Did you know that fireworks burn at greater than 1,000 degrees Fahrenheit? If not used properly, fireworks can cause serious burns and other injuries, which can result in:

- Extensive scarring
- Hospitalization
- Surgeries
- Amputation of the hand

SAFETY TIPS from the American Society for Surgery of the Hand

Follow these SAFETY TIPS in 2016, sparklers alone caused a reported 1,300 hand and finger injuries, contributing to a total of 11,000 fireworks injuries. Don’t let it happen to you! Follow these important safety tips while using fireworks.

**Tip #1**
Never consume drugs or alcohol before using fireworks.

**Tip #2**
Do not allow children to handle fireworks.

**Tip #3**
Always wear eye protection when using flammable material.

**Tip #4**
Never hold a firework that is not meant to be held.

**Tip #5**
Light only one firework at a time, and only light them outdoors, never in the direction of a person.

**Tip #6**
Never relight a firework that does not go off. Wait 20 minutes and then place it in a bucket of water.

What to Do if you’re injured

If you seriously injure yourself while using fireworks, get to the emergency room immediately! You can also make an appointment with a hand surgeon. Hand surgeons can treat a variety of injuries to the fingers, hand, wrist, arm, and shoulder.

RESOURCES


