



Celebrate with Fireworks Safely



Sky Candy Fireworks would like to help you celebrate safely this year. The National Council on Fireworks Safety offers the following general safety tips! Sky Candy Fireworks also recommends reading our safety suggestions regarding Storage Tips, Shooting Area Safety Procedures, Shooting Procedures, and After the Shoot.

General Safety Tips:

- ❖ Use fireworks outdoors only.
- ❖ Fireworks should be kept wrapped in their original packaging until use.
- ❖ Keep spectators at a safe range. At least 20 feet for limited range products like fountains and at least 70 feet for aerial devices, 100 feet for mortars.
- ❖ Keep a bucket of water handy or a fire extinguisher, hose or garbage can filled with water.
- ❖ Good idea to have a garden hose nearby for stray sparks.
- ❖ Always have an adult present.
- ❖ Refrain from drinking alcohol when operating fireworks.
- ❖ Read labels for instructions.
- ❖ Designated shooter should wear safety glasses, hearing protection, long sleeve shirt and pants.
- ❖ Designated shooter should wear glasses or safety glasses.
- ❖ NEVER HAVE ANY BODY PART OVER A FIREWORK WHEN LIGHTING.
- ❖ Never put firework in pockets of clothing.
- ❖ Light one firework at a time, keeping all other product away from area.
- ❖ Never shoot fireworks in metal or glass containers.
- ❖ Never throw or point fireworks at other people.
- ❖ Use safety lighters or Bar-B-Que lighters with long shafts that keep hands at least 6 inches away from fuse rather than matches.
- ❖ Never relight a “dud”. Let a “dud” cool at least 10 to 15 minutes before handling.
- ❖ Dispose of fireworks properly by dousing them with water before putting them in the trash.



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Storage Tips:

- ❖ Keep in a cool place, out of reach of children.
- ❖ No smoking or flammable materials in the storage area.
- ❖ Fireworks should be kept wrapped in their original packaging until use.

Shooting Area Safety Procedures:

- ❖ Select an area without any overhead obstructions as some devices shoot on angles.
- ❖ Select an area away from buildings and any flammable materials.
- ❖ Select an area with several escape routes.
- ❖ Items must be placed on a hard surface, not grass or sand.
- ❖ Light one firework at a time, keeping all other product away from area.
- ❖ A second person should have a flashlight to assist the shooter in lighting the fuse.
- ❖ Mortar tubes should be buried 6 inches in the ground to insure that they are not tipped over when loaded. Angle the tube only slightly away from spectators.
- ❖ Designate an area where spent product can be placed during the shoot away from people and flammable objects.
- ❖ Keep spectators at a safe range. At least 20 feet for limited range products like fountains and at least 70 feet for aerial devices, 100 feet for mortars.

Shooting Procedures:

- ❖ It is recommended that all cakes be surrounded with 8x16 concrete blocks leaving only the fuse area exposed for lighting. This ensures that the cake doesn't move and that if there were a failure, no material would be able to shoot laterally.
- ❖ As previously stated, all mortar tubes should be buried 6 inches deep and angled slightly away from the spectator area. This ensures that the tube doesn't fall over with a lit shell inside before launch.
- ❖ Products should NEVER be held, especially Roman Candles. I suggest that Roman Candles or rockets be placed in a PVC pipe partially buried and angled away from spectators. The PVC pipe should be long enough to offer stability but not so long that the entire product can fall inside.



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- ❖ CHILDREN SHOULD NEVER BE ALLOWED TO LIGHT FIREWORKS AND SHOULD BE KEPT AWAY FROM THE SHOOTING AREA AT ALL TIMES.
- ❖ When lighting, allow sufficient time for the device to fire before approaching. If a device fails to light, wait 10 to 15 minutes then hose item with plenty of water then drown in can or bucket of water.
- ❖ Never try to relight or disassemble a failed device.
- ❖ Mortar tubes heat up with repeated use and make it more difficult for the shell to reach the bottom of the tube. Allow tubes to cool before reloading and make sure that there are no smoldering embers in the tube when reloading. Using multiple tubes allows for faster reload times. DO NOT light a shell unless you are sure that the shell has fallen all of the way to the bottom of the tube.
- ❖ Multi-shot Repeaters -The shooter or their assistant should know the number of shots a product has before lighting it and count the shots during the burn. The firework item should only be approached after it has been confirmed that all shots have fired. Spray the box with a hose to extinguish and place in the area assigned for spent product.

If the number of shots fired does NOT match what was supposed to have fired, wait 10 to 15 minutes before approaching it and then immerse the product in water and leave it there overnight.

- ❖ Downrange – The shooter and assistant should keep watch that burning embers from fired products are extinguished around the shooting area and beyond.

After the Shoot:

- ❖ Insure that all spent product has been soaked with water and place in an open area away from any flammable items.
- ❖ Flood all tubes and pipes.
- ❖ Spray the entire shooting area with water to extinguish any embers.
- ❖ Dispose of fireworks properly by dousing them with water before putting them in the trash.