

# HOW TO HELP YOUR DOG COPE WITH FIREWORKS



## CREATE A DEN

### Provide your dog with a safe-haven

It's a great idea to create a den before bonfire night and allow your dog to get used to settling in the den.

The den should be in an area where your dog feels happy and comfortable, such as by the side of your bed, in their crate, under a table, under the stairs, or wherever your dog feels safe.



## BONFIRE NIGHT

### Tips for fireworks' night itself

Make sure all doors, windows & curtains are shut. Turn up the sound on the TV or radio, & provide your dog with a stuffed chew toy in their den **before** fireworks start.

Make sure that your dog can't accidentally escape, & that they're wearing a suitable ID tag.



## VETERINARY HELP

### Speak to your vet **BEFORE** bonfire night

If you know that your dog is sensitive to noise and is afraid of fireworks, do speak to your vet about treatments that can help.

If your vet prescribes a medication, it is often useful to have a 'practice run' before bonfire night, to see how your dog responds.



## AVOID NIGHT-TIME FRIGHTS

### Walk your dog before dark

Take your dog for a walk in the daylight. A longer, lunchtime walk is more beneficial than a short night-time walk - especially if fireworks are going off.

Ensure that your dog toilets before dusk & before fireworks start.



## DON'T BE AFRAID TO PROVIDE REASSURANCE

### If your dog needs it

Contrary to popular belief, you cannot reinforce fear by reassuring your dog - as long as they enjoy it.

Leaving your dog to go 'cold turkey' with something they're afraid of is more like to reinforce their fear, and increase their anxiety.