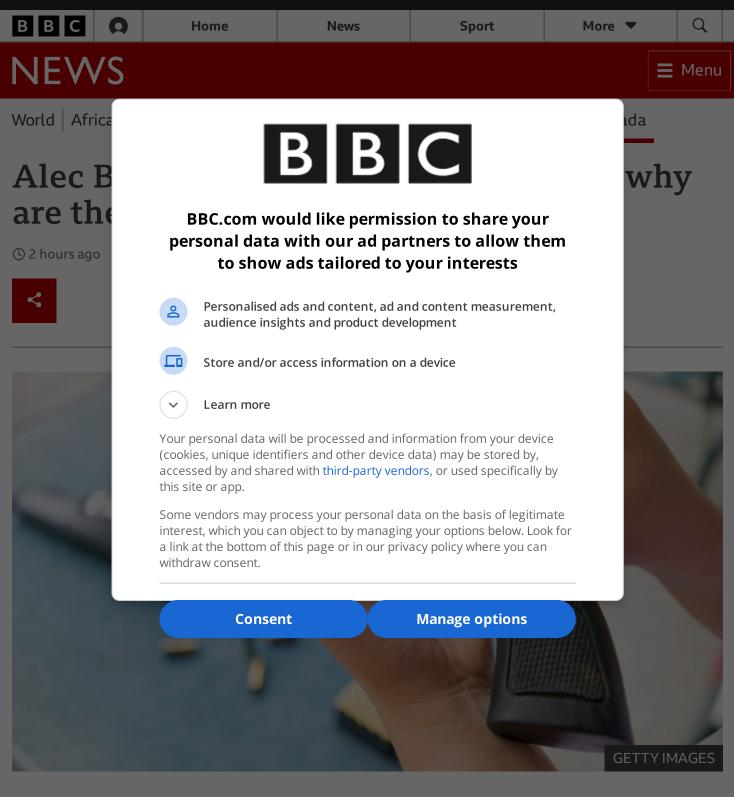
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On a film set, a real-life tragedy has happened.

#### Police say US actor Alec Baldwin fired a prop gun that killed

cinematographer Halyna Hutchins and wounded director Joel Souza on a film set in New Mexico. They were working on the film Rust.

Tributes have been paid to Ms Hutchins, 42, while Mr Baldwin is said to be distraught. One local paper found him in tears outside Santa Fe County Sheriff's Office.

An investigation is under way and we don't yet know what went wrong. A spokesman for Mr Baldwin said there had been an accident on the set involving the misfire of a prop gun with blanks.

Such incident firearms on se "On the film I every day," sa case is so incr



Despite sound Here's what w

# What is

Blanks are us

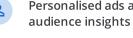
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Blanks differ



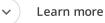
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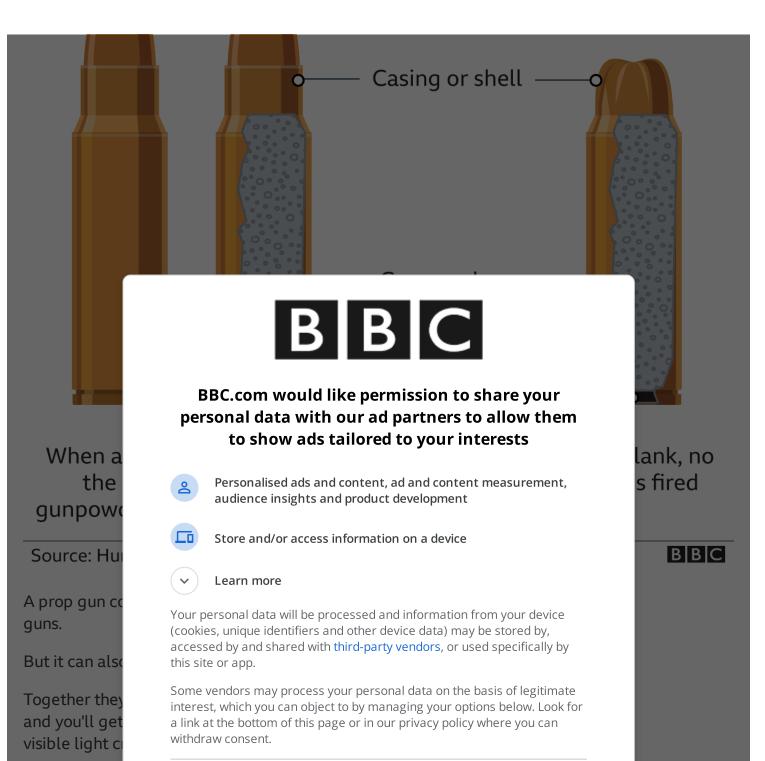
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A blank cartridge is the same as a live round, except it does not have a projectile or bullet at its tip



Projectile or bullet

**Blank** 



Has this kind

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Yes. You may remember Brandon Lee, the actor son of martial arts legend Bruce Lee.

Brandon Lee died aged just 28 in 1993 while filming The Crow, when a prop gun which mistakenly had a dummy round loaded in it was fired at him.

Dummy rounds contain no explosive charge and in this case were used to film a close-up. When blanks were loaded part of the dummy round remained in the

After Lee was shot, the cameras kept rolling. It was only when he did not get up at the end of the scene that those on set realised something was wrong.

In another incident, in 1984, US actor Jon-Erik Hexum started joking around on the set of a television show after being frustrated by delays in filming.

He loaded a revolver with a blank, spun the chamber, put the gun to his temple and fired.

Unlike Lee, he was not killed by a projectile, but rather the force of the blast was strong en

## How can

Hexum's deat they pack end

Adding to the stronger.

Film sets usua provide weap

"There's basic who has work

"You never pc how this could damage."

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goggles, you would stand behind a Perspex screen, and you would minimise the number of people by the camera, " he said.

"What I don't understand in this instance is how two people have been injured, one tragically killed, in the same event."

Others working in film wondered why, at a time when gun effects can be cheaply added using computers, blanks are still being used at all.

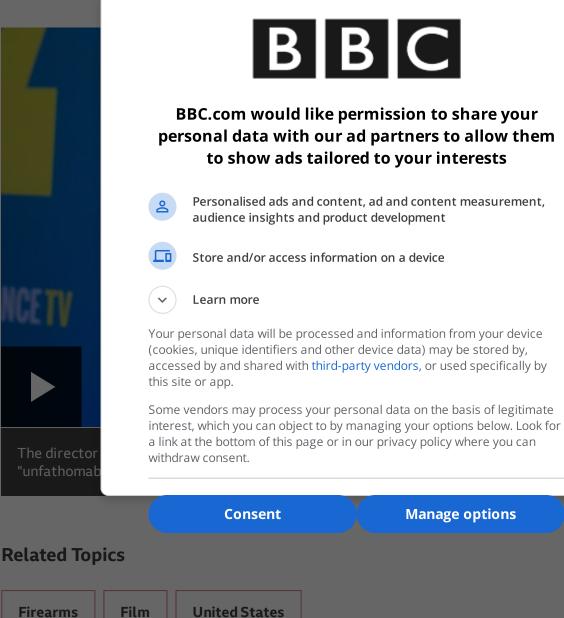
"There's no reason to have guns loaded with blanks or anything on set

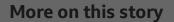
anymore. Should just be fully outlawed," **tweeted Craig Zobel**, an actor and director whose credits include Westworld and Mare of Easttown.

"Prop guns are guns," TV writer David Slack tweeted. "Blanks have real gunpowder in them. They can injure or kill - and they have. If you're ever on a set where prop guns are treated without proper caution and safe handling, walk away.

"No show or shot is worth risking people's lives," he added.

## More on this story.



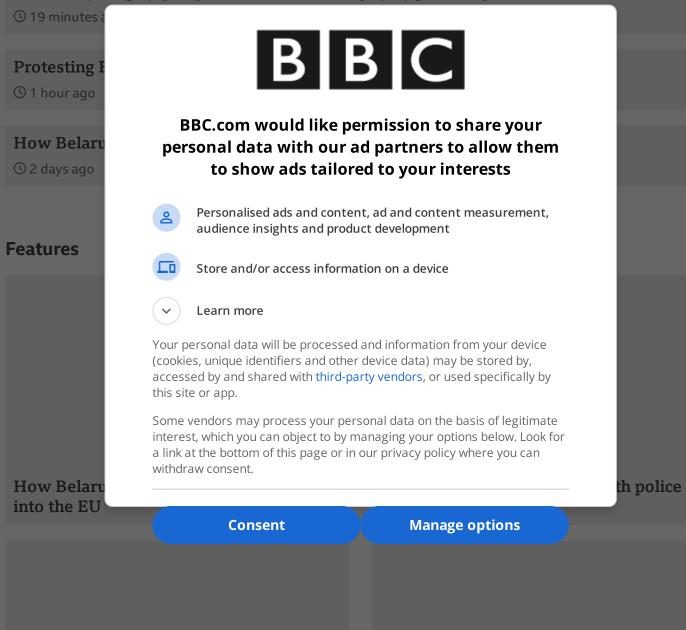


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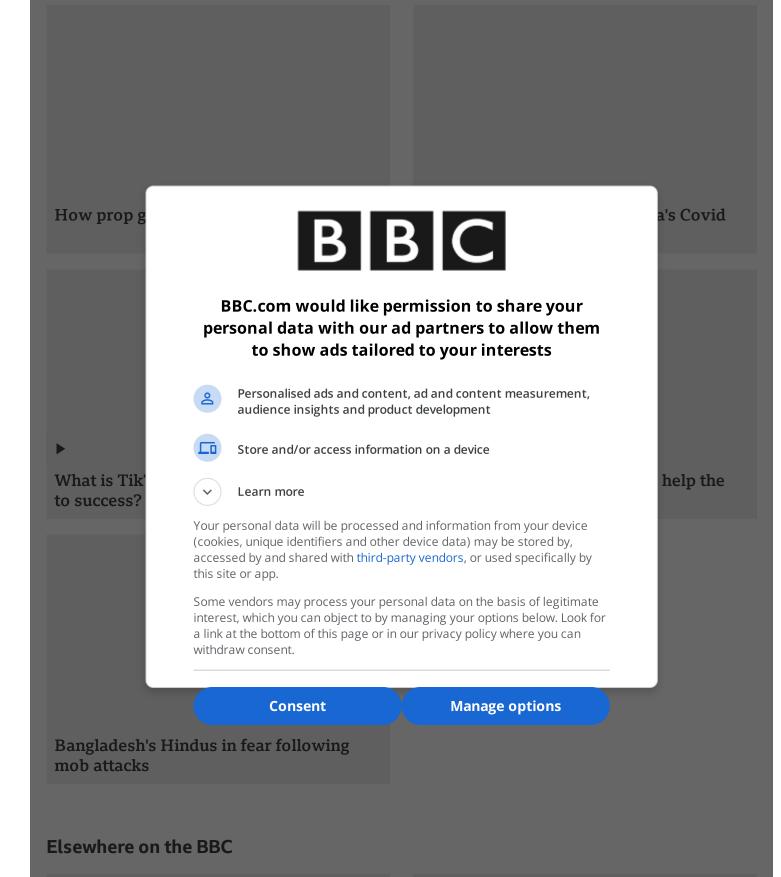
Baldwin 'heartbroken' over fatal film set shooting

Director of photography Halyna Hutchins was killed by a prop gun fired by the actor in New Mexico.



# Six reasons the Newcastle takeover is controversial

# Weekly quiz: How did Sex Education influence baby names?

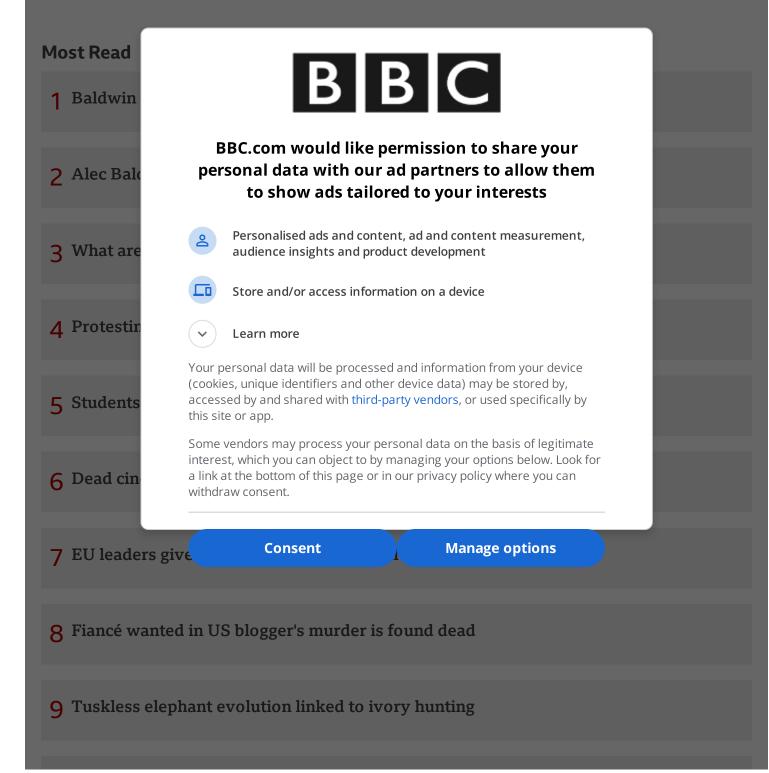


### Lyrics quiz

Have you been getting these songs wrong?

#### **Feeling hot**

What happens to your body in extreme heat?



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