

After the fireworks display

- Clean up after the display. Check for unfired fireworks, put out any fires with water, and make sure surroundings are made safe.
- Soak the used fireworks in a bucket of water overnight before safely disposing of them.
- Inspect the area where you've held the display the next day during daylight, to make sure nothing has been missed.

Accidents and emergencies

- In an emergency call Triple Zero (000) for Fire, Police or Ambulance
- Seek medical advice for anything but very minor injuries. A useful resource is healthdirect.gov.au
- Treat burns immediately by gently pouring on cold water for at least 20 minutes. Do not use ice, oil, butter or ointment.
- Seek urgent medical help for cuts, punctures or penetrating injuries of the eyes/eyelids. Do not try to remove any stuck object.

1300 366 322
www.worksafe.tas.gov.au

For more information contact

Phone: 1300 366 322 (within Tasmania)
(03) 6166 4600 (outside Tasmania)

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Using fireworks safely on Cracker Night



WorkSafe Tasmania
Department of Justice



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On Cracker Night, you may be able to hold a small-scale fireworks display if you have a permit from WorkSafe Tasmania.

Fireworks are explosives and must be handled with care and respect to prevent injuries and property damage. This guide explains what you must do as a permit holder to ensure a safe Cracker Night.

For details of permits issued by WorkSafe Tasmania, go to www.worksafe.tas.gov.au and search for 'fireworks issued permits'.

General responsibilities for the permit holder

- You must comply with permit conditions, including the display time, notification requirements and separation distances.
- Do not stockpile fireworks for later use. Only buy what you'll use on the night.
- Store fireworks securely in a cool, dark place away from children.
- It is an offence to use fireworks if you are smoking or under the influence of an intoxicating drug or medication (including alcohol).
- You are responsible for crowd control and ensuring that spectators do not gain access to fireworks or firing areas.
- Do not hold the fireworks display in unsafe weather. This includes when winds are greater than 39 km/hour or during a lightning storm.

Site preparation

- Make sure you comply with local council regulations (for bonfires and fireworks). Call your local council well in advance to find out what these are.
- Register your bonfire with Tasmania Fire Service on 1800 000 699.
- Make sure you have an emergency access route that can't be blocked.
- Clear the firing and aerial fireworks landing areas of flammable or combustible materials.
- Make sure you have adequate fire fighting equipment that matches the fire-risk of your display. As a minimum, you must have a shovel and/or rake plus a water supply or at least 2x8 litre buckets of water.
- Keep spectators at least 10m from firing areas and 100m from any landing area.
- Make sure aerial fireworks do not cross or burst over any designated spectator or parking area. Keep them at least 10 metres from overhead hazards (like trees and power lines).

Using fireworks safely

- Always read and follow label directions carefully.
- Always secure fireworks before using them.
- Light fireworks one at a time.
- Never lean over fireworks when lighting them, and move away once lit.
- Never hold, point or throw lit fireworks at people, or hold them in your hand.
- Wear protective equipment: safety glasses, closed toe shoes, and cotton or wool clothing.

- Never try to re-light a 'dud' or defective firework. Wait 20 minutes, then soak them in a bucket of water overnight before safely disposing of them.
- Never modify fireworks.
- Never use homemade devices.
- Never carry fireworks in your pockets.
- Never use an accelerant like petrol on a bonfire.

Children and pet safety

- Never allow children to play with fireworks. Keep children well back from any bonfire.
- Keep pets indoors during the fireworks display.
- Closely supervise children using sparklers. Children under 5 should not use sparklers.

