

FIREWORKS AND ALCOHOL. AN EXPLOSIVE COMBINATION.



IF YOU'RE LIGHTING
FIREWORKS,
JUST ONE DRINK CAN BE
ONE DRINK TOO MANY.
FOLLOW THE FIREWORK
CODE OVERLEAF.

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Department of Trade and Industry

In partnership with your
local community

Follow our easy checklist for a safe home firework display.

Alcohol and fireworks are a lethal cocktail. Just one drink can slow your reactions, cause a loss of co-ordination and reduce your ability to supervise children. So don't put yourself, family and friends at risk - if you're handling fireworks, don't drink.

Before the display

- Check the fireworks you buy are suitable for the size of garden and conform to British Standards (BS 7114:1988)
- Read the instructions in daylight
- One person - clearly identified - should be responsible for fireworks

Things you will need on the night

- Metal box, with a lid for safe storage
- Torch for checking instructions
- Bucket of water
- Eye protection and gloves
- Bucket of soft earth to stick fireworks in
- A board for flat-bottomed fireworks
- Suitable supports for catherine wheels, proper launchers for rockets

During the display

- Light fireworks at arm's length with a taper
- Stand well back and keep others back
- Never go back to a lit firework
- Keep storage box closed between use

After the display

- Use tongs or gloves to collect spent fireworks

Sparklers

- Unsuitable for children under five
- Light one at a time
- Wear gloves when holding sparklers
- 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

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