
Section 1: Proper Tank Care. How to store and care for your tanks!

Section 2: String or Ribbon? What is the right choice for you!

Section 3: Which Size is Right? 11" rounds to the massive Cloudbusters.

Section 4: The Elements. Sunshine, Wind, and Rain - they affect your balloons.

Section 5: Preserving our Desert! Notes on how to aid our environment.

Section 1 - Proper tank care.

Following these simple steps will help keep you safe, prolong the life of your tank, and help keep helium consumption down!

Step 1: Make sure that your helium tank is secured and in a safe, dry place. You can use chains, bungee cords, and tie downs to secure your tank to beams or sturdy furniture. This keeps your tank from falling and injuring or damaging anything near by.

Step 2: It is extremely important to close your helium tank when not in use to preserve gas. This helps prevent any leakage, as the valve system on all gas tanks are super strong and it is almost always the regulator that fails or the gas is being used improperly by other employees.

Step 3: Safety caps are placed on our tanks not only for safe transportation, but for storage as well. These simple devices are designed to protect the valve components of the tanks and prevent any dangerous mishaps. If there is gas in the tank it is pressurized. If the tank falls and the valve is damaged it is now a 130 pound projectile holding up to 2000 pounds of force.

Section 2 - String or Ribbon?

We have compiled a few facts and information on both products and their uses.

String

1 Cone String = 6 rolls of ribbon

Biodegrades faster than ribbon

Goes with any color combo

You can double up on it many more times than ribbon

Ribbon

Ribbon stands up to the elements better

Ribbon comes in more attractive colors

It can be used indoors and outdoors with a nicer overall look

Ribbon is tough and has many uses

When selecting either the string or the ribbon, keep in mind what is best for your business. Do you need bright colored ribbon to go with your balloons to attract the passing motorist? Do you want your balloons to float up high to draw attention from all around? Which ever you may choose, please keep in mind that all though the balloons and string are biodegradable, releasing clusters of balloons with ribbon/string attached is harmful to the environment and the animals that live in it.

Helpful Tips & Tricks

Made especially for Balloons Etc.'s Customers

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Section 3 - Which Size is Right?

This section is here to offer you information on each of our latex sizes to help you determine not only which size is right for you, but offer you a mini cheat sheet on figuring out how many balloons vs. how much gas you have!

The Cloudbuster balloon is labeled as a 5.5 ft.. chloroprene balloon, which is a natural and synthetic blend of latex. These balloons last for days, and are built to stand up to outdoor environments but react equally as well inside for a lasting impact.

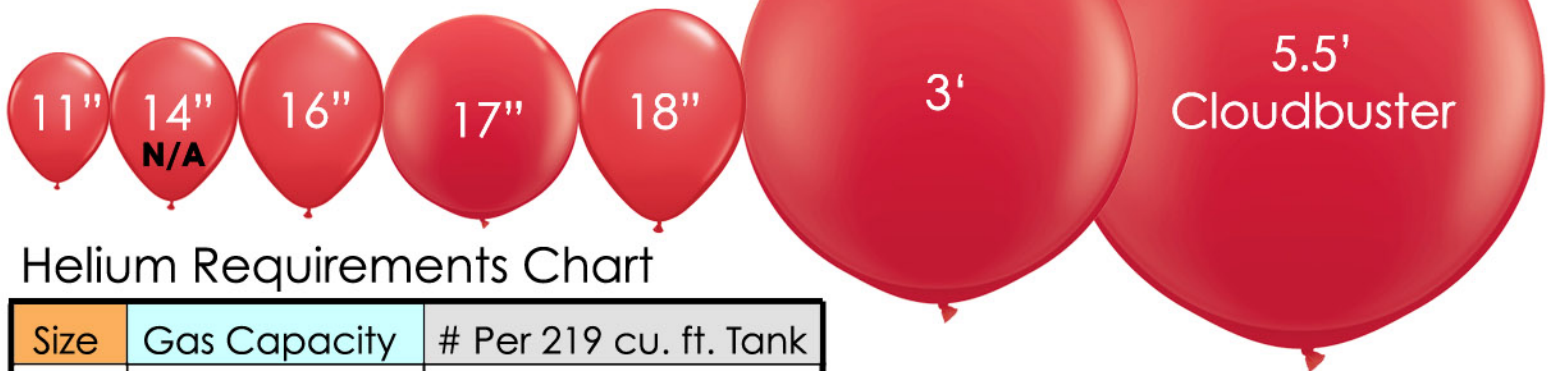
The 3' balloons come in a wider array of colors than the 5.5, and they still have that wow factor!

Our 17" TufTex latex balloons are our premier choice for outside decoration for your business front. These balloons were built for outdoor use. Unlike our smaller balloons, 17" blow up to be a round ball-shaped balloons. They are great attention grabbers and also work well indoors.

If you are interested in 18", or 16" balloons we do offer them in select colors and are manufactured by Qualatex except the 14" which is made by TufTex and are NOT available. Call for availability, count, and color on any of our 16" or 18" balloons.

The most common size for decoration that we sell is Qualatex 11" latex. Which comes in a rainbow of colors and assortments. These balloons are considered the best in the business and are made of high quality biodegradable latex. These balloons are used for indoor decoration, however because of their high quality, they are suited for outdoor use as well. Just remember to cut the float time in half.

[Check out our online Latex selection for the latest colors and assortments](#)



Helium Requirements Chart

Size	Gas Capacity	# Per 219 cu. ft. Tank
11"	.5 cu. ft.	400-420 balloons
14"	1 cu. ft.	200-215 balloons
16"	1.5 cu. ft.	100-120 balloons
17"	1.7 cu. ft.	100-110 balloons
18"	2 cu. ft.	90-105 balloons
3'	15 cu. ft.	12-14 balloons
5'	66 cu. ft.	3 balloons

-NOTE-

The estimated number of balloons is a conservative number. You may experience variances due to under and over inflation, outside conditions, and general loss of gas.

If you would like the specific range of float time each size has - Call Us Today!

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Section 4 - The Elements?

Here in Southern Arizona, we face a lot of interesting weather conditions. All of these factors affect the look and life of your balloons when they are outside.

Element: **Fire** a.k.a. **The Sun**

The sun is powerful, we feel the affect of its radiation as heat. This heat can reek havoc on your balloons!

Remember - Latex is porous and as the heat expands the balloon, more gas is allowed to escape! This affects dark colors much more dramatically, so if it's hot - under inflate.

Heat also shortens your float time due to the escaping gas. Use of Ultra HiFloat, can slow this from happening, but not solve it.

Lastly, only in a desert can you get 20 degree shifts in the climate. So check your balloons just before mid-day to see how they are handling the heat change.

Element: **Air** a.k.a. **The Wind**

The wind in the desert carries a two fold danger to your balloons!

Remember - Latex is organic and is subject to the Oxidation process. Meaning the longer the balloon is exposed to air the more the latex will degrade. Air Conditioning while nice for us will affect your balloons.

Crystal/Jewel colors run the risk of turning opaque - clear will be an off white.

Wind also has that nasty habit of picking up speed which can mean your balloon line can snap, so double up on string during stormy days. Make sure your balloons can't drift into roads, trees or powerlines!

Element: **Water** a.k.a. **The Rain**

The rain while being a life giving necessity for desert tends to have a unique affect on balloons here in AZ.

Remember - Latex is rubberized and as the temp drops due to rain, latex will harden, and the helium molecule will actually "shrink." Which is the opposite of what happens on a hot day. But since it is rubberized the balloon will rebound as the tempeture picks up.

Inflate as you would normally, chances are it wont be cold enough to cause your balloons to drop. It is common for balloons to yo-yo during temperature changes.

Be vigilant for hail, it can pop your balloons.

Section 5 - Preserving our Desert.

Here are some tips for keeping our desert ecosystem happy and healthy.

- Do not release clusters into the atmosphere. This attributes both to air and ground polution. Balloons shoot up to 5 miles above the earth and can be a hazard for air traffic and migratory birds. When they pop, the string and now shreaded balloons will fall to the ground, adding to the litter surrounding Tucson, and southern AZ.
- Do not release Mylar/Foil balloons, they do not biodegrate like latex, and CAN conduct electricity. If one flies into electrical lines it can cause power outages.
- If you decide to do a balloon release, only use twine not ribbon. Cut the twine to 1.5 inch long pieces. This is because birds tend to eat the string attatched to bright balloons that have fallen back to the ground. Twine cut short will not entirely harm the bird and will pass, ribbon however can cause serious damage that can lead to death in birds.
- Although latex is biodegradable it takes time and exposure to the elements in order to do so, one way of speeding up this proces is to cut up your spent latex balloons.
- A creative way of disposing of latex balloons is by re purposing them, creating colorful jewelery and using them as interesting additions to arts and crafts projects are an easy way to start being green.