

# Firework Night

## Keeping your Pets Safe



DOGGEDLY TRAINING  
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**With Bonfire Night approaching many pet owners will be dreading the annual event. Keeping your pet safe and calm can be tricky. We have out together a few suggestions that may hopefully help.**

- 🐾 Take your dog for a walk before dusk so that they will not need to go out once the fireworks begin.
- 🐾 If possible, feed them mid to late afternoon as this can help them to relax. Also, when an animal is stressed, they don't want to eat.
- 🐾 At dusk ensure that pet is safe indoors. Do not leave your dog alone if fireworks are expected.
- 🐾 Provide a safe place your pet can retreat to or hide if they wish. **But**, do not shut them in.
  - Perhaps a safe 'den' such as a dog crate or box covered on three sides and with blankets for them to dig into, well in advance of the event.
- 🐾 As long as it is safe, allow your dog to find the place they feel most comfortable. This may be with you or it could be under a bed. Encourage your dog to use this and make positive associations with the den by putting treats in it.
- 🐾 Do not try to move your pet once they have chosen a safe place.
- 🐾 Drawing the curtains can stop your pet being startled by flashing lights.
- 🐾 Playing music or turning up the volume on the television can help to minimise the impact of the sound of the fireworks if your pet is accustomed to this.
- 🐾 If your dog has never reacted to noises before try not to react to the sound yourself, simply say in a cheerful voice "that was loud" and then try playing a game or doing some training with them to help form a positive association with the fireworks.
- 🐾 Do not punish your dog for showing fearful behaviour. If they are distressed, then it is okay to comfort them, but don't overdo it.
- 🐾 Do not try to restrain your pet.



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Doggedly Pet Services

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