

Halloween Safety Tips



It's a spooky time of year, and our pets want to join in the fun, too! While we get excited about disguising our pet in fun costumes, here are some things to keep in mind as Halloween festivities approach.

1. Candy is not to share with your furry friends.

This one likely seems very obvious to you. And while we don't plan to feed candy to our pets, if it's left out, they can get into it. Just remember to keep candy out of reach.

2. Trick or Treaters mean extra traffic at your door.

It's exciting to see what cute costumes kids are going to wear this year, and though we want to show off the costumes our furry 'kids' are wearing, extra knocking, door-bell ringing, and people at your house can be stressful for your pets. To keep everyone extra happy, try to find a safe, quiet place to keep your pet for the evening.

3. Keep your pets indoors

Halloween can be a time for pranks, stealing and other potentially harmful activities. If you are planning to be away from home that night, keep your pets indoors if at all possible, especially cats.

4. Keep your outdoor cats inside several days before and several days after Halloween.

Black cats are especially at risk from pranks or other cruelty-related incidents. In fact, many shelters do not adopt out black cats during the month of October as a safety precaution.

5. Keep Halloween plants such as pumpkins and corn out of reach.

Although they are relatively nontoxic, such plants can induce *gastrointestinal* upset should your pets ingest them in large quantities. Intestinal blockage can even occur if large pieces are swallowed.

6. Don't keep lit pumpkins around pets.

Should they get too close, they run the risk of burning themselves or knocking it over and causing a fire.

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7. Keep wires and electric light cords out of reach.

If chewed, your pet could cut himself or herself on shards of glass or plastic, or receive a possibly life-threatening electrical shock.

8. If your pet isn't loving the costume – ditch it.

Let's be honest, some pets aren't in to the costume thing. If you get the sense that they really aren't digging the pirate hat or princess dress, you should probably take it off.

9. Make sure your pet is wearing a form of ID!

Whether you are bringing your dog out with you, or leaving your cat or dog at home, ensuring they have a proper form of identification is crucial. Providing your pet with a collar tagged with their name and your contact information is the first step, and we highly recommend ensuring your pet has a microchip, or permanent form of identification.

You can get a microchip for your pet at any The Corner Vet clinic for only \$40! That's a small price to pay to get you beloved furry kid home safe.