

## Fireworks Advice

Please remember if you are planning to have fireworks:

- Tell your neighbours – especially if they are elderly, have children or pets.
- Use appropriate fireworks – try to avoid buying the really noisy fireworks. Your supplier should be able to tell you what they are selling.
- Make sure pets and other animals are safely away from fireworks.
- Consider timing – if you are using fireworks for a celebration, a Friday or Saturday evening may affect less people and make sure they are over by 11pm.
- Avoid letting off fireworks in unsuitable weather – if it is still and misty or air quality is poor, pollution could be a problem. Strong winds can be hazardous.
- Let off your fireworks in an open garden area – noise bounces off buildings and smoke and pollution can build up in enclosed spaces.
- If a neighbour complains that you are disturbing them or their pets – be considerate.
- After your display, clear up firework fallout and dispose of them safely.

If you are using fireworks at home make sure that your garden is big enough. You are advised to if your garden is not big enough you will be playing with fire when lighting Category 3 fireworks.

- Members of the public who are buying fireworks could be putting themselves and others at risk if they don't take notice of safety distances.
- The vast majority of the fireworks sold are Category 3 – all of which state that a spectator must be at least 25 metres away when the firework is lit. This is a safety concern as few people have access to that amount of private space.
- Category 3 fireworks are becoming bigger and more powerful and many people do not realise that there is a safety distance of 25 metres – it is a lot further than most people realise. The safety distance is set to protect members of the public.
- Category 3 fireworks also need to be properly secured. Not all fireworks have to be part-buried but those that do need to be placed far enough into the ground for a successful launch and to reduce the risk of them firing across the ground and causing injuries. Some can be placed on flat surfaces, fixed to posts etc in accordance with the instructions on them.
- Category 2 fireworks have a safety distance of just five metres so it's a big jump between Category 2 and 3 fireworks.