

## Current Corona rules 23-08-2021 – 17-09-2021

Please note: Changes are possible at short notice!

This is no legally binding information.

### CORONAVIRUS PROTECTION RULES IN NRW

[Overview of current rules pursuant to the Coronavirus Protection Ordinance](#)

### BASIC INFORMATION

[Get protected by the DHM + A + A formula](#)

[Suspected of being infected and testing](#)

[Help / information in the EN district](#)

[Home quarantine](#)

[I stayed in a risk area abroad. What do I have to do next?](#)

[Coronavirus vaccination: Who can book an appointment and what is the vaccination procedure?](#)

### ADDITIONAL OFFICIAL INFORMATION PROVIDED BY

- Corona information by the Ennepe-Ruhr-Kreises  
[www.enkreis.de](http://www.enkreis.de)
- Special coronavirus sites of the Federal State of North Rhine-Westphalia  
[www.land.nrw](http://www.land.nrw)
- Health Department of North Rhine-Westphalia  
[www.mags.nrw](http://www.mags.nrw)
- Integration Commissioner (information provided in several languages)  
[www.integrationsbeauftragte.de](http://www.integrationsbeauftragte.de)
- German government  
[www.bundesregierung.de](http://www.bundesregierung.de)
- Federal Ministry of Health  
[www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de](http://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de)
- Bundeszentrale für gesundheitliche Aufklärung (BZgA)  
[www.infektionsschutz.de](http://www.infektionsschutz.de)
- Robert-Koch-Institut (RKI)  
[www.rki.de](http://www.rki.de)

## „3G Rule“

(Geimpft, Genesen oder Getestet“, meaning “vaccinated, recovered or tested”)

Based on the joint resolutions adopted by the Federation and the German states the new ordinance on protection against infection risks no longer refers to several incidences. Instead, there is only one **relevant incidence** (35). If the seven-day incidence of 35 is exceeded in one district or one independent city the new “3G Rule” will apply. If such incidence is generally exceeded, the new “3G Rule” shall apply everywhere.

The “3G Rule” means that all institutions and services may be used by fully vaccinated or recovered persons. Persons not vaccinated or recovered are required to submit a negative coronavirus test result.

### EVIDENCE TO BE PRODUCED BY VACCINATED OR RECOVERED PERSONS

Vaccinated persons are required to evidence full vaccination (e.g. yellow certificate of vaccination or digital certificate of vaccination.) Min. 14 days must have elapsed since the last vaccination required. Except for the vaccine by Johnson & Johnson two vaccinations are required.

Recovered persons are required to produce evidence by way of a positive PCR test (or another proof of nucleic acid), dating back min. 28 days (max. six months).

The following applies to both of them: There should not be any symptoms of a possible coronavirus infection such as difficulty in breathing, cough, fever and loss of smell and taste.

**Vaccinated persons and recovered persons are deemed immunised.**

### WHICH CORONAVIRUS TEST IS REQUIRED FOR NON-IMMUNISED PERSONS?

A negative rapid antigen test (max. 48 hours ago) is needed for:

- Indoor events and meetings
- Indoor sports
- Indoor gastronomy and canteens in companies and schools, etc. (except for collecting food and beverages)
- Close-contact services (e.g. hairdresser, cosmetic studio, body care ...)
- Accommodation (e.g. hotels, camping sites, ...); non-immunised persons are required to submit a negative test upon arrival and after another four days
- Large outdoor events (sports events, concerts, music festivals, ...) (from 2,500 persons) in case a min. distance cannot be guaranteed. Max. 25,000 persons (including vaccinated persons and recovered persons) are admitted. From 5,000 persons the additional capacity shall be max. 50 percent of the max. regular capacity beyond 5,000 persons.

A negative PCR test (max. 48 hours) is required for events and services involving a high risk of multiple infections such as:

- Clubs, discotheques, dancing events
- Private events including dancing
- Sexual services and similar services

## **SPECIAL PROTECTION FOR HOSPITALS AND SIMILAR INSTITUTIONS**

Special protection is provided for persons exposed to a high risk. The 3G Rule applies to the following institutions irrespective of the incidence. Persons visiting these institutions must be fully vaccinated, recovered or tested negative (rapid antigen coronavirus test, max. 48 hours ago):

- Hospitals
- Old-age homes
- Special forms of housing in integration assistance and similar institutions
- Inpatient social welfare facilities
- Collective accommodation for refugees

## **PROOF OF TESTING FOR PUPILS AND YOUNGER CHILDREN**

- Due to required testing children required to attend school and youths are regarded as tested persons.
- For pupils from the age of 16 the required proof of immunisation and testing is replaced by a school certificate. Due to their age children and youths under the age of 16 are regarded as pupils thus needing neither a proof of immunisation or testing nor a school certificate.
- Children not yet attending school do not need a coronavirus test. They are generally treated like tested persons and are not subject to any access restrictions.

## Continued obligation to wear face masks

Medical face masks (surgical face masks) are still required in the following areas:

- Public transport (bus, tram, airplane, ...)
- Shops
- Interiors with public business
- In queues and kiosks
- Outdoor sports events, cultural events and other events with more than 2,500 visitors
- Inside school buildings and other interiors for school use

By way of exception and subject to certain conditions no face masks are required, for example,

- in private rooms for private meetings only
- at work (indoors), in vehicles, ..., in case a min. distance of 1.5 metres can be guaranteed or if only immunised employees meet or in case of fixed working places and/or fixed teams only consisting of immunised or tested employees (except for activities involving a large amount of aerosols),
- in gastronomy (fixed seat or standing places) with a min. distance of 1.5 metres between table or structural divisions,
- in clubs, discotheques and similar facilities as well as dancing events including private events with dancing if only immunised or tested persons are present,
- in educational or cultural institutions and in case of events with fixed seats or standing places if a min. distance of 1.5 metres can be guaranteed or if all persons are immunised or tested,
- when eating or drinking,
- when communicating with a deaf or hearing impaired person,
- in sports or music as needed,
- when singing provided that only immunised or tested persons take part,
- in case of group offerings in closed rooms for up to 20 participants (working with children and youths and parent-child services),
- in case of tourist bus trips and trips for children, youths and families organized by public or free child and youth services (fixed seats) provided that all participants are immunised or tested,
- in case of security, fire brigade, ambulance and disaster protection operations
- and in some other cases.

Exempted from the obligation to wear face masks are

- persons unable to wear face masks for medical reasons. Medical reasons shall be evidenced by a corresponding medical certificate to be submitted upon request.
- Children not yet attending school.

## Basic information: DHM + A + A formula

### HOW CAN I PROTECT MYSELF AND OTHER PEOPLE?

- In order to prevent an uncontrollable spreading of the coronavirus some main rules must be followed. The **DHM+A+A-formula** (maintain **D**istance, follow **H**ygiene rules, wear medical face **M**ask , **A**ir regularly and use Corona-**A**pp) helps protect you and other people.
- The virus mainly spreads in the air and when speaking (if there is no adequate distance).

#### Keep **D**istance!

- In order to protect other people keep a distance of min 1.5 metres (approx. three steps).
- Even if you feel healthy the virus may be in your body and infect other people.
- Don't embrace other people or shake hands with them.

#### Follow **H**ygiene rules!

- Cough and sneeze in your elbow.
- Wash and disinfect your hands in regular intervals.

#### Wear community **M**ask or medical face mask!

- Wearing a medical face mask (FFP2 or surgical mask) is the best way of preventing an infection or infecting other people.
- We should wear our own face masks. Never exchange face masks with other people.
- Replace medical face masks after using it five times at the latest. If a face mask isn't used, it should be put in an oven at a temperature of 80° for one hour in order to disinfect it. Medical face masks can't be washed.
- Your community masks made of cloth should be washed at a temperature of min. 60° after use.
- Face masks getting wet if worn should always be replaced.

#### **A**ir!

- Closed rooms should be aired in intervals of 20 minutes.

#### Use **A**pp - Corona-Warn-App!

- Use the [Corona-Warn-App](#). This app will inform you in case you were in touch with people infected with the virus. The app will also tell you what to do.
- Enter a positive coronavirus test result into your app.
- The app uses anonymized data, i.e. no personal data are stored.

## Basic information: Suspicion of coronavirus and testing

### I THINK I AM INFECTED WITH CORONAVIRUS: WHAT CAN I DO?

- If you think you are infected with coronavirus because of symptoms (fever, cough, sore throat, cold, shortness of breath, loss of the sense of taste, headache, ...) or if the Corona App indicates a possible infection, you should preferably contact your family doctor for a test.
- Such testing will be free. Call your doctor in advance and book an appointment.

### WHAT ARE RAPID CORONAVIRUS TESTS?

- Currently, there are two coronavirus tests:
  - PCR test (evidence of virus): For a PCR test a smear (nose and/or throat) is made. Samples will be analysed by a laboratory. This test provides very precise results. However, it takes 1 – 2 days to have the results.
  - PoC test (**rapid coronavirus test**): Rapid test in which the smear is analysed within a few minutes using a test set. Such test is less precise and must be done by a medical service provider authorized to do such tests and required to issue a certificate evidencing the test.
- Free rapid coronavirus tests can be done at test centres, in some medical practices and in pharmacies. You will get the result there (hardcopy or electronically). In case of a positive rapid test result, a PCR test will follow to confirm the result and you will have to enter quarantine immediately. Quarantine will end only in case of a negative PCR test result.
- Students are required to do coronavirus self-tests at school.
- All citizens can do a free rapid coronavirus test min. once a week. Don't miss out!
- The [website of the Ennepe-Ruhr-Kreis](#) provides details of the rapid coronavirus test centres which can also be found in the map that is part of the [app of the EN-Kreis](#).

### POSITIVE CORONAVIRUS TEST: WHAT TO DO NEXT?

- If your coronavirus test is positive, you are infected with coronavirus. A positive result is not a good result but shows that the virus was found in your body.
- In case of a positive test result (PCR test or rapid test) you must enter [home quarantine](#). All persons living with you in one household (flat or quarters) must enter quarantine immediately.
- Using your balcony, terrace or garden is still allowed. However, they can only be used by you and the persons you live with.

## Basic information: Help / information in the EN district

### TELEPHONE ADVICE / INFORMATION

- **Telephone service of the district administration in Schwelm**  
☎ 02333/4031449, daily from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm
- **Telephone services for Hattingen, Herdecke and Witten**
  - Hattingen Corporation: ☎ 02324/204 4700  
Monday – Thursday: 8:30 am to 3:30 pm, Friday: 8:30 am to 12:00 pm
  - Herdecke Corporation: ☎ 02330/611 350  
Monday – Thursday: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, Friday: 8:00 am to 12:00 pm
  - Witten Corporation: ☎ 02302/581 7777  
Monday, Tuesday and Thursday: 8:00 am 4:00 pm, Wednesday and Friday:  
8:00 am to 2:00 pm
- **Medical on-call service**  
☎ 116117
- **Telephone service of the Ministry of Health of North Rhine-Westphalia**  
☎ 0211/9119 1001, Monday – Friday from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm
- **Social-Psychiatric Service of the Ennepe-Ruhr-Kreis**  
(mental crises related to coronavirus)
  - Breckerfeld, Ennepetal, Gevelsberg, Hattingen, Schwelm and Sprockhövel:  
☎ 02336/93 2788
  - Witten, Wetter and Herdecke: ☎ 02302/922 264  
Monday – Friday from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm, Thursday: also from 2:00 pm  
to 4:00 pm
- **GESINE Frauenberatung.EN**  
(physical , psychological, financial and sexualised violence and crises)
  - Schwelm: ☎ 02336/475 909 1  
Witten: ☎ 02302/525 96  
Hattingen: ☎ 02324/380 930 50

## Basic information about home quarantine

### HOW DOES HOME QUARANTINE WORK?

- Home quarantine will be required in case of a positive coronavirus test result or if ordered by the Public Health Office.
- Home quarantine means that you have to stay at home with immediate effect. Nobody can visit you. Don't leave your house, don't go for a walk, don't go to a playground, don't go shopping, etc., and don't use your car. You can still use your balcony, your terrace or your garden. However, they only be used by you and the person you live with.
- Inform your employer, school and/or day care centre and all persons you were in touch with.
- If your child is under the age of 12 (1 – 11 years) and must be quarantined, one parent will have to stay at home with the child.
- When in quarantine the Public Health Office will contact you by e-mail or by phone, if you can't send or receive any e-mail. You may contact the Public Health Office by e-mail.
- If you need medicines in quarantine or if you feel bad, call your family doctor. Tell your doctor that you are in quarantine.
- If you feel that you are seriously ill and badly need medical help, call the medical on-call service at ☎ 116117. In an emergency call ☎ 112. Please tell them that you are in home quarantine.

### WHAT ABOUT MY JOB DURING QUARANTINE?

- In principle, your employer will continue to pay your salary / wage (continued pay), if quarantine is required (max. period: 6 weeks (Section 56, Protection Against Infection Act)).
- If you have to stay at home because your child is quarantined, there will be a continued pay for max. 6 weeks. Details can be found [here](#) (claim for loss of earnings pursuant to Section 56, para. 1a, Protection Against Infection Act).

### WHAT ABOUT THE END OF MY QUARANTINE?

- In case of typical symptoms (fever, cough, sore throat, cold, shortness of breath, loss of the sense of taste, headache, ...) your quarantine will generally end 10 days after the day when the symptoms occurred for the first time. You must have recovered 2 days prior to the end of your quarantine.
- In case of a positive PCR test result without typical symptoms your quarantine will end 10 days after the PCR test.
- **IMPORTANT NOTICE: Your quarantine will end only if the Public Health Office has given permission to end the quarantine!** This means that there may be different quarantine periods and that a quarantine could last longer.
- Exemptions: Your PoC test (rapid test) was positive. Such test must be followed by a PCR test. You will be quarantined until the test result is received. Your quarantine will end if the PCR test result is negative.



## Basic information: Ordinance on Coronavirus Entry Regulations

### I WAS ABROAD: WHAT TO DO NEXT?

The new Coronavirus Entry Regulations have been in effect since 1 August 2021. Among others, the following new rules apply from 1 August 2021.

- From 1 August 2021 there are only two categories: high-risk areas and virus variant areas. The “risk area” category no longer exists.
- Returning travellers from the age of 12 entering North Rhine-Westphalia after 1 August 2021 are required to produce evidence of vaccination, recovery or testing irrespective of whether they stayed in a high-risk area or a virus variant area or not.
- Evidence of testing must refer to a test (max. 48 hours ago - antigen test or 72 hours (PCR). These periods are calculated from the time of entry. In case of a virus variant area the time limit for rapid antigen coronavirus tests is reduced to 24 hours.
- Persons who during the last ten days prior to entry stayed in an area classified as high-risk area or virus variant area upon entry are required to observe special duties in terms of registration, proofs and quarantine. Registrations and proofs shall be provided using [www.reiseanmeldung.de](http://www.reiseanmeldung.de). Alternatively, a [hardcopy form](#) may be completed. Such form shall be sent to Deutsche Post E-POST Solutions GmbH, 69990 Mannheim.
- Travellers returning from high-risk areas or virus variant areas have to enter home quarantine directly after entry.
- Quarantine in case of high-risk areas is ten days (virus variant area: 14 days).
- When returning from a high-risk area a test to exit quarantine is permissible 5 days after entering at the earliest. For children up to the age of 12 returning from a high-risk area quarantine automatically ends after 5 days.
- After staying in a virus variant area a quarantine of 14 days is mandatory. There is no test to exit quarantine except for a downgrading of the area. If so, the respective quarantine rules shall apply.
- The mandatory test for returning travellers is still required. This applies to persons who didn't work for more than five working days or more due to holidays, compensatory time off, etc.  
This also applies to a person working only one day a week due to part-time work or shift work and having that day off, i.e. this rule applies whenever you didn't work for a full working week due to “holidays”.  
However, this rule doesn't apply, if your absence is attributable to illness, shift work, home office, official trips, etc.  
This rule doesn't apply to fully vaccinated or recovered persons.

## Basic information: Vaccination

### WHO GETS AN APPOINTMENT AND HOW CAN I BOOK AN APPOINTMENT?

- Any person from the age of 12 can go to the vaccination centre of the Ennepe-Ruhr-Kreis without having to book an appointment. The vaccination centre is located at the former ALDI Markt, Kölner Str. 205, Ennepetal and is open daily from 8 am to 8 pm.
- Please bring along the following: identity card, FFP2 face mask, health insurance card and certificate of vaccination, if available.
- Children and youths aged 12 to 15 always need a declaration of consent by their parents. Accompanying children and youths is recommended but not required. Persons belonging to this age group can book an appointment at <https://www.terminland/impfzentrum:en2/?m=35955>. However, this is not mandatory.
- Persons having recovered from a coronavirus infection or vaccinated elsewhere needing a second vaccination appointment may also come to the vaccination centre. These persons are required to provide vaccination documents (certificate of vaccination, information by the Medical Board of Westphalia Lippe) for the second vaccination at the vaccination centre.
- Appointments can be booked at [www.116117.de](http://www.116117.de) or by calling ☎ 0800/116 117 02, daily from 8:00 am to 10:00 pm.
- The Medical Association of Westfalen-Lippe (KVWL) that is in charge of appointments issued a step-by-step guidance and list including answers to frequently asked questions (see [www.corona-kvwl.de/impftermin](http://www.corona-kvwl.de/impftermin).)
- In order to ensure full protection by vaccination an appointment for a second vaccination will be agreed in addition to the first vaccination.
- Appointments may also be booked by relatives or trusted persons.

### WHAT IS THE VACCINATION PROCEDURE?

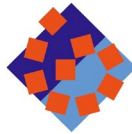
- Bring along your identity card, your confirmation of appointment, your certificate of vaccination, your electronic health card (if any) and corroborating certificates for the vaccination.
- You have to wear a medical face mask.
- Prior to the vaccination you may obtain information about the coronavirus vaccination. If requested, you may talk to a physician.
- [Here](#) you will get multi-language information about the vaccination and the vaccines.
- You are vaccinated by qualified medical staff.
- The vaccine is injected into your upper arm.

- After the vaccination vaccinated persons will be medically monitored for approx. 15 - 30 minutes in order to directly respond to possible allergic reactions or indisposition.
- You will be vaccinated for the second time at the same place and in the same way.
- The second appointment is scheduled for the latest possible date so more people can be vaccinated for the first time.

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**Issued by**

Ennepe-Ruhr-Kreis  
County District Commissioner  
Hauptstraße 92, 58332 Schwelm  
[www.en-kreis.de](http://www.en-kreis.de)



**Ennepe-Ruhr-Kreis**

If you don't want to receive this newsletter any longer, please send an e-mail to [ki-corona@en-kreis.de](mailto:ki-corona@en-kreis.de) or call 02336/4448-172

**Contact:**

Communal Integration Centre of the Ennepe-Ruhr-Kreis

Mail: [ki-coronainfo@en-kreis.de](mailto:ki-coronainfo@en-kreis.de)

Web: <http://www.enkreis.de/bildungintegration/kommunales-integrationszentrum.html>

Communal Integration Centre sponsored by

Ministerium für Kinder, Familie,  
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