



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

# Tips for a safer HALLOWEEN

Follow these tips to celebrate Halloween safely this year and help lower the chances of catching or spreading COVID-19

## Safer activities and trick-or-treating

- **Stay home and do not hand out candy if you are sick** or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19. Keep your lights off so people know not to come to your door.
- **Keep your group as small as possible.** Groups should be no larger than 10 and stick together, don't mix and mingle between groups
- **Use hand sanitizer** before and after choosing pumpkins or picking apples.
- **Take it outside.** When celebrating with others, do it outdoors.
- **Remember the 3 Ws!**
  - **Wear a mask** that's at least 2 layers thick and fits snugly but comfortably over your nose, mouth and chin without any gaps.
  - **Wash your hands** often with soap at water for at least 20 seconds especially before eating candy. Or carry and use hand sanitizer that is at least 60% alcohol.
  - **Watch your distance** by staying at least six feet apart from others.
- **Trick-or-treating tips**
  - Leave individually wrapped goodie bags lined up at least six feet from your door for kids to grab and go. Do not hand out candy from a bowl.
  - Go trick-or-treating with your children to make sure they do it safely.
  - Encourage one-way trick-or-treating and wait until other groups have moved on before approaching a home.

## Safe Halloween-themed activities

- Take part in an online pumpkin carving or costume contest.
- Display Halloween-themed decorations in your home or yard.
- Organize a neighborhood contest for outdoor Halloween-themed decorations.
- Plan a Halloween scavenger hunt for the members of your household.
- Decorate your own Halloween or fall-themed face masks.
- Prepare a Halloween-themed meal or bake Halloween treats for your household.

## Safe Halloween costume masks

- **A Halloween costume mask alone will not protect you and others from COVID-19.**
- Wearing a costume mask over a protective face covering can be dangerous if the costume mask makes it hard to breathe.
- The safest option is to wear face paints and a Halloween-themed protective face covering.



All organized Halloween Events must comply with all of the Governor's reopening orders. Visit [Mass.gov](https://www.mass.gov) for details

Find more tips for safely celebrating Halloween, Dia de los Muertos and other holidays at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays.html>

10/3/2020