FIREWORKS
BE SAFE
NOT SORRY
ALWAYS FOLLOW THE CODE

www.direct.gov.uk/fireworks
Watching fireworks can be great fun for children. But figures have shown that, more often than not, it’s children rather than adults who get hurt by fireworks.

**Don’t put your family at risk.**

**Follow our easy checklist for a safe home firework display.**

**Before the display**
- Only buy fireworks from a legitimate retailer
- Inform neighbours and be aware of their concerns
- Check the fireworks you buy are suitable for the size of garden and conform to BS 7114
- Read the instructions in daylight or with a torch – never with a naked flame
- Only one person should be responsible for letting off the fireworks

**Things you will need on the night**
- Torch for checking instructions
- Bucket of water
- Eye protection and gloves
- Bucket of soft earth to stick fireworks in
- Suitable supports for Catherine Wheels, proper launchers for rockets

**During the display**
- **It is illegal** to set off fireworks after 11pm (except on 5th November when they can be used up to midnight; and New Year’s Eve, Chinese New Year and Diwali when they can be used up to 1am the following day.)
- Don’t drink alcohol if setting off fireworks
- Light fireworks at arm's length with a taper
• Stand well back and keep others back
• Never go back to a firework after it has been lit. Even if it hasn’t gone off it could still explode
• Never put fireworks in your pocket or throw them
• Always supervise children
• Store fireworks in a metal box, kept closed between use
• Keep pets indoors

After the display
• Wear strong gloves and use tongs to dispose of spent fireworks
• Never throw spent fireworks on a bonfire

Sparklers
• Do not give to children under 5
• Light one at a time
• Hold sparklers at arm’s length and wear gloves
• Put used sparklers hot end down into a bucket of sand or water

Bonfires
• Should be at least 18 metres (60ft) away from houses, trees, hedges, fences or sheds
• Use domestic firelighters
• Never use petrol, paraffin or other flammable liquids