Fireworks code



Only adults set up firework displays, light fireworks, and dispose of them safely once they have been used. They should remember that alcohol and fireworks don't mix. Young people should watch and enjoy fireworks at a safe distance, and they should be supervised. These top 10 tips will help you make sure you have a safer firework party:

- 1. Plan your firework display to make it safe and enjoyable, and make sure it finishes before 11pm.
- 2. Only buy fireworks which carry the CE mark, keep them in a closed box, and use one at a time.
- 3. Read and follow the instructions on each firework (use a torch if you need to).
- 4. Light the firework at arm's length with a taper and stand well back.
- 5. Keep naked flames, including cigarettes, away from fireworks.
- 6. Never return to a firework once it has been lit.
- 7. Don't put fireworks in pockets and never throw them.
- 8. Direct any rocket fireworks well away from spectators.
- 9. Never use paraffin or petrol on a bonfire.
- 10. Make sure that the fire is out and surroundings are made safe before leaving.

Did you know?

- It's against the law to carry fireworks in public if you're under 18.
- Fireworks must not be sold to anyone under 18.
- It's an offence to let fireworks off at night (between 11pm and 7am), except on Bonfire Night (when it's midnight to 7am) and Diwali, New Year's Eve, and Chinese New Year (when it's 1am to 7am).
- It is an offence to tamper with or modify fireworks.

Sparkler safety

Sparklers burn at a high temperature - the same as a welding torch. Follow these top tips for sparkler safety:

- It's recommended that you don't give sparklers to children aged under five.
- Make sure everyone handling sparklers is wearing gloves.
- Hold sparklers at arm's length while they're being lit, and light them one at a time.
- Don't wave sparklers close to other people.
- Never hold a baby in your arms while you're holding a sparkler.
- When the sparkler has finished put it in a bucket of cold water.

Bonfire safety

- One person should be responsible for the bonfire and young people should be supervised.
- Choose a site away from wooden fences, sheds and where people will be playing.
- Never pour petrol, paraffin or meths on to a fire it's safer to use fire lighters to prevent flareups.
- Keep a bucket of water handy in case of an accident.
- Avoid loose clothing and tie back long hair.
- After the party, pour water on the fire, rather than leaving it to burn out.

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