

# How to organise a Car-Free Day in **10** steps



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## Define the area

The event can cover the whole city or one specific area. If more than one area is defined, pedestrian paths can link them. Consider the type of area (residential, work, shopping); accessibility; surrounding parking, etc. Provide clear information to regular car drivers.

On 22 September, thousands of cities in Europe, and beyond, close their streets to motorised traffic and open them for people. It's no surprise people want more Car-Free Days throughout the year!



## Set a time

Choosing a weekday will maximise the reduction of emissions, noise and fuel consumption, while showing people there are other options available for their daily trips. One hour before to one hour after normal working hours is best! Car-Free weekends or Sundays once a month is also a good idea.



## Be clear

Towns and cities must communicate clearly using all available channels. Avoid taking residents and commuters by surprise. Clear communication will reduce the number of complaints and rule breaches. Insist on arguments in favour of sustainable mobility.



## Involve local organisations

The more, the merrier: cyclists' groups, schools, companies, residents' associations, youth councils, public transport operators, etc. Pay special attention to shopkeepers from the very beginning.



## Enforce regulation

The morning, the defined area(s) must be closed to motorised traffic by barriers. Access to the car-free area(s) must be monitored. Assistance from the urban traffic authority, police force, and other relevant local authorities is necessary.



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# 6

## Provide alternatives to the car



Public transport must provide more regular trips, greater accessibility for persons with reduced mobility, special fares or free tickets, combined parking with bus or train tickets, and ticket with reductions at cinemas, swimming pools, etc. Bicycles and micro-mobility services are also a great alternative. Involve local cycling groups, cooperate with micro-mobility service providers, promote safe use of shared bicycles and scooters. Don't forget the use of cargo bikes.

# 7



## Consider urgent services

Exemptions should be granted to health professionals, people with disabilities, emergency services and for urgent repair work. Any other applications for exemption should be addressed to the responsible council department. Exemptions must be kept to a minimum.



# 8

## Think about parking

Some commuters will need a parking spot to leave their car. The parking area must be connected via public transport, shared bicycles/scooters, walking and cycling infrastructure, etc. It is also worth running special shuttle services. Residents need to clear the streets the day before.

# 9

## Measure and show impact



Collect figures on fuel consumption, emissions, health impact for both children and adults, noise levels, traffic, cost, etc., to demonstrate the positive benefits of Car-Free Days.

# 10

## Envision a Car-Free future

Car-Free Day is the perfect occasion to show residents what a car-free street or area can look like. This is a good opportunity to test and implement permanent solutions. Many cities have already taken this last step!



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