Fireworks
Before they explode read the Code!

- Buy fireworks marked BS 7114
- Keep fireworks in a closed box
- Follow the instructions on each firework
- Light them at arm’s length using a taper
- Stand well back
- Never go back to a lit firework
- Never put fireworks in your pocket
- Never throw fireworks
- Light sparklers one at a time and wear gloves
- Never give sparklers to a child under five
- Keep pets indoors

Department of Trade and Industry
SPARKLER INJURIES INCREASED BY OVER 20% IN 1996. 500 FIREWORK ACCIDENTS INVOLVED BANGERS AND ROCKETS

Follow our easy checklist for a safe home firework display

Before the display
- Check the fireworks you buy are suitable for the size of garden and conform to British Standards (BS 7114:1988)
- Ensure your display area is free from hazards
- Do not tamper with fireworks
- Read the instructions in daylight
- Warn neighbours, especially the elderly and those with animals, about your display
- One person - clearly identified - should be responsible for fireworks

After the display
- Use tongs or gloves to collect spent fireworks
- Next morning, check again and remove firework debris

Sparklers
- Unsuitable for children under five
- Light one at a time
- Hold at arm’s length
- Wear gloves when holding sparklers
- Put used sparklers hot end down into a bucket of sand or water

Bonfires
- Organise properly
- Should be at least 18 metres (60ft) away from houses, trees, hedges, fences or sheds
- Before lighting, check for animals and children
- Use domestic firelighters
- Never use petrol, paraffin or other flammable liquids
- Never put used fireworks, aerosols, foam-filled furniture, batteries, tins of paint or tyres on a bonfire

Things you will need on the night
- Metal box, with a lid for safe storage
- Torch for checking instructions
- Bucket of water
- Protective hat, eye protection and gloves
- First aid kit
- 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
- Never go back to a lit firework
- Keep storage box closed between use
- Keep children under control

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