



RSPCA

# Making **FIREWORKS** less frightening for animals

How YOU can reduce  
the chances of fireworks  
frightening and injuring  
pets, livestock and wildlife



1

### GO TO AN ADVERTISED, ORGANISED FIREWORK EVENT

Owners can prepare their animals ahead of the event and attending these organised events also reduces the overall number of fireworks that disturb animals.

## IF YOU WANT TO HAVE YOUR OWN FIREWORK CELEBRATION...

2

### PLEASE ONLY LET FIREWORKS OFF ON TRADITIONAL CELEBRATION DATES

Diwali, Bonfire Night, New Year's Eve and Chinese New Year are occasions when most people expect fireworks and plan ahead to protect their animals.

### PLEASE USE LOW NOISE FIREWORKS

These may reduce the likely fear and resulting stress caused to animals.

### LET YOUR NEIGHBOURS KNOW WELL IN ADVANCE

That way, they can prepare any animals they look after – including horses and livestock which may be kept nearby in fields or buildings.

3

### NEVER SET OFF FIREWORKS NEAR LIVESTOCK

Frightened animals, especially horses, can injure themselves – it's not unusual for horses to run through fences when frightened by fireworks. Horses can't be moved easily so it is very difficult for owners to protect horses from firework noise.

4

### FIREWORKS DISTURB WILDLIFE

Don't let fireworks off near areas known to be wildlife habitats – such as lakes with waterfowl, trees and buildings with roosting birds or bats.

5

### BUILD ANY BONFIRE AS CLOSE AS POSSIBLE TO THE TIME OF LIGHTING

Bonfires can kill wild animals like hedgehogs so make sure hedgehogs and other wildlife are not sleeping in the pile when it is lit.

6

### PICK UP FIREWORK DEBRIS AND LITTER AFTER IT HAS COOLED DOWN

Dispose of it safely as it can harm animals and avoid aiming fireworks over fields or other countryside where it will not be possible to retrieve fallen litter.

For more information visit:  
[rspca.org.uk/fireworks](https://rspca.org.uk/fireworks)