



Here at **Abbey Vets** we have developed our own range of 'Happy Calming' soft chews for cats & dogs. These are highly palatable and contain natural ingredients that help to calm pets during stressful times such as fireworks or travel. They can be given for short periods or as a dietary supplement long-term. Our chews do not contain any sedatives and are all natural ingredients.

These work really well on their own or in conjunction with **Adaptil/Feliway** calming plug-in devices.

Fireworks can be distressing for many pets and their owners at this time of year so we have put together some tips to help take the stress out of Bonfire Night.

We offer a number of calming solutions such as dietary supplements, plug-in diffusers for the home and even calming collars that can all be purchased over the counter.

The key to reducing firework stress is to be well prepared and begin taking steps before the event. Adaptil and Feliway plug-ins are best started a few weeks prior.

In 96% of cases, firework fear gets worse with each experience.



Tail lowered or tucked

**Nose/
lip licking**

**Panting
(in dogs)**

**Ears pulled or
pinned back**

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Common signs your pet may be stressed

**Sensitive
digestion**

**Scratching and
chewing on
furniture**

**Aggressive
towards family
members**

**Hiding or
isolating
themselves**

**Increased
sleeping or
lethargic**

**Increased
vocalisation**

**Decrease in
appetite**



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Provide a den

Create an enclosed 'safe place' for your pet to hide. Cover the top and 3 sides of a crate, table or cupboard near the centre of the home or where they have previously hidden. Make it comfortable. You can even add a jumper or t-shirt of yours that will smell familiar to them. Let them come and go as they like.

Avoid walking dogs at night

When fireworks are being set off, try morning or noon walks.

Burn extra energy

By taking your pets on longer walks during the day.

Keep cats indoors

Place plenty of litter trays, especially by usual exit points.

Stay calm yourself

During the fireworks, don't react to any fireworks that go off, they will react to your reactions. Try not to worry and don't get angry with your pet or over fuss them, just reassure them gently and be as normal and routine as possible.

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Tips for keeping your pet calm during the fireworks season

Try & mask the sound

By putting the TV on or playing some music, especially if animals are left home alone.

Maintain your routine

Try to keep all other routines as normal as possible such as feeding times.

Prepare for next year

With advice from veterinary staff or a behaviourist.

Muffle the sound

By closing the curtains and windows.

Feed

A high carbohydrate dinner.



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FEEDING TIME

Feed your pets before dusk to help them settle

IN BEFORE DARK

Make sure they are home and secure in plenty of time

REDUCE NOISE

Switch on the TV or Radio to help mask the noise

ENVIRONMENT

Set up a den or safe place with toys and blanket

WALK

Try to increase exercise during the day

ORGANISATION

Prepare for Firework Night well in advance

REASSURANCE

Stay with your pet where possible and keep them calm

KITTENS & PUPPIES

Young ones can be extra sensitive to loud noises

SECURITY

Make sure all doors, cat-flaps and windows are secured to avoid your pet bolting if afraid

