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Sparkler Safety



The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's analysis of data on nonoccupational fireworks-related deaths and injuries during calendar year 2016 showed children younger than 15 years of age accounted for 31 percent of the estimated 2016 injuries.¹ Sparklers are a type of hand-held firework and are often given to young children during celebrations. Depending on the type of materials used to make the sparkler, the materials can burn at temperatures around 2,000°F, which can cause severe burns.

Tips on Using Sparklers

- ✓ Safety experts recommend that adults ensure children who handle sparklers are properly warned, supervised and wearing non-flammable clothing.
- ✓ Keep a container of water available to put sparklers into, once they are done burning. Don't drop them on the ground!
- ✓ Don't run around with sparklers, throw them at other people, or conduct "duels" with other sparkler users. Stay well away from other people while using a sparkler, so the sparks won't injure or burn them.
- ✓ Don't bundle a bunch of sparklers together before lighting them.
- ✓ Always wear protective clothing (for example, closed-toe shoes) and don't consume alcohol before (or while using) sparklers.

Many medical and fire-safety groups suggest replacing sparklers with glow-sticks or bubble wands, especially for small children.

¹ U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission 2016 Fireworks Annual Report: https://www.cpsc.gov/s3fs-public/Fireworks_Report_2016.pdf?t.YHKjE9bFiabmirA.4NJST.5SUWIQI