

HALLOWEEN PET SAFETY TIPS

Keeping pooch and puss safe this holiday

DÉCOR = DANGER



To you it's a fun decoration. To them it's a chew toy.

From glow sticks to spooky candles to illuminated light shows, re-creating your house as a haunted castle is half the fun of Halloween. But all those delightful details pose a real peril to your pet. Cats & dogs are naturally curious. So when it comes to potentially hazardous décor—especially that involving open flame or electric wires—make sure pets can't get at it.

BEWARE TOXIC TREATS!



Keep candy out of reach.

Don't let your sweet tooth put your pet in danger. While it is well known that all forms of chocolate can be lethal to dogs and cats, other ingredients in many typical Halloween candies (e.g., the artificial sweetener Xylitol) can cause anything from digestive upset to liver failure to death. If you suddenly notice signs of distress in your animal, such as bloody stools or vomiting, call your vet!

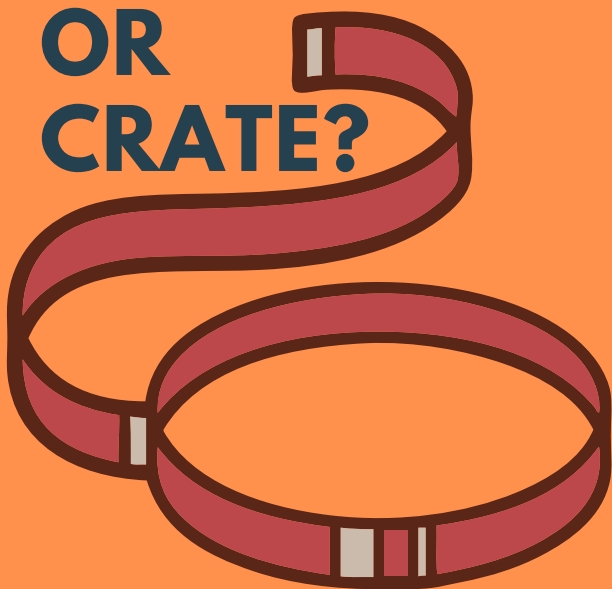
FEAR FACTOR



Consider your costume.

Dogs (and, to some extent, cats) rely on their acute sense of smell and hearing to recognize their owner. But visually they know you by your face as well. If you like to dress up for Halloween, try not to change your appearance to such an extent that it triggers anxiety in your pet, a "flight or fight" response, or even aggression.

LEASH OR CRATE?



Speaking of fear...

With the steady stream of trick-or-treaters knocking at the door and the cacophony of unfamiliar noises indoors and out, it can make for a very disorienting and even frightening experience for any animal. Your best bet, then, might be to keep your dog or cat confined in a crate or back room of the house, away from all disturbing stimuli, until the chaos has died down. If you must take your dog outside for a walk, keep him on a short leash, and steer clear of costumed kids. In short, when it comes to Halloween, it's okay to be a pet party pooper.

WHERE'S FIDO?



Keep all pet I.D.s up to date.

Use this holiday as a yearly reminder to check that name, address, and other identifying info about your dog or cat are current. Should your pet get spooked by all the festivities and somehow escape from the house, you'll know there's a good chance he will be returned safe and sound. (See our wide selection of pet I.D. tags and tag accessories at www.ketchummfg.com.)

SAFE & HAPPY HALLOWEEN WISHES FROM...

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