

NFPA® 1124

Code for the Manufacture, Transportation, and Storage of Fireworks and Pyrotechnic Articles

2022 Edition



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An International Codes and Standards Organization

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Code for the

Manufacture, Transportation, and Storage of Fireworks and Pyrotechnic Articles

2022 Edition

This edition of NFPA 1124, *Code for the Manufacture, Transportation, and Storage of Fireworks and Pyrotechnic Articles*, was prepared by the Technical Committee on Pyrotechnics. It was issued by the Standards Council on March 18, 2021, with an effective date of April 8, 2021, and supersedes all previous editions.

This edition of NFPA 1124 was approved as an American National Standard on April 8, 2021.

Origin and Development of NFPA 1124

NFPA 44A was originally developed by the Technical Committee on Explosives of the NFPA Correlating Committee on Chemicals and Explosives. It was adopted as a Tentative Code at the 1972 NFPA Annual Meeting. It was further revised and officially adopted at the 1973 NFPA Annual Meeting. A revised edition was adopted in 1974.

In 1980, the Technical Committee on Explosives and the Technical Committee on Pyrotechnics voted to transfer responsibility for NFPA 44A to the Committee on Pyrotechnics. The Correlating Committee on Chemicals and Explosives concurred and petitioned the NFPA Standards Council to effect the change. The Standards Council approved the change in June 1981.

The 1984 edition of NFPA 1124 was the result of a complete review of the 1974 edition of NFPA 44A by the Technical Committee on Pyrotechnics, including the redesignation of the document as NFPA 1124 for consistency with the designations of other documents relating to pyrotechnics.

The 1988 edition of NFPA 1124 was the result of a thorough review and partial revision of the 1984 edition of NFPA 1124 by the Technical Committee on Pyrotechnics, which included updating the references and incorporating the latest separation distances as approved by the Institute of Makers of Explosives in May 1983. It also included new provisions for salute manufacturing and storage of salute powder.

The 1995 edition of NFPA 1124 included partial amendments to the document, as well as editorial revisions to improve its ability to be used, adopted, and enforced and to make it compliant with the NFPA *Manual of Style*. The committee incorporated the latest separation distances as approved by the Institute of Makers of Explosives in June 1991. The committee also updated the definitions of fireworks to be consistent with the new terminology used in the US Department of Transportation regulations that incorporated the United Nations shipping designations for fireworks (explosives).

For the 1998 edition, the requirements for fireworks laboratories were clarified with the addition of a definition and clarification of the storage and separation distances appropriate for them. The committee added an appendix that extracted language from American Pyrotechnics Association 87-1, *Standard for the Construction and Approval for Transportation of Fireworks, Novelties, and Theatrical Pyrotechnics*, to provide users with the approved definitions used in the Federal Regulations for fireworks, novelties, and theatrical pyrotechnics.

In 1999, the NFPA Board of Directors revised its policy to permit the Technical Committee on Pyrotechnics to develop provisions for the retail sales and storage of consumer fireworks, subject to Standards Council oversight. At the same time, the Board reaffirmed its support of the Model Fireworks Law, which, since 1938, has prohibited the use of consumer fireworks.

Although NFPA's Public Education position has continued to advocate against any consumer use of fireworks, it is believed that, in the interest of public safety, NFPA standards for the retail sales and

storage of consumer fireworks should be available in those jurisdictions where such sales are permitted.

As a result of the Board of Directors' decision, the 2003 edition of NFPA 1124 included new provisions dealing with the distribution and retail sales of consumer fireworks. The code also addressed the fire and life safety requirements for the construction, siting and separation distances, and storage and display layouts of both permanent and temporary consumer fireworks retail sales facilities. It contained a completely revised Chapter 6 on distribution facilities and a new Chapter 7 on consumer fireworks retail sales facilities. The code was also revised to reflect the *Manual of Style for NFPA Technical Committee Documents*.

The 2006 edition featured a reorganization of Chapter 7, which split the requirements for consumer fireworks retail sales (CFRS) facilities, stores, and tents and stands into separate, comprehensive sections. The code also added a requirement that all consumer fireworks undergo third-party testing and certification. In addition, the committee revised the definitions to make them consistent with NFPA 1123, *Code for Fireworks Display*.

The 2013 edition included updated definitions to match extracted text and comply with the *Manual of Style for NFPA Technical Committee Documents*. As a result of a 2008 research project conducted by the Fire Protection Research Foundation, the committee incorporated several changes to both consumer fireworks storage and retail sales facility requirements (Chapters 6 and 7, respectively). Coordinating with several other committees, the Technical Committee on Pyrotechnics also established egress capacity requirements for both storage and retail sales facilities. The code also introduced improved requirements for protective features — flame breaks and covered fuses — by referencing newly developed fire test standards.

The 2017 edition removed all the provisions related to the distribution and retail sales of consumer fireworks as a result of Standards Council Decision #14-1. These requirements were primarily located in Chapters 6 and 7; therefore, those chapters were deleted in their entirety. In addition, the requirements for consumer fireworks storage in manufacturing facilities were relocated to Chapter 5.

The 2022 edition includes minor editorial changes throughout to bring it in line with the *Manual of Style for NFPA Technical Committee Documents*.

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This list represents the membership at the time the Committee was balloted on the final text of this edition. Since that time, changes in the membership may have occurred. A key to classifications is found at the back of the document.

NOTE: Membership on a committee shall not in and of itself constitute an endorsement of the Association or any document developed by the committee on which the member serves.

Committee Scope: This Committee shall have primary responsibility for documents on the manufacture, transportation, and storage of consumer and display fireworks, pyrotechnic special effects, and model and high power rocket motors. This Committee shall have primary responsibility for the use of display fireworks and for model and high power rocketry, and the construction, launching, and other operations that involve model and high power rocket motors. The Committee does not have responsibility for documents on the storage and retail sales of consumer fireworks or the use of consumer fireworks by the general public; on the use of pyrotechnic special effects before a proximate audience; on the manufacture, transportation, storage for use of military, automotive, agricultural, and industrial pyrotechnics.