



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



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 Thursday 24 December?



rules

You must follow the **rules** that are in place in your Protection Level.

What are the rules over Christmas?



Scotland

The Scottish Government strongly believes that the **safest** way to spend **Christmas** is in your **own household**, in your **own home**, in your local area. You **do not** need to form a Christmas bubble and you should not feel pressured into making one.



Christmas

On **Friday 25 December**, you can form a **Christmas** bubble of up to **8 people** from **3 households**, one of which can be an extended household.



travel

You **cannot** travel **out** of Scotland to form a Christmas bubble. People **cannot** travel **into** Scotland to join your Christmas bubble.



social distancing

Children under the age of 12 from these households need not count towards the total number of people in the bubble. Children under 12 do not need to **social distance** from others.

3

three

What is a Christmas bubble?

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

1

one

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.

How big should my Christmas bubble be?



small

You should keep your Christmas bubble as **small** as possible. You can form a Christmas bubble with **different** people to who you normally live with.



Scotland

The Scottish Government **recommends** that you keep any bubble to a maximum of **8 people**. Children under the age of 12 from these households do not count towards the total number of people counted in the bubble.

I share a house with other people, are we one household or can we go to different bubbles?



should not

People (other than students) who live in a shared flat or house are considered a household and the Scottish Government's strong advice is that households **should not split up** and enter separate bubbles over the festive period.



isolate

If you do join different bubbles you should **isolate** from people you live with both before and after joining your bubble for around a **week**.

If I have formed a 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.

Do I have to socially distance from those in my Christmas bubble?



social distancing

You should keep **2m away** from people outside of your household as much as you can.

What happens for celebrating New Year's Eve/Hogmanay?



end

All of mainland Scotland will be in Protection Level 4 from Saturday 26 December, except for Orkney, Shetland, Na h-Eileanan Siar and the more remote islands in Argyll and Bute and Highland, which will be in Level 3. Please follow the rules for your Protection Level area from this date.