** to display Neighbourhood Watch signs in order for a Neighbourhood Watch to work. The most important basis for success is being vigilant and actively cooperating to prevent crime in the property and the neighbourhood.



## In the event of an incident

### If criminal intent is suspected

If you notice something unusual on the premises, pay close attention and note down everything you see, for instance the physical appearance of any suspects or the registration numbers of unfamiliar vehicles. You can also report to the police on 114 14 or via [www.polisen.se](http://www.polisen.se). Make yourself visible and try to make contact, for instance by striking up a conversation with suspicious strangers. If they are criminals, they may abandon their intent when they realise they have been noticed.

### If a crime is in progress

If a crime is in progress, call the police on 112, make yourself visible to the perpetrators and take note of their physical appearance and any other relevant details. Be there to meet the police and inform your contact person and neighbours. Do not intervene directly unless you are absolutely confident of succeeding as this will put you at physical risk.

### How can residents keep the building safe?

It is crucial that you and your neighbours cooperate and help to keep your building safe. Here are some tips that may be applicable to you.

- Tell you neighbours if you plan to go away briefly (and also inform your contact if you will be away more than a few days).
- Be politely curious if you notice strangers in the building or hear suspicious noises. Dare to ask questions such as: Are you visiting someone here? Have you recently moved here? I don't think we've met before.
- Don't let strangers enter or exit the building with you. Think of the entrance door as your apartment door.
- Tell your neighbours if tradesmen will be visiting your apartment.
- Ask a neighbour to take care of any letters protruding from your letterbox, or to push them firmly inside.

### Read more

For more information about Neighbourhood Watch, videos and useful links, visit [www.samverkanmotbrott.se](http://www.samverkanmotbrott.se)



## Neighbourhood Watch for apartment residents

**This brochure** provides information on how to start and run a Neighbourhood Watch (Grannsamverkan) in an apartment building and how you can prevent crime in and near your home.

A Neighbourhood Watch is intended to make neighbourhoods less attractive for criminal activity. This is done through increased monitoring by local residents and knowledge of how to protect your home and deter burglars.

**The aim of a Neighbourhood Watch** is to reduce crime and increase safety in your home and neighbourhood, ultimately resulting in greater comfort and peace of mind. To achieve this, the building's residents cooperate, support and help each other, while monitoring what goes on in the local neighbourhood and maintaining contact with the police. A Neighbourhood Watch is also an opportunity to learn more about various risks and how to prevent damage and protect your home from crime.

