

GENERAL PRODUCT SAFETY REGULATION (GPSR) COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

Product Name: FlexiPole Balloon Arch Kit

1. Product Description

The FlexiPole Balloon Arch Kit is a modular display system designed to create freestanding or semi-supported balloon arches for events, decorations, and commercial displays.

The kit includes:

- Seven rigid poles (each 1.5 metres in length)
- One designated centre pole (without joining pins) for apex positioning
- Two powder-coated steel base plates with anti-slip rubber feet

When assembled using five or more poles, the structure forms a smooth arch. The number of poles used (five, six, or seven) allows for adjustable arch size and curvature. Balloon clusters are attached to the structure to create decorative displays.

2. Intended Use

This product is intended for:

- Indoor and outdoor decorative use
- Events such as weddings, parties, retail displays, and exhibitions
- Supporting balloon arrangements only

The product is not intended for:

- Structural or load-bearing applications beyond decorative balloons
- Use in high wind conditions without additional anchoring

3. Safety Information

3.1 Assembly Safety

- Ensure all poles are securely connected before raising the arch
- The centre pole (without joining pins) must be positioned at the top (apex) of the arch
- Always assemble the structure on a flat, stable surface

3.2 Stability and Anchoring

- Use both base plates at all times during operation
- Ensure rubber feet are in full contact with the ground to prevent slipping
- For outdoor use, additional weights or anchoring may be required

3.3 Joint Security

- For improved stability and waterproofing, wrap 360 modelling balloons tightly around each joint
- Regularly check joints for loosening during use & whilst attaching clusters of balloons.

3.4 Usage Hazards

- Do not climb, hang, or place additional weight on the structure
- Keep away from open flames and heat sources
- Balloons may pose a choking hazard; adult supervision is required around children

4. Materials and Construction

- Poles: Rigid tubular material (event-grade structural plastic)
- Base plates: Powder-coated metal with rubber anti-slip feet
- Connectors: Integrated joining pins (except centre pole)

All materials are selected to provide adequate strength, durability, and resistance to normal environmental conditions when used as intended.

5. Risk Assessment Summary

Identified risks and mitigation measures:

Risk	Mitigation
Structural collapse	Ensure correct assembly and use of base plates
Slipping or movement	Anti-slip rubber feet and optional additional weights
Joint failure	Secure connections and optional balloon wrapping reinforcement. Avoid forcing/sliding balloon clusters around joints where 360 balloon or gaffa tape have been used. Allow the next cluster of balloons further along each pole to “tightly pack” your joint clusters into position.
Wind instability	Recommend additional anchoring outdoors - use double base plates or extra weight ballast (such as sand bags).

Choking hazard (balloons)	Supervision required
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Residual risks are considered low when the product is used according to instructions.

6. Maintenance and Inspection

- Inspect poles, connectors, and base plates before each use
- Do not use damaged or split components
- Clean with a dry or slightly damp cloth; avoid corrosive substances
- Store in a dry environment to prevent deterioration

7. Packaging and Labelling Requirements

The product packaging should include:

- Product identification and description
- Assembly instructions
- Safety warnings and intended use
- Manufacturer or responsible economic operator details
- Batch or lot identification for traceability

8. Compliance Statement

This product has been assessed in accordance with the **EU General Product Safety Regulation (EU) 2023/988**. When used as intended and in accordance with the provided instructions, it meets the applicable safety requirements for consumer products.

9. Responsible Person / Economic Operator

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