

Remember, remember; Fireworks and the Law

You can't buy 'adult' fireworks if you're under 18, and it's against the law for anyone to set off fireworks between 11pm and 7am, except on certain occasions. Adult fireworks are category 2 and 3 fireworks - they don't include things like party poppers. Category 4 fireworks can only be used by professionals. The law says you must not set off or throw fireworks (including sparklers) in the street or other public places.

You must not set off fireworks between 11pm and 7am, except for on Bonfire Night, when the cut off is midnight, and on New Year's Eve, Diwali and Chinese New Year, when the cut off is 1am

You can only buy fireworks (including sparklers) from registered sellers for private use on these dates:

- 15th October to 10th November
- 26th to 31st December
- 3 days before Diwali and Chinese New Year

At other times fireworks can only be purchased from licensed shops. Fines of up to £5,000 and/or imprisonment for 3 months can apply for buying or using fireworks illegally. "On-the-spot" fines of £90 may also be imposed. Additional resources and more safety information at http://www.saferfireworks.com/rospa_resources/index.htm

Additional information about firework safety is available from The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents and the Health and Safety Executive.