



DO-IT-YOURSELF HOUSES

By buying several hundred badly maintained houses and apartments to sell on top owner-occupiers, Rotterdam hoped to revive run down neighbourhoods. It soon became clear that selling newly renovated houses would be a challenge, so the city launched 'do-it-yourself houses' in 2004.

HOW IT WORKS

city buys badly maintained houses in disadvantaged areas
 ↓
 sold at bargain prices to owner-occupiers
 ↓
 with support of the city team, new owners renovate and live in the properties

CONDITIONS FOR BUYERS

must prove they have the financial means to renovate
 ↓
 renovation plan must be presented before handover of keys
 ↓
 owner must live in property for at least the first three years



“ *This project gave us the chance to build our dream house*

Rolf Bruggink & Yffi van de Berg, designer and architect

They want a nice house, but also a nice neighbourhood and they make it happen!

Hamit Karakus, vice mayor of Rotterdam

IMPACT ON NEIGHBOURHOODS

new residents participate and organise local activities
 ↓
 attracted residents from outside Rotterdam
 ↓
 long term process of 'upgrading' neighbourhoods



NUMBERS AND FIGURES

450
 old apartments turned into
210
 new properties

€16.1
 million total cost