

Fireworks Safety Tips



Safety Starts with Common Sense

Fireworks are an American tradition, but they must be treated with respect and not as toys. Safety starts with one simple philosophy: **Use Common Sense – Know the Rules, Read the Labels.**

Before you light the first fuse, know what type of firework you are lighting and the effect to expect, whether it is a fountain or an aerial display, firecracker or a novelty. Know your discharge zone and the distance your spectators should maintain. Know your surroundings, paying close attention to neighboring property and dry brush. Know your local environment, including any fireworks that may be restricted due to drought conditions. These are the essentials of a safe shooting plan.

Never Do This:

- NEVER** point or throw fireworks at people or animals.
- NEVER** point or throw fireworks at structures.
- NEVER** hold fireworks in your hand while lighting.
- NEVER** try to relight a "dud" or failed firework.
- NEVER** light reloadable shells outside of a launcher.
- NEVER** let children play with or light fireworks.
- NEVER** leave children unattended.
- NEVER** carry fireworks in your pocket.
- NEVER** light fireworks in heavily wooded areas.
- NEVER** alter firework devices or make your own.

Always Do This:

- ALWAYS** use common sense and be responsible.
- ALWAYS** read and follow warnings and instructions.
- ALWAYS** wear eye protection & keep water close.
- ALWAYS** designate a sober adult to light fireworks.
- ALWAYS** keep fireworks away from children.
- ALWAYS** brace your items with bricks or blocks.
- ALWAYS** enjoy fireworks in a clear, open area.
- ALWAYS** light one at a time on hard level ground.
- ALWAYS** move away quickly after lighting.
- ALWAYS** thoroughly soak shot item with water.

Follow these 10 safety tips to help make your celebration safe and legal.



01. Use Common Sense – Know the Rules, Read the Labels

Safety begins with following the law and using common sense. Always obey local ordinances regarding the purchase and use of fireworks. Before use, carefully read all product cautions, warnings, and instructions to ensure you understand how each item performs before lighting it.



02. Designate a Sober Adult

Keep friends, family, and yourself safe by designating a sober adult to handle and light fireworks. Never allow anyone to handle and/or light fireworks that has consumed alcohol or used drugs.



03. Have Water Ready

Always have a hose, bucket of water, and/or fire extinguisher close and ready. Pre-water grass near shooting area to help prevent fires.



04. Adult Supervision

Children should never handle, play with, or light any fireworks and should be supervised at all times.



05. Eye Protection

Never put your face or any part of your body over a firework. Never look into a tube. Always wear safety glasses or goggles.



Proper Disposal Tips

WARNING: Used fireworks can re-ignite. Always thoroughly soak used fireworks with water and let lay to cool. When you feel they are safe, dispose of used fireworks in a metal trash can that stays outside. Never put a trash can back in a garage or building that has used fireworks inside.



06. Hard Level Ground

Never use fireworks indoors, in a garage, or under a cover or patio. Only light fireworks on a smooth, hard, flat, and level surface clear of overhead obstructions like trees and power lines. Gravel, grass, sand, and any other uneven surfaces are not safe places to shoot fireworks.



07. Brace Your Items

Use cinder blocks or bricks placed around items to avoid accidental tip-overs. Stabilize stick items like roman candles by firmly inserting them into a bucket of sand. Launch rockets from a strong, stable pipe or tube that is securely anchored.



08. Watch the Wind

Be cautious in windy conditions. Ensure wind is blowing away from spectators and structures as well as your firework storage area.



09. Keep Your Distance

Spectators should be at least 35ft away for fountains and 150ft for aerials. Safety glasses or goggles are recommended.



10. One at a Time

Light only one firework at a time. Light fuse and get away quickly. When done, thoroughly soak every item shot with water to ensure it cannot re-ignite.

Customer Notice and Safety Disclaimer

The safety tips and guidelines in this flyer are for **general informational purposes only**. They are suggestions to help you enjoy fireworks more safely and are not a substitute for your own good judgment or for carefully reading and following all product labels and instructions. Always follow all applicable federal, state, and local laws. Fireworks are inherently dangerous if mishandled. **You are solely responsible** for using them safely and legally. Conditions can vary by location, weather, and environment — use extra caution and common sense at all times.

Big-TEX Fireworks assumes no liability for any accidents, injuries, property damage, or other losses resulting from the purchase, handling, or use of fireworks, or from failure to follow safety guidelines, product instructions, or applicable laws.

Fireworks Usage Tips

Safety Starts with Common Sense

Fireworks are a fun American tradition — but only when treated with respect. They are not toys.

Before lighting any fuse, know exactly what type of firework you're using and what effect to expect.

Below are fireworks usage tips for different types of fireworks. Always read and follow the label on each device.

General Safety Rules For All Fireworks

- Always read and follow the label warnings and instructions on each device.
- Always keep a bucket of water and/or a water hose close while shooting fireworks.
- Always wear eye protection.
- Never use fireworks while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Never point, shoot, or throw fireworks at any person, animal, building, structure, or towards anything flammable.
- Never use fireworks indoors or under a cover, patio, awning, overhang, or trees.
- Always ensure the area overhead is free from obstructions like tree branches, roof overhangs, and power lines.
- Always light and shoot from on a hard, flat, level surface — never on gravel, grass, sand, or anything unlevel.
- Light one fuse at a time and get away quickly — never attempt to relight a fuse that fails to ignite.
- Never stand over or put any part of your body above a firework while lighting, during shooting, or after firing.
- Never put fireworks in your pocket or hold a firework in hand when lighting.
- After firing, soak all used devices with water before disposal in a metal trash can kept outside.

MULTI-SHOT CAKES (Aerial Repeaters)

- Place on a hard, flat, level surface — never on gravel, grass, sand, or anything unlevel.
- Secure the 'cake' firmly with bricks or cement blocks to prevent tipping.
- Ensure the area above is clear of obstructions like tree branches, roof overhangs, and power lines.
- Light the fuse and move away immediately — never have any part of your body over the device when lighting.
- Cakes can re-ignite once shot — soak with water after use.

RELOADABLE ARTILLERY SHELLS (Mortars)

- Only use the launcher provided with the set — never use one damaged, from another set, or try to make one.
- Place the launcher upright on a hard, flat, level surface — never on gravel, grass, sand, or anything unlevel.
- Secure the launch tube firmly with bricks or cement blocks to prevent tipping.
- Ensure the area above is clear of obstructions like tree branches, roof overhangs, and power lines.
- Unwrap the fuse and load a single shell with the arrow pointing up and fuse extended out of the tube.
- Light the fuse and move away immediately — never have any part of your body over the device when lighting.
- Never reload a hot tube — wait at least 60 seconds between loading shells.
- If a shell fails to launch, wait at least 5 minutes, then soak with water.
- Never ignite a shell outside of a launch tube or attempt to take a shell apart.

FOUNTAINS

- Place on a hard, flat, level surface — never on gravel, grass, sand, or anything unlevel.
- Secure the fountain with bricks or cement blocks to prevent tipping.
- Some fountains can shower sparks 30+ feet. Clear a safe distance around the device.
- Light the fuse and move away immediately — never have any part of your body over the device when lighting.
- Fountains can re-ignite once finished — soak with water after use.

ROMAN CANDLES

- Never hold a roman candle in your hand when lighting or shooting.
- Insert the stick firmly into a bucket filled with sand, tilting slightly away from people and structures.
- Make sure the base is stable so the candle cannot tip or fall over.
- Ensure the area above is clear of obstructions like tree branches, roof overhangs, and power lines.
- Light the fuse and move away immediately — never have any part of your body over the device when lighting.
- Roman candles can re-ignite once finished — soak with water after use.

SPARKLERS (Wire, Bamboo, and Morning Glories)

- Adult supervision is required at all times.
- Hold at arm's length, away from your face, hair, clothing, and body.
- Light only one at a time.
- When finished, place in a bucket of water or let it cool completely before disposal.

MISCELLANEOUS NOVELTY ITEMS (Ground Spinners, Helicopters, Smoke Items, Tanks, etc.)

- Place on a hard, flat, level surface away from flammable materials and people.
- Some items spin, lift, or fly — clear extra space around shooting area and check for obstructions above.
- Light the fuse and move away immediately — do not stand over or near it while firing.
- Always read and follow the label warnings and instructions on each device.
- Novelty items can re-ignite once finished — soak with water after use.

FIRECRACKERS (Singles or Strings)

- Place on a hard, flat, non-flammable surface.
- Never hold in your hand, put in a pocket, or throw.
- Light and move away immediately. Do not pick up a lit firecracker.

ROCKETS (Stick Rockets or Skyrockets)

- Never launch from your hand, a bottle, or any unstable surface.
- Ensure the area above is clear of obstructions like tree branches, roof overhangs, and power lines.
- Insert the stick into a secure launch pipe or tube, angled slightly away from people and structures.
- Light the fuse and move away immediately — never have any part of your body over the device when lighting.
- Watch where the rocket lands and make sure it is fully extinguished.