

How to Order Fireworks

Shooting off fireworks can be a fun and exciting way to celebrate a holiday or a special event, but laws governing fireworks can be different depending on your location, which may affect your ability to order them. Luckily, by learning a...

Method 1 of 2:

Ordering Fireworks from a Retailer



Find a reputable fireworks dealer. Whether you're buying online or ordering from a local vendor, you should research the company before you make a purchase. Reach out on social media or read customer reviews online to determine the kind of service a vendor offers.^[1]

1. You can also ask your friends and family if they can recommend a place where you can buy fireworks.



Choose fireworks you can legally display in your area. You need to know the national, state or regional, and municipal laws that apply to you. In some areas, aerial fireworks may be completely prohibited, while other locations may only allow fireworks to be displayed at certain times of the year.^[2]

1. In addition, there may be weather restrictions, such as no fireworks allowed during periods of drought or when winds are high.



Shop online to find the largest selection. An internet search for 'Buying fireworks online' will turn up pages of vendors with huge selections of consumer-class shells, rockets, Roman candles, sparklers, and more. If you already know the types of fireworks you want to display, or if you're looking for hard-to-find fireworks, this is probably your best option.^[3]

1. If you order fireworks online that are prohibited where you live, you will be held responsible, not the retailer.

2. Fireworks have to be shipped by carrier trucks since they can't be sent through the mail, so your shipping costs may be slightly higher compared to ordering other goods online.^[4]



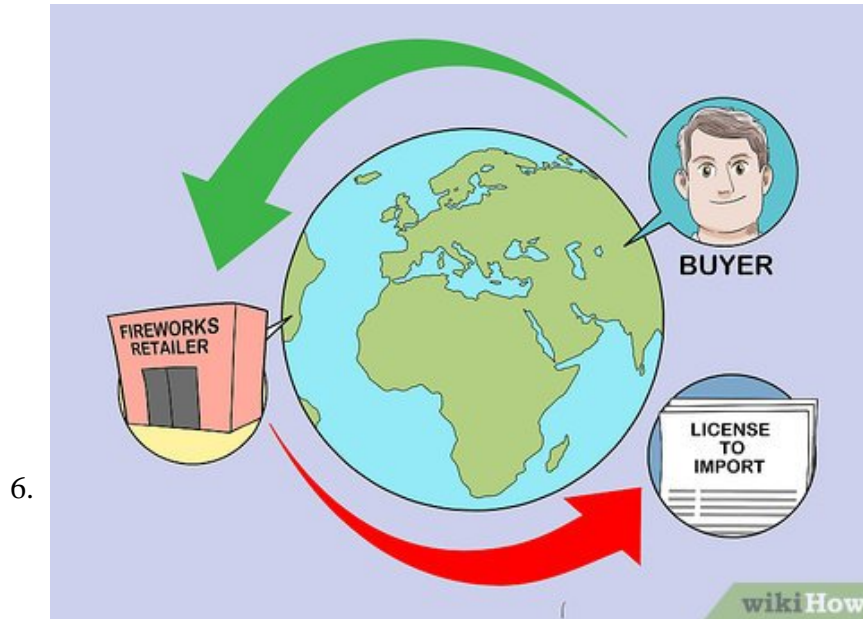
Visit a local retailer to get personalized assistance. If you're not sure what kind of fireworks you're looking for, visit a local fireworks vendor. They will know the fireworks laws for your area, and they may have advice on how to customize your display. Even if they don't have what you're looking for in stock, they may be able to help you order from their catalog.^[5]

1. Depending on where you live, fireworks vendors in your area may be open year-round, or they may only be allowed to open close to certain holidays like New Years or the Fourth of July.



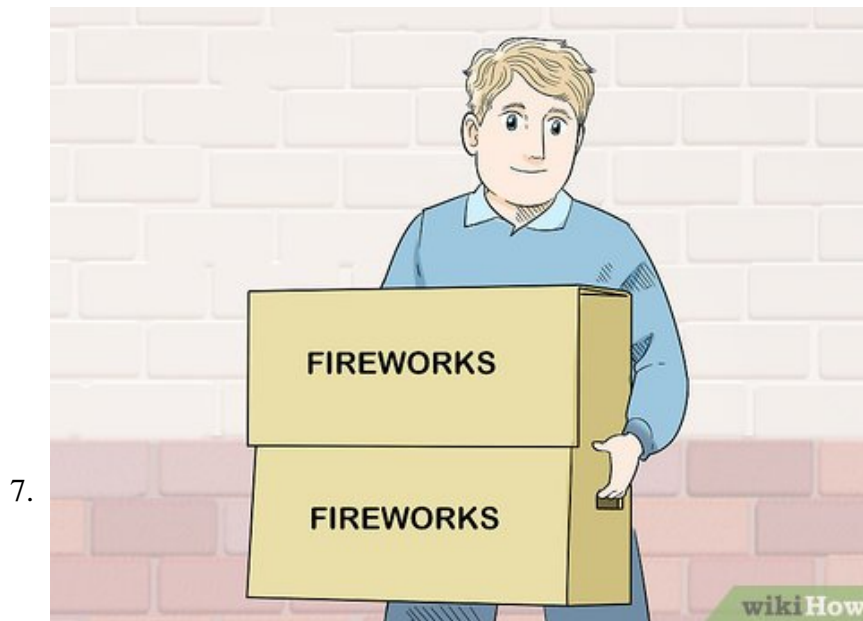
Do not buy a kit to make your own fireworks. Not only are these usually illegal (for instance, they are prohibited by the CPSC in the United States), but they can also be extremely dangerous. Fireworks should only be assembled by professionals under certain conditions.^[6]

1. In most cases, it is also illegal to buy the individual components with the intention of assembling your own fireworks.



Do not buy fireworks from an international retailer. Most countries require that you obtain a special license to import fireworks. To avoid violating international law, it's best to buy imported fireworks from a company operating within your own country.^[7]

1. Just because a company is willing to sell and ship fireworks to you doesn't mean it is legal for you to receive them.

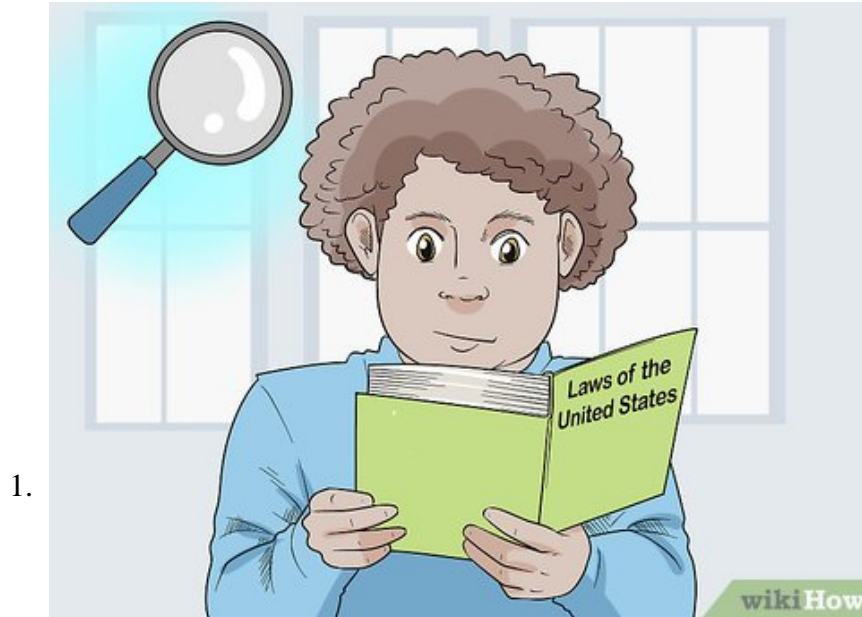


Order fireworks in bulk to receive a discount. If you're putting on a large show, or if you're interested in becoming a fireworks vendor, you can get big savings by ordering your fireworks from a wholesale site instead of buying individual fireworks. Just keep in mind that if you are purchasing fireworks wholesale in order to resell them, you will need a special fireworks retail license from your state.^[8]

1. The requirements for obtaining this license will vary based on your location, but expect to pay an application fee, and you may have to pass an inspection or an exam with the state fire marshal.^[9]

Method 2 of 2:

Checking Local Regulations



1.

Start by researching the laws for your country. Knowing the laws in your country will quickly narrow down the types of fireworks you can purchase. For example, many countries permit consumer-class fireworks, which include fountains, cones, and firecrackers, although not all do.^[10]

1. In the U.S., make sure your fireworks are approved by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). Ground-based fireworks can not have more than 5 mg (0.00018 oz) of powder, while aerial fireworks can not have more than 130 mg (0.0046 oz) of powder. Fireworks can not burn for longer than 9 seconds, and fuses can not burn for less than 3 seconds.^[11]

2.



Check online to find the laws for your state and city. Just because fireworks are legal in your country doesn't mean they are legal in your state or city. For information on state laws in the U.S., visit <http://www.americanpyro.com/state-law-directory>.

1. For instance, residents of Delaware and Massachusetts are prohibited from using, possessing, or selling fireworks.^[12]

3.



Call your fire department if you're still not sure about local laws. If you can't find your local laws online, or if they seem unclear, you can check with the fire department to find out what types of fireworks you can shoot, where you are permitted to fire them, and if there are any special rules you should know about.^[13]

4.



Follow all safety precautions. Fireworks are dangerous, and they should be handled with care. When you're putting on a fireworks show, keep water nearby in case something goes wrong, keep children away from the fireworks, and only use fireworks in open spaces away from trees, buildings, large patches of dry grass, or other fire hazards.

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