



New Year's Eve and Australia Day almost always involve explosions. Fireworks and firecrackers might help us celebrate the holiday but it can be a very nerve-wracking experience for your pets.

There are several tips for helping your pets survive the noise:

1. Keep your pets indoors during fireworks. Even calmer pets may get spooked and run away, jump over a fence or dig out
2. Make sure they are wearing an up to date identification tag and are microchipped, just in case they do escape, and make sure their microchip details are UP TO DATE. If you are unsure and want to check, please contact the clinic as we may be able to assist with this
3. Place them in an interior room with a television or radio turned up so that they are distracted and the noise is dulled
4. If possible have one of their family stay with them during the celebrations
5. Make sure all windows are closed and all exits are secure
6. Some pets such as dogs and cats prefer a small, dark and secure place to retreat - a blanket over a coffee table can work well
7. Try not to reward and soothe nervous and anxious behaviour - otherwise your pet's pattern of behaviour is reinforced
8. If your pet suffers from severe fireworks anxiety speak to us about prescribing a mild sedative to help your pet relax during this particular period.

IF YOUR PETS HAVE BEEN GIVEN MEDICATION IN THE PAST FOR THUNDERSTORMS AND FIREWORKS, PLEASE CALL THE CLINIC AS AN APPOINTMENT MAY BE NEEDED BEFORE MEDICATION CAN BE GIVEN. CALL NOW AS APPOINTMENTS ARE BOOKING UP FAST TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT.

We can also offer advice on desensitisation to fireworks AND thunderstorms. Speak to one of our friendly staff for more information on 0397434413