

Sky lanterns (2)

Instructions for use

Each and every sky lantern should be accompanied by more detailed warnings and full instructions, clearly printed in an easily legible format using at least font size 14.

Where possible pictures, diagrams etc. should be used in addition to the written text to make understanding easier. It is also helpful to refer users to a website or video link to assist their understanding.

'Instructions for use' should include at least the following :

READ AND FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

CAUTION

- *This product is not suitable for children under 16 and is not a toy*
- *Do not launch whilst under the influence of alcohol*
- *Do not launch if you have any doubts about the weather conditions or the condition of the lantern*
- *Launching a lantern in an inappropriate location or unsuitable weather conditions, or in any manner that results in damage to persons or property may make you liable for criminal charges or civil claims for damages*

Before launch

- *Store lanterns in a cool dry place;*
- *Check the lantern and do not launch if any part is damaged;*
- *At launch location ensure there is access to a fire extinguisher or water nearby;*
- *Preferably launch when it is dry and the air is still. Do not launch if there is more than a very light breeze;*
- *Check the wind direction and do not launch within 30 metres of obstacles such as trees or buildings;*
- *Launch only in open spaces. Do not launch within 100 metres of crop fields, haystacks or power lines;*
- *Inform Air Traffic Control at any airfield or airport that is within 10 miles of the launch place;*
- *Avoid launching where the lantern might be mistaken for a distress signal. Inform the local Coastguard prior to launching at the coast;*
- *Launch with two people present - one to hold the lantern and one to light the fuel cell.*

Launching

- *Make sure any children are supervised and kept away from lantern or naked flame;*
- *Remove lantern from packaging and unfold it completely. Handle very carefully to avoid damage;*
- *Never tie sky lanterns together – always launch individually;*
- *Make sure the lantern is fully open and hold the top;*

- *Light the fuel cell and continue to hold as it fills with hot air. Note that it will not launch immediately;*
- *After about 1 minute, the lantern will start to rise. Once it is lifting release it and watch it rise;*
- *If the lantern fails to rise, extinguish quickly with water or fire extinguisher and do not attempt to re-use.*

Use at events

In addition to the general instructions above

- *Contact the venue before the event to establish their policy on use of sky lanterns*
- *Contact the relevant local authority, or fire and rescue service for a risk assessment on the proposed location of the launch and other advice⁶*
- *Confirm the weather conditions and check that the wind speed is less than 5mph. Websites such as www.bbc.co.uk/weather or www.metoffice.gov.uk may be useful*
- *If in any doubt about location of the nearest airport and to inform about a launch contact the Civil Aviation Authority <http://www.caa.co.uk/docs/33/cap736.pdf>*
- *If in doubt about use near the coast check with the Marine and Coastguard Agency www.mcga.gov.uk*
- *Consider the number of lanterns being released. Large numbers of lanterns pose a litter problem that is difficult to control. Limit the use to a small number. Only a few lanterns are needed for an impressive effect.*

Source

http://www.nfuonline.com/20140108_sky_lanterns_industry_code_of_practice_final_version/
[Accessed 10 June 2015]

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Oracy

6. A local primary school is planning a release of sky lanterns as part of a summer fundraising event. You have been involved in organising the event and have been asked to make a presentation about safety. Make a short presentation aimed at parents and teachers about safely planning the release.

Speak clearly and remember to look at your audience.

Writing

7. A local primary school is planning a release of sky lanterns as part of a summer fundraising event. Write a short letter to the headmaster of the school about some of the dangers associated with sky lanterns. Encourage them to abandon the idea and do something else to celebrate. You should write 200-300 words.

Use persuasive language to convince the reader to agree with you.

8. Write a short article for a local newspaper about planning a party or celebration safely. Write 350-500 words.