



## Halloween Safety Tips

Halloween means fun, but not always for our pets. Let's make sure we keep them healthy and happy.

### **Trick-or-Treat**

Is your pet the official greeter at your house? If so, be cautious. It's much too easy for them to slip out the door when you're not watching. During trick-or-treat hours, it's best to keep all your pets indoors and confined in a room away from the activity. The constant doorbell ringing and people coming will stress many pets. Plan ahead to have some calming treats to give them in their safe, out-of-the-way place. Just in case someone gives you the slip, though, make sure all your pets have a microchip.

### **Costumes**

If your pet is going to wear a costume (we won't even suggest you need to ask him first!), be sure it fits comfortably and doesn't interfere with his vision. Don't have anything dangling off it that could be chewed off and swallowed or could be annoying to your pet. Some pets are stressed wearing a costume so it's better for them to stay au naturel. Otherwise, take that picture quick and then take it off!



### **Treats**



Keep all candy out of pets' reach. Chocolate can be poisonous, but too many treats of any kind is guaranteed to give your pet diarrhea.

Believe us when we tell you, it won't be pretty. After all, who wants a trip to the ER when you're supposed to be having fun?

### **Decorations**

Decorations can be a danger if they are within reach of curious dogs and cats. Cats love dangling things and any kind of string can be deadly to them. Be very, very careful. Some pets want to chew on the electrical cords. Many things can be swallowed and sometimes the only way to get them out is with surgery. This is not how you want to spend Halloween.

### **Jack-o-lanterns**

These look great. Your pets may think so too and investigate. Eating lots of pumpkin isn't good for them. A candle flame can also be a big risk. Be cautious with any candles when they are burning. Dogs with long tails and jumping cats can knock candles over and start fires.

Have fun but be safe!

