



# FIREWORKS

## Top Ten Tips for Dogs

Prepare a 'den' for your dog, so that there is somewhere to hide during the fireworks. Encourage your dog to use it by hiding healthy food treats or toys there. If your dog hides in a corner or under a bed, leave them alone and do not try to coax them out. This 'bolthole' is where your dog will feel most secure and must be accessible at all times. You can further help create this comforting 'den' for your dog by using a plug in [D.A.P.® Diffuser](#).

1. On the evenings you expect fireworks, ensure your dog is safely inside and secure doors and windows.
2. Make sure your pet is micro chipped. If they do escape, frightened, confused animals can easily get lost.
3. Ensure your dog is taken out for a walk early in the evening before the fireworks start.
4. Draw curtains to reduce the noise from outside and play music or have the TV on to help mask the noise of fireworks.
5. Ignore any fearful behaviour and do not try to comfort your pet. The animal will pick up on your anxiety and this may make the problem worse. Fussing a pet that appears frightened can reward and encourage this behaviour.
6. Don't punish your pet. This only confirms that there is something to be afraid of.
7. Try not to go out while the fireworks are going off. Seeing you acting normally will help your pet feel more settled.
8. Speak to your vet. [D.A.P.® Spray](#) can be applied to your pet's bedding on the night of the event to give him additional support.
9. After the firework season is over you should contact your vet to ask about treatment for your dog's fear of fireworks. [D.A.P.®](#) and the [Sounds Scary® CD](#) therapy pack have been scientifically proven to be an effective combination for treating firework phobias in dogs.
10. Your vet may also wish to refer you to a [qualified behavioural therapist](#).

**For further information on how to prepare your pet for the firework season, please ask to speak to one of our qualified veterinary nursing staff or veterinary surgeons**