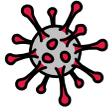




Coronavirus (COVID-19): rules over the Christmas period in England



COVID-19

With the coronavirus (COVID-19) still making people ill, Christmas will be different for everyone this year.

What are the rules from Wednesday 2 December to Wednesday 23 December?



rules

You must follow the **rules** that are in place in your tier level. You can use the [postcode checker](#) to see which **tier** you are in ([gov.uk/find-coronavirus-local-restrictions](https://www.gov.uk/find-coronavirus-local-restrictions))

What are the rules over Christmas?



Christmas

During **Wednesday 23rd December to Sunday 27th December**, the rules will be changed. People will be allowed to travel within the UK to spend Christmas in “bubbles” of up to 3 households, including into different tiers.

3

three

1

one



cannot

What is a Christmas bubble?

A Christmas bubble is a group of people from no more than **three households**.

You can only be in **one** Christmas bubble.

You **cannot** change your Christmas bubble.



meet

You can only meet your Christmas bubble in **private homes** or in your **garden, places of worship**, or public **outdoor** spaces.



visit

If someone is in your Christmas bubble, you can **visit** each other's homes and stay **overnight**.

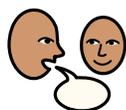
How big should my Christmas bubble be?

You should keep your Christmas bubble as **small** as possible.



small

What should I do before forming and meeting my Christmas bubble?



contact

You should reduce **unnecessary** contact with people you do not live with as much as possible in the **two weeks** before you form your Christmas bubble.

What if I or someone in my Christmas bubble shows symptoms?



COVID-19

If a member of your Christmas bubble tests **positive** for coronavirus (COVID-19) or develops coronavirus symptoms between the 23 and 27 December, or up to 48 hours after members of the bubble last met, **all** members of the bubble must **self-isolate** as if they were members of the same household.

Can I form a Christmas bubble with people I do not normally live with?



different

You are **allowed** to form a **different** Christmas bubble from the people you live with normally. If you and the people you are living with want to be in **different** Christmas bubbles, you can choose to **stay** somewhere else with different people for this period and form a Christmas bubble with that household and one other household (this will count as three households).

If I have formed a Christmas bubble can we go to pubs, restaurants and shops together?



meet

No. Bubbles can only **meet** in a private home (to meet or stay the night), outdoors or at a place of worship.

Guidance for care homes



care home

Some people living in registered care and of working age may be able to **leave** their care home to form a bubble, if they agree with the home and with individual risk assessments. A care home resident may form a bubble with **one other** household, and should **not** form a three-household Christmas bubble at any point.



social distancing

If a care home resident does join a household for Christmas they should social distance, wash hands regularly, and let plenty of fresh air into rooms by opening windows and doors.