

# PET SAFETY ON HALLOWEEN

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**October has arrived and that means that Halloween is just around the corner!**

**Halloween can be a noisy and stressful time for our pets, with potentially lots of unfamiliar house guests, costumes and excitable children in the home.**

**It can also be a potentially dangerous event, with lots of chocolate, treats and decorations lying around. So here are some top tips to keep your pet happy and safe this Halloween.**



## Dressing up

Not all animals like to be dressed up in costumes, and some costumes can be very restrictive to movement or breathing if they are too tight, particularly around the head/neck region. If your pet is trying to get away from you, or showing signs that they are anxious about the situation, don't force them to wear clothing or remove it immediately.

## Decorations

With lots of fun decorations around the house, take care your pets and do not get hold of them. Decorations with wires or candles could cause burns or electric shocks. Other items if ingested could be toxic or cause gastro intestinal obstructions.

## Chip and check!

All dogs by law have to be microchipped, but it is strongly recommended that all cats are microchipped as well. They might be let out by accident with lots of people coming to the door and become lost. It is also a legal requirement to ensure that your pet's microchip details are kept up to date with the pet database. A chip with old or inaccurate information is useless, and dog owners can be fined for their dog not having no chip or inaccurate records.

Keep pets in another room away from the front door to avoid escapes.

## Early 'walkies'

Walk dogs early in the evening, so they are less likely to become anxious or intimidated about seeing lots of noisy people in spooky costumes.

## No treats for your pets!

Chocolate and sweets should be kept out of reach as these are toxic to dogs.

Chocolate contains theobromine which can affect the heart, kidneys and central nervous system. Sweets can contain the artificial sweetener xylitol, which can suddenly cause a sudden drop in blood sugar levels and liver failure.



**If you have any concerns about your pet eating something they shouldn't, phone your vet immediately!**

## Happy Halloween!



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