

Fireworks – Displays

07.01.01

Displays >

The following conditions must be observed at any fireworks display, in conjunction with the provisions of the [Dangerous Goods Act](#) and [Regulations](#) 141 and 142 which set out the conditions required for obtaining a permit to conduct a fireworks display from NT WorkSafe.

Fireworks operator and assistants

The fireworks operator must be at least eighteen years of age and all persons appointed to assist must be physically capable of carrying out the tasks required to be performed at the time of display.

There must be at least two people, one of whom is the fireworks operator, constantly on duty during the discharging of the fireworks. For their own protection, it is recommended that these people wear non-flammable clothing, protective hats, ear plugs or muffs and safety glasses. Each assistant should know their specific duties and be familiar with the relevant manufacturer's instructions well in advance.

People assigned to crowd control must have no other duties.

Preparing the display

Public safety

The safety of the public is the prime consideration at all times. There may be times when the fireworks operator considers it unsafe to commence or continue the display because of the location, the prevailing wind condition or because control over the spectators has been lost. In such circumstances, regardless of the disappointment, the supervisor must stop the display until the situation has been corrected. In the event of an accident involving negligence, the fireworks permit holder and the fireworks operator could be held responsible. Public liability insurance is recommended.

Note: Crowd control may be eased by advertising in advance the best vantage points from which to view the display.

Warnings

A person conducting a public fireworks display shall, by notices or announcements over a public address system, give adequate warning of the danger of approaching within the vicinity of the firing point.

Protection of the site

Once the fireworks have been taken to the site, they must not be left unattended or unprotected. Barriers must be set up at a safe distance from the place where the fireworks are to be ignited and only people involved in the display are allowed inside those barriers.

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Site suitability and distances

The fireworks included in any display must be tailored to the available space. In a small park, for example, aerial shell must not be included unless it can be guaranteed that the area under the trajectory of the shell, and where debris may fall will be free of people and vulnerable points.

Minimum distances to spectators

High level displays

High level fireworks displays are those where rockets and shells are expected to reach a height in excess of 60 metres.

a) **Rockets**

Skyrockets must not be permitted to cross over or burst above any area occupied by people, building or combustible material (eg dry grass). Rockets may not be used within 5kms of an aerodrome, and a permit is required from the [Civil Aviation Safety Authority Australia](#) (telephone 131 757) if rockets are to reach a height of 300 feet (91 metres).

b) **Shells**

Spectators must be at least the distance specified below from the point of launch.

Low level displays

Low level displays (eg candle mines, mines, successions and shells of less than 50mm size). The distance between the launch point and the spectators must be at least 25 metres, more if recommended by the manufacturer or supplier.

Ground level displays

Ground level displays (eg fountains, candles, combination batteries, wheels and other set pieces) must be a distance of at least 25 metres from spectators, more if appropriate.

Distance from vulnerable points

Fireworks may not be ignited:

- Inside of, or closer than 30 metres to any building or motor vehicle;
- Within 250 metres of any place where explosives, gasoline or other highly flammable substances are manufactured or stored above ground in tanks; or
- Within 250 metres of a hospital, nursing home, home for the aged, school or church unless the consent of the owner, or their agent, is obtained.

NT WorkSafe >

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