



pet safety

# HALLOWEEN DANGERS

Protecting, Promoting and Advancing Pet Health

**Lights and decorations, costumes and masks, a constant parade of strangers at the door...** Halloween can be a downright spooky experience for our pets with risks of poisoning, intestinal blockage and lost pets.

## CONCERNS:

- **Poisoning:** Ingestion of glow sticks or Halloween candy containing chocolate or xylitol, both of which can be toxic for pets
- **Intestinal blockage:** Glow sticks, some candies, decorations or parts of a pet's costume could cause intestinal blockage
- **Injury:** Lit candles or jack-o-lanterns can burn
- **Stress and escape:** Noises, strangers in costumes, continuous door ringing and opening and closing of the door can stress your pets and give them opportunity to escape

## PREVENTION:

- Don't feed Halloween candy to your pets
- Never leave your pet unsupervised with accessible candy or decorations, or while they are in costume
- Identify your pet with a registered microchip, collar and ID tag
- Keep lit candles, jack-o-lanterns, glow sticks and other decorations out of reach
- Give your pet a quiet, safe hiding place inside and away from activity

## MAKE SURE PET COSTUMES:

- Fit properly
- Have no pieces that can easily be chewed off or cause choking
- Don't hinder sight, hearing, breathing, opening the mouth, or movement

**In case of an animal-related toxicity, please contact the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center 1-888-426-4435**

## Questions or Concerns?

**Ask your veterinarian or for more tips visit [AVMA.org/Halloween](https://www.avma.org/Halloween)**

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