

# fun palaces

**MAKE A TINY  
FUN PALACE**

## WHAT DO YOU MEAN, TINY FUN PALACE?

We mean really tiny!

### What?

Fun Palaces are about sharing skills and making local connections. That could be a handful of people learning something from each other in small groups, or remotely.

- Why not create a chalk timeline with neighbours along your street
- Share a poem in your front garden and invite others to read, or write your own poems by adding in one line each.
- Ring someone to swap stories and ask them to ring someone else.
- Host a seed swap in the park.
- Teach drumming from your front garden.
- You can also make online Fun Palaces: broadcast your knitting tutorial on Facebook live, collect your shared poem on Bluesky, share some chemistry colour experiments on Instagram for people to have a go at and share back.

The key is to share skills, knowledge, something beautiful; that it is public (passers-by taking part is great) and makes a connection (encouraging others to do as well as enjoy what you've done). If you have a venue, turn the windows into a community gallery or act as a dead drop (a drop-off point) for a swapping chain. If you are a museum, loan objects for people to host in their front windows or invite people to exhibit their own objects or loan some to you for your windows.

### Who?

You! And, if you like, your household, friends, colleagues, and/or neighbours. A tiny Fun Palace can be solo or with a tiny team. If making your Fun Palace outside your home, plan it by chatting on the estate balcony or from your windows, by phone, letter or message.



## When?

The first weekend in October (or at another time if that doesn't work for you.) 20 minutes is fine – a street singalong. All weekend is fine – a town-wide exhibition of everyone's oldest possession, with residents standing at windows or doors to share their objects with passers-by.

## Why

Because creativity in community can change the world for the better, to celebrate each other and to connect with our neighbours

## How

See below!

## WHAT DO I DO NOW?

Ready to make a Tiny Fun Palace on the first weekend of October? Even if you don't know exactly what you might do on the day, just the intention to make something happen in your local area is all you need to get started.

To make a Tiny Fun Palace this October visit <https://funpalaces.co.uk/> and sign up with us, following these steps:

1. Click on the "Make a Fun Palace" button.
2. Create an account by entering your name and email:
  - You'll be sent an email confirmation to confirm your account - check your spam folder if you don't see this in your inbox.
  - Be sure to tick the 'Maker Newsletter' box to receive a regular email with useful tips and announcements for Fun Palace Makers.
3. Once you've created your account, you can register your Fun Palace on the official map as a **Tiny Fun Palace** (it won't give your exact location away), by entering the following info:
  - Give your Fun Palace a name
  - Enter brief details of what might happen on the day
  - Enter the address of your Fun Palace (if you don't have a confirmed address you can enter your own and change it later. If your Fun Palace is happening across a whole street, enter the postcode for that street).



- Upload a photo that describes your Fun Palace idea or your local area (optional).
- Save your details, then go to [www.funpalaces.co.uk/finda-fun-palace](http://www.funpalaces.co.uk/finda-fun-palace) to check that your Fun Palace has appeared on the map

4. You can edit or update your Fun Palace as your idea progresses by logging back into your account at [www.funpalaces.co.uk/login/](http://www.funpalaces.co.uk/login/)

5. Need any help? Email [hello@funpalaces.co.uk](mailto:hello@funpalaces.co.uk) or leave a message on 0208 692 4446, ext 203 and we'll get back to you as soon as we can.

## **GETTING WORD OUT ABOUT YOUR TINY (OR NOT-SO-TINY FUN) PALACE**

You may have made a bigger Fun Palace in the past or this may be your first one, it can be a very tiny Fun Palace or a not-so-tiny one.

Whether you're sharing knitting skills with neighbours, arranging a local 'museum' or 'gallery' with your street, or going online to share a cookery demonstration, we want to get people involved with your Fun Palace and to share the great news that your event is one of many happening across the UK and internationally.

## **PUBLICITY TOOLKIT**

To spread the word about your Fun Palace, look at the Fun Palaces Publicity Toolkit. The pack is full of ideas to help with everything from advertising to dealing with the press. This year, we are also making three extra suggestions – we hope you find them useful.

### **1. If you need to keep it small**

- Fun Palaces are for everybody, but your Fun Palace might not have room for everyone at once. You might want to keep your advertising very local indeed, but do try to invite people who you wouldn't normally meet.
- Download our Fun Palaces invitations, fill them in and post them through your friends' and neighbours' doors (even the ones you've never spoken to). Or you can ask us to post you some posters and invitations - free!

### **2. A lot of tiny voices can make big noises**



By making a Fun Palace you join an international community of people who believe culture made by, for and with everyone is at the heart of local life. We create Fun Palaces together on the first weekend of October to show governments and key decision-makers how important this is in our lives.

- Help spread awareness of Fun Palaces by putting up a Fun Palaces Happening Here poster in your front window or garden. You can download it here to print (if you can't print we can put some in the post to you, ring us on 0208 692 4446 ext 203 or e-mail [hello@funpalaces.co.uk](mailto:hello@funpalaces.co.uk))

- Social media #FunPalaces: Let us know what's happening at your Fun Palace on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram by tagging us and using the #FunPalaces hashtag. Encourage others to do the same by displaying the hashtag prominently at your Fun Palaces. Each year we've built enough momentum for #FunPalaces to 'trend' on Twitter – let's do it again!

### **3) Local press**

Contact local newspapers, radio stations and blogs about your Fun Palace. Even if your Fun Palace is really tiny, journalists may still be interested in the positive impact on your community and that you're part of an event happening nationally and internationally. Check out the 'working with media and press' section in the Publicity Toolkit on Fun Palaces website for more information.

