



KEEP ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE LAW

THE FIREWORKS (SAFETY) REGULATIONS 1997

Age of Purchase

- Fireworks (*except those listed below) must not be supplied to persons under 18
- Caps, cracker snaps, novelty matches, party poppers, serpents and throwdowns must not be supplied to persons under 16

The following fireworks must not be supplied to the general public:

- Aerial shells, aerial maroons, shells-in-mortar and maroons-in-mortar
- All bangers (including 'batteries' containing bangers, such as Chinese Crackers)
- Mini rockets
- Fireworks with erratic flight (e.g. ground spinners, jumping crackers, squibs)
- Some Category 2 and 3 fireworks (as defined by BS 7114) which exceed size limits specified in the 1997 Regulations
- All Category 4 fireworks.



Fireworks are explosives
GET WISE OR GET HURT

Other measures

- Packets of sparklers must carry the warning - "Warning: not to be given to children under 5 years of age"
- Retail boxes of fireworks must not be split
- All fireworks intended for use by the general public must comply with British Standard BS 7114: Part 2: 1988
- All fireworks not suitable (as determined by the Regulations) for use by the general public must bear the warning – "This device must not be sold to, or used by, a member of the general public."

Penalties

- Failure to comply with these requirements can result in prosecution and a fine of up to £5000 or a prison sentence of up to six months, or both.

THE EXPLOSIVES ACT 1875

(as amended)

Storage of fireworks

- It is an offence to keep fireworks (except those for private use) on premises which have not been registered or licensed for that purpose

Throwing fireworks

- It is an offence to throw or discharge a firework in a street or public place

Penalties

- Failure to comply with these requirements can result in prosecution and a fine of up to £5000

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