

THE CHEMISTRY OF FIREWORK COLOURS

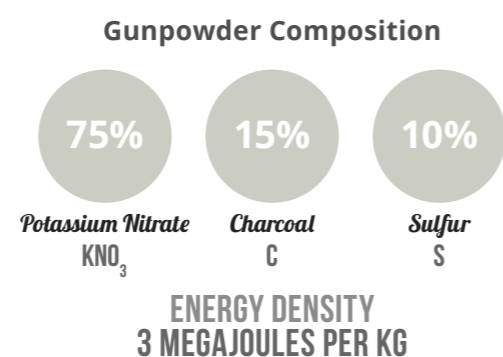


COLOUR PRODUCERS



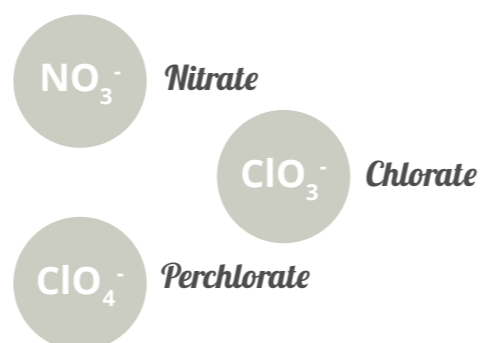
Metal compounds which produce an intense colour when burned. Some are listed above.

FUEL



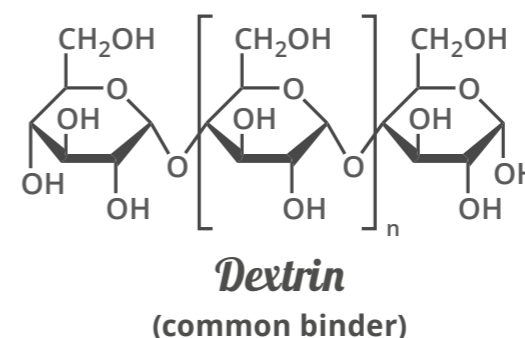
Allows firework to burn; gunpowder, (potassium nitrate, sulfur & charcoal), is often used.

OXIDISER



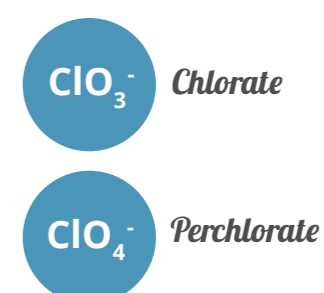
Usually nitrates, chlorates or perchlorates; required to provide oxygen for the combustion of fuel.

BINDER



Hold the mixture together; the most commonly used is a starch, dextrin, dampened with water.

CHLORINE DONOR



Chlorine donors help strengthen some colours. Some oxidisers can also act as chlorine donors.

