

Halloween Night Dog Checklist

Three short lists for a calm, safe Halloween: **keep the candy out of reach, keep the open door from becoming an exit, and practice a few cues before the night.** Tick them off as you go.

FILLABLE PDF · TYPE ON A COMPUTER OR TABLET, OR PRINT AND FILL IT IN BY HAND.

DOG'S NAME

VET PHONE

EMERGENCY CLINIC PHONE

SAFETY

- ☐ **Quiet room ready** away from the door, with water, a chew and sound cover
- ☐ **ID tag and microchip** registration current, in case your dog slips out
- ☐ **Costume only if your dog is comfortable:** nothing on the eyes, ears, breathing or legs, and no small parts to chew off
- ☐ **Door managed:** a gate, a closed room or a leash, so the open door never becomes an exit
- ☐ **Candles, lit jack-o'-lanterns, glow sticks and cords** out of reach
- ☐ **Choking first aid** read ahead, and the route to the nearest emergency clinic known

FOOD

- ☐ **All candy up high**, including the kids' trick-or-treat bags
- ☐ **Sugar-free candy and gum:** check for xylitol, which is toxic to dogs even in small amounts
- ☐ **Wrappers, foil and lollipop sticks** can choke a dog or block the gut, so sweep the floor
- ☐ **Chocolate:** the darker, the worse; treat any amount as a reason to call your vet
- ☐ **Raisins and grapes** stay off the dog's plate: they can cause kidney failure
- ☐ **A treat made for dogs** by the door, so guests and kids have something they can give

TRAINING

- ☐ **Leave it** for anything that lands on the floor
- ☐ **Go to your mat** when the doorbell rings, practiced with treats first
- ☐ **Settle** in a busy room, built up in short, easy sessions
- ☐ **Drop it:** trade a treat for whatever is in the mouth, and never chase
- ☐ **Wait at the door** until you say the release word
- ☐ **Costume practice** in small, rewarded steps, days before the night

MY PLAN FOR THE NIGHT (WHO WATCHES THE DOOR, WHERE THE DOG WILL BE, WHO TO CALL)

If your dog eats candy or a wrapper, call your vet, the ASPCA (888) 426-4435 or Pet Poison Helpline (855) 764-7661 (a fee may apply). Don't make your dog vomit unless a vet or poison line tells you to.

THE FULL VERSION: THE HALLOWEEN DOG SURVIVAL GUIDE · ON ETSY: [NEWDOGCO.ETSY.COM](https://www.etsy.com/shop/newdogco)

Sources: ASPCA (Halloween safety; people foods to avoid); AVMA (Halloween and holiday pet safety; pet first aid, 2025); Pet Poison Helpline (xylitol; glow sticks; batteries); FDA (holiday hazards); AKC (leave it, drop it, go to your place, doorbell manners, impulse control); AVSAB (humane dog training, 2021).