Celebrate Safely Campaign Kit

Fireworks Safety Campaign

Can you tell the difference between Illegal Fireworks and Illegal Explosive Devices?

It could save a life!

Which fireworks are illegal in our state?

These are listed as Consumer Fireworks but are illegal to sell, possess, and/or discharge within the State of Washington. They are legal to sell, possess, and/or discharge on tribal lands.

Firecrackers
Generally 1/4" x 1 1/2" or less that come in packs to large bricks. A firecracker makes a single "pop" sound. Many firecrackers strung together will make repetitive "popping" sounds.

Bottle Rockets
A firecracker type (tube) attached to a 12" long wooden stick. The stick is placed in a bottle and once lit, it rises into the air, travelling laterally before exploding.



Sky Rockets and Missiles
Similar to the Bottle Rocket, a Sky Rocket is attached to a stick or has fins and may have a plastic cap. A missile will have fins rather than a stick. Once lit, it ascends rapidly, high into the air where it explodes.



Illegal explosive devices are often wrongly referred to as fireworks because they look like large firecrackers, but they can have as much explosive power as a 1/4 stick of dynamite.

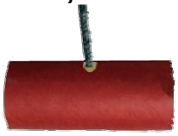
Do not handle explosive devices!!

If possible, have the local bomb squad evaluate and pick up the device.

Possession, manufacturing, or using illegal explosive devices is a **criminal offense** in Washington.

Call the State Fire Marshal's Office at (360) 596-3946 for additional information.

Mass-produced Homemade Devices
Example: M-80's, M-100's etc.



Homemade Explosives
Example: Pipe Bomb & Tennis Ball Bomb



Altering consumer fireworks making an explosive device
Example: Sparkler Bomb



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3000-420-089 (R 5/12)

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Federally Legal Consumer Fireworks, but Illegal in Washington State (RCW 70.77.136): Can only be used on Federal and Tribal lands.

Firecrackers, Salutes

Generally 1/4" x 1 1/2" or less that comes in packs to large bricks. A firecracker makes a single "pop" sound. Many firecrackers strung together will make repetitive "popping" sounds.





Bottle Rockets

A firecracker type (tube) attached to a 12" long wooden stick. The stick is placed in a bottle and once lit, it rises into the air, travelling laterally before exploding.



Missiles / Sky Rockets

Similar to the Bottle Rocket, a Sky Rocket is attached to a stick or has fins and may have a plastic cap. Once lit, it ascends rapidly, high into the air where it explodes.

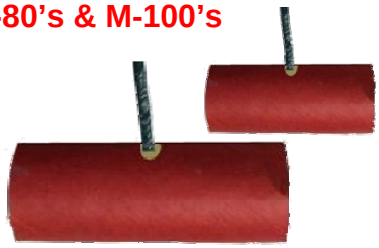




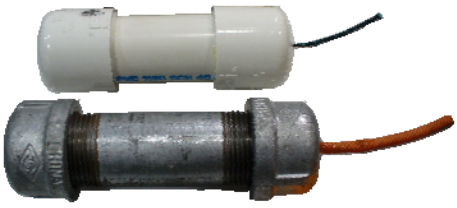
Examples of Illegal Explosive Devices:

Device	Color	Average Size		
		Diameter	Length	Risk Factor
M-80	Red or Brown	5/8 inch	1 1/2 inch	Damage to fingers, hands, and eyes.
M-100, Silver Salute	Red or Silver	1 inch	2 1/2 inch	Severe damage to face, arms, and body.
M-250	Red or Brown	1 inch	3 inches	Severe crippling, disfiguring injuries.
M-1000 (Quarter Stick)	Red or Brown	1 inch	6 inches	Extreme severe injuries to the body; has caused death.

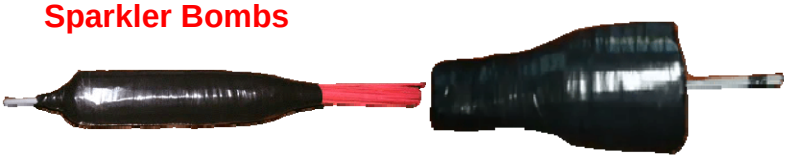
M-80's & M-100's



Pipe Bombs



Sparkler Bombs



Tennis Ball Bomb



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How can I tell if my fireworks are legal?

All legal consumer fireworks packed for sale in Washington have to meet seven main requirements:

1. Have a Warning Label on the box and on the item.

2. Instructions for use/how the item is to be used and necessary safety precautions to be observed.

3. Conspicuously labeled with the name and place of business of the manufacturer, packer, distributor, or seller.

4. Name of the country of manufacture.

5. The United States Department of Transportation designation as "Division 1.4G consumer fireworks" or "Division 1.3G special fireworks."

6. All label wording shall be prominently located, in the English language, and in conspicuous and legible type in contrast by typography, layout, or color with the printed matter on the fireworks device or container.

7. Packaging - bright, colorful paper.

Example: The numbers on the picture represent the requirement number above.



Front Panel of Firework | **Side Panel of Firework**

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How can I tell if my fireworks are legal?

3. There is a significant difference between a firework marked "Division 1.4G consumer fireworks" versus one marked “Division 1.3G special fireworks."

   Division 1.3G special fireworks are also referred to as Commercial Grade or Professional Display Fireworks.

   Normally there are two types found:

   a. An **aerial shell**, which is similar to the ones legal for purchase at a licensed fireworks stand. There are several differences between a Commercial Display Shell and Consumer Firework Aerial Shell:

   - Size
     — Typically start at 2” in diameter. (1 3/4” is the maximum size for a consumer firework.)
   - Content
     — Contains more pyrotechnic material.
   - Color
     — Wrapped in a solid color paper, usually brown.
   - Displays a safety warnings such as:
     — “For Outdoor Use Only by Federally Licensed Personnel”; and
     — “DANGEROUS: If found, deliver to local Fire or Police Department.”
   - Has a longer fuse or no fuse attached.
   - Possession requires a license from the ATF and/or pyrotechnic license from the State of Washington.

   NOTE: In the pictures below, you’ll notice the fuse is of a different type on the 1.3G shell compared to that on the 1.4G shell. While the long fuse appears as if it would take longer to burn, it is actually a “quick fuse” intended for professional applications using a launch tube (usually with remote ignition). The fuse will burn through and ignite the shell in as little as one or two seconds’ time.

   There have been a number of serious injuries to the hand and/or head of persons trying to light and throw a 1.3G shell with “quick fuse”. The fuse burns faster than a person is able to throw the shell clear of the hand before the lift charge is lit and explodes.

   Example: 1.3G aerial shell on the left and 1.4G aerial shells on the right.



Warning Label indicates a professional firework.



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Additional information about a couple of the labeling/marking requirements:

1. The Warning Label has two components:

   - **Signal Word:**
     This is designed to attract the user's attention that the information is important and should be read. It will contain either "**WARNING**" or "**CAUTION**".

   - **Statement of Hazard:**
     The statement of hazard is designed to warn the user of the specific aspect of the item's operation that may result in the potential for injury. A statement of hazard includes statements such as:

     - **FLAMMABLE**
     - **SHOOTS FLAMING BALLS WITH REPORTS**
     - **SPINS ON GROUND**
     - **EMITS SHOWERS OF SPARKS** (etc.)

2. Instructions for use:

   Example:

> **WARNING**
> SHOOTS FLAMING BALLS
> USE ONLY UNDER CLOSE ADULT SUPERVISION. FOR OUTDOOR USE ONLY. PLACE LAUNCHER UPRIGHT ON HARD, SMOOTH SURFACE. UNWRAP LONG FUSE ON BALL. PUT SHELL INTO TUBE WITH FLAT END DOWN AND WITH FUSE EXTENDING OUT OF TUBE. DO NOT HOLD IN HAND. LIGHT FUSE AND GET AWAY.

Some manufacturers include additional information that is not required, but provides the consumer additional safety and product performance information:



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b. The second type of firework is a “Cake” which is a repeating aerial firework that is comprised of many tubes of mini-shells in one unit. Having multiple tubes allows for several effects or one effect.

These are similar to the one legal to purchase at a licensed fireworks stand, with the main difference being the amount of pyrotechnic material in the product. The one feature most different between a 1.3G Cake and a 1.4G Cake is the label required.

A 1.3 Firework (such as a Cake) is required to have a label showing the following:

- The importer
- Manufacturer name
- Country of manufacture
- Date manufactured
- Shift the product was finished

The label will also indicate that the product is allowed to be used only by a Federally Licensed person. Possession requires a license from the ATF and pyrotechnic license from the State of Washington.



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