




Fireworks and the law



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Fireworks and the law

Bonfire Night is a time to celebrate, but misusing fireworks can land you in serious trouble. The police work closely with universities, students' unions and accommodation providers to keep campuses safe, but here's a reminder on how you can play your part to keep everyone safe.

Know the law

- You must be 18+ to buy most fireworks
- Fireworks can only be set off between 7am-11pm, except for:
 - **Bonfire Night: 7am-midnight**
 - **New Year's Eve, Diwali and Chinese New Year: 7am to 1am the following day**
- It's illegal to use fireworks in public spaces like streets, parks or university grounds
- Throwing fireworks at people or buildings is a criminal offence

Consequences of misuse

You can be fined an unlimited amount and sent to prison for up to 6 months for using fireworks illegally. You could also get an on-the-spot fine of £90.

A criminal record can have a very detrimental impact on you and your studies. Your university might take

disciplinary action, restrict your participation in certain activities or even withdraw you from the course.

A criminal record can also limit career options – especially in fields like teaching, healthcare or law – and impact visa applications and international travel.

Reporting misuse of fireworks

If you see fireworks being used in a dangerous or irresponsible way, you can:

- Call 101 (non-emergencies) or 999 (emergencies)
- Contact police online at **[westmidlands.police.uk](https://www.westmidlands.police.uk)**

You can also report planned irresponsible behaviour to Crimestoppers, before it happens: **0800 555 111.**

Scan the QR code for more information:

