

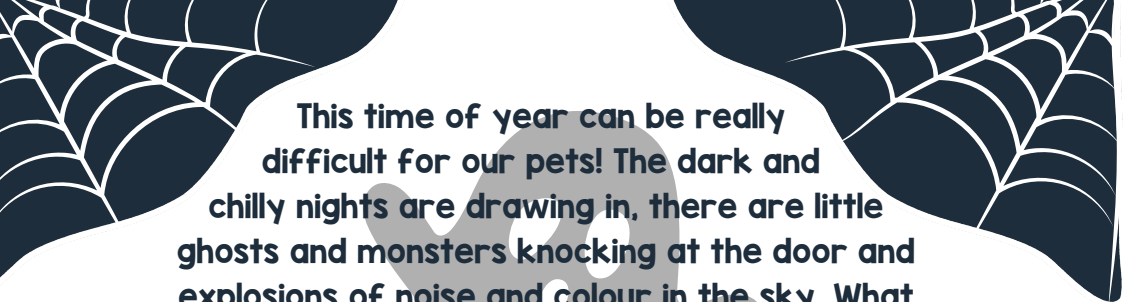
Colour in, then cut out this sign to leave on your door or window with a bowl of sweeties on Halloween night!

Dont Make a Noise  
Make a Difference



Please don't knock on my door  
My Pets will get a fright  
Trick or Treat, please take a sweet  
And have a spooky, fun night!





This time of year can be really difficult for our pets! The dark and chilly nights are drawing in, there are little ghosts and monsters knocking at the door and explosions of noise and colour in the sky. What can be an exciting time and celebration to us can be terrifying to our animals. Here's a few small changes we can make to our Halloween and firework-night traditions that will make life a little easier for our four-legged friends.

**Silent Disco!** Gather your friends round at a venue of your choice, decorate the room with appropriate spooky attire, and maybe even make it fancy dress. Keep the lights low, get the glow sticks out, pop your headphones on and get dancing! There are plenty of Silent Disco companies that will provide everything you need for the event, or keep it cheap and cheerful with a "bring your own headphones" policy!


**Bangers not Bangers!** If you usually host a firework display at your house and want to make it more pet-friendly, swap the fireworks for sparklers, roast some hotdogs and sticky marshmallows on a fire pit or BBQ and gather round. Get comfy with chairs and blankets and enjoy a cosy evening with friends and the pets!

**Have a crafty day!** Bake cookies with colourful firework designs in dyed icing! Or make your own scratch-art with colourful felt tips pens and black oil-pastel on top!

**Go to a big firework display!** Whilst noiseless fireworks would be the best option, going to a fully insured council-run firework display is the next best thing. One event on one evening is much more manageable for our animals than weeks and weeks of it!

## TIPS FOR PETS ON FIREWORK NIGHT

### Cats and Dogs



Desensitise your pet by playing firework sounds on a low volume in the weeks and months leading up to the event. Eating a favourite treat or playing with a favourite toy while they do so will associate the noise with happy feelings too!

Check their microchips! Keep your personal details up to date and make sure your garden is secure.

Thundershirts or other compression wraps can be a comfort to anxious dogs and cats.

Create safe spaces or dens to hide in. If they come to you for comfort then please do. A familiar voice and smell can be very reassuring in a scary situation.

Pheromones and aromatherapy such as Adaptil, Feliway and Pet Remedy can have a big effect if used safely. These are most effective when used in the weeks leading to the event.

### SMALL ANIMALS

Animals that live outside may find a move into the house stressful. If they're staying outside, make sure they are shut away in their beds for the night nice and early to give them time to settle.

Give them some of their favourite healthy treats and offer some enrichment and foraging opportunities to keep them distracted

Keeping a gap for ventilation, cover their home with a heavy blanket to work as soundproofing.



### EQUINE



Check your paddock is secure and remove potential hazards. If your horse is spooked and bolts we want to minimise the danger.

Keep to a normal routine, but reschedule any evening hacks or rides for another time.

Check your paddock again the next morning to ensure there is no firework debris.

Research local firework displays in your area.

Keep a light on in the stable and play calming music to mask the noise. Your horse will feel better with friends around so keep them together.

Tidy and sweep any loose hay and bedding in case of stray sparks.

