



Fireworks Season

A Survival Guide for Dogs



**ANIMAL
BEHAVIOUR
KENT**



WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?



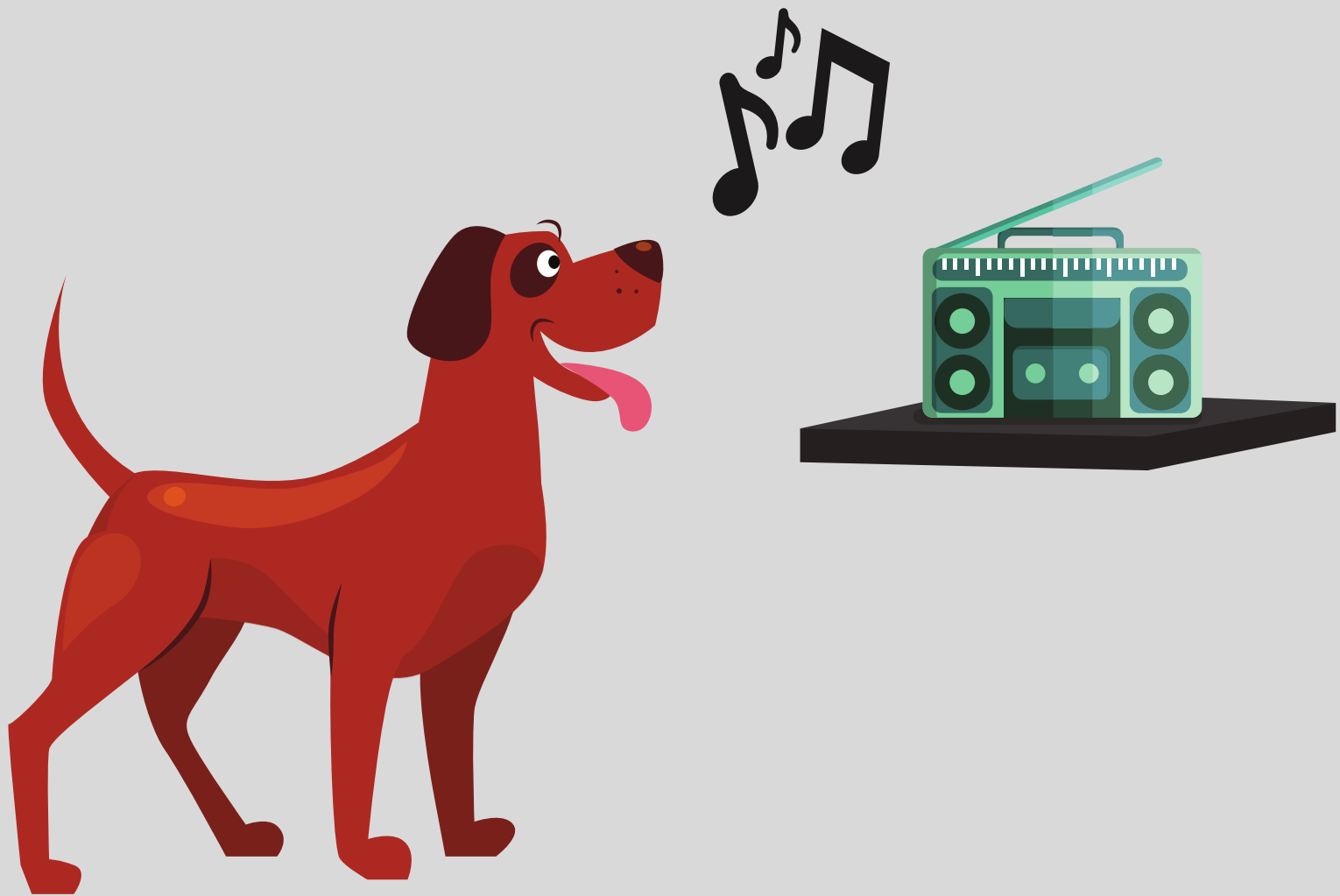
Fireworks are great fun, but sadly can be stressful for many dogs. Data from the RSPCA suggests over 60% of dogs are scared of fireworks. Fortunately, there are lots of things that can be done to help your dog feel less fearful during this season.

BUILD A SAFE DEN FOR YOUR DOG



Provide your dog with a safe space to hide during fireworks. A nice bed, with lots of toys, chews, and anything else they like will help them feel safer throughout the fireworks.

PLAY MUSIC



Music is a great way to block out the sounds of the fireworks and give your dog something else to focus on. Some research suggests dogs are particularly calmed by reggae music.

COMFORT YOUR DOG



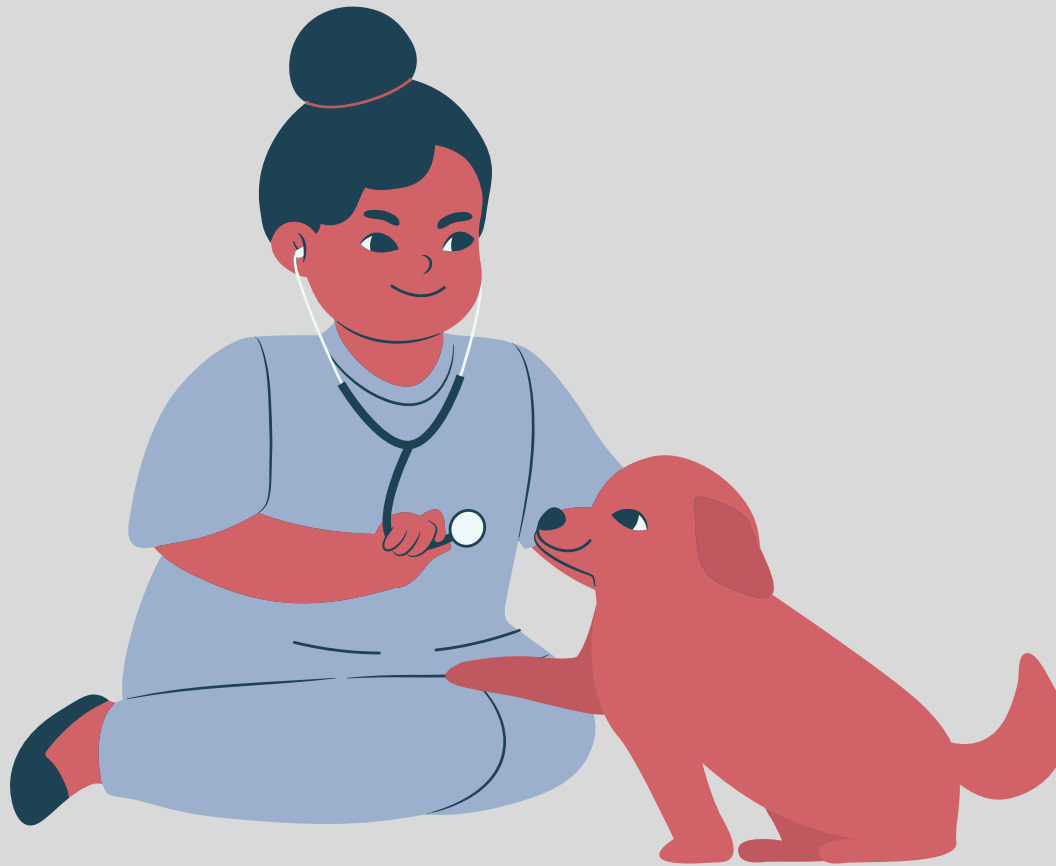
Giving your dog lots of comfort if they seek reassurance is a great way to help them cope better. Avoid punishing your dog if they are reacting badly, as this may make their fear worse.

CONSIDER SILENT FIREWORKS



Silent and low noise fireworks are a great way to enjoy the fun of fireworks without scaring dogs or any other local wildlife. They are available online and in many local supermarkets.

SHORT-TERM MEDICATION



It can also be helpful to speak to your local vet to see if any short term fear reducing medications would be appropriate to support your dog. Do this as early as possible because your vet may need to assess your dog before prescribing.

SPEAK TO A DOG TRAINER



A dog trainer can support you with helping your dog overcome their fear of fireworks longer term. However, overcoming fears is a slow process, so be prepared for this to take several months, and get started well in advance.