

## Promoting fair access and safety in the sale and use of fireworks

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## Explosives Regulations (ER) 2013 Came into force on 1 February 2014 Introduction to the fireworks regulations

The Explosives Regulations (ER), 2013, under the *Explosives Act* appeared in Canada Gazette II on 18 December 2013. They replaced the Explosives Regulations as we knew them. ER, 2013, is downloadable at <a href="http://www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p2/2013/2013-12-18/html/sor-dors211-eng.php">http://www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p2/2013/2013-12-18/html/sor-dors211-eng.php</a>

There are 20 Parts several of which apply to users and sellers of fireworks and pyrotechnics The 20 parts are:

- Part 1. Introduction
- Part 2. General Requirements, Prohibitions and Safety Precautions
- Part 3. Authorization and Classification of Explosives
- Part 4. Importing and Exporting Explosives and Transporting Explosives In Transit
- Part 5. Manufacturing of Explosives
- Part 6. Magazine Licences and Storage in a Licensed Magazine
- Part 7. Provisions of General Application
- Part 8. Screening
- Part 9. Transporting Explosives
- Part 10. Military Explosives and Law Enforcement Explosives
- Part 11. Industrial Explosives
- Part 12. Power Device Cartridges
- Part 13. Practical Use Explosives
- Part 14. Small Arms Cartridges, Propellant Powder and Percussion Caps
- Part 15. Model and High-Power Rocket Motors
- Part 16. Consumer Fireworks
- Part 17. Special Effect Pyrotechnics
- Part 18. Display Fireworks
- Part 19. Fees
- Part 20. Restricted Components

Over the next few weeks we will review the content of those parts that apply to the fireworks sector.

Let's start with classification of explosives. Under the old system fireworks were in Class 7, specifically, consumer fireworks were 7.2.1 (low hazard fireworks for recreational purposes) and display fireworks were 7.2.2 (high hazard fireworks for recreational purposes). In the new system (Part 3, s. 36) each authorized explosive is classified according to intended use, and consists of a letter and a number. This is called 'type'. Fireworks are type F further divided into:

- F.1 consumer fireworks
- F.2 display fireworks
- F.3 special effect pyrotechnics
- F.4 fireworks accessories