

HALLOWEEN

TIPS FOR SAFE KIDS

Stollery Children's Hospital • Edmonton, Alberta • Capital Health • Phone (780) 407-7250 Fax (780) 407-6472 • www.capitalhealth.ca/kidsafe
Injury Prevention and Control Services • Calgary Health Region • Phone (403) 943-8016 Fax (403) 943-8025 • www.calgaryhealthregion.ca/kidsafe

Have a safe Halloween



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Halloween is a fun and exciting time for children. They get to dress up as ghosts and goblins, and visit their neighbours to play tricks and get treats.

Although Halloween activities should be fun and harmless, they could also be dangerous. The weather, darkness and excitement of the night can create dangerous situations for children.

Common types of injuries

Children suffer a variety of types of injuries during Halloween. Common causes of injuries include:

- **contact with motor vehicles,**
- **falls,**
- **burns,**
- **and even the treats collected.**

Preventing injuries

Fortunately, many of these Halloween injuries can be avoided by following some safety guidelines. Parents can take simple precautions to ensure their children's safety. As well, other adults need to be aware of their role in protecting the children in their neighbourhood during Halloween.

(continued on other side)

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(continued from other side)

- **Choose a route** for trick-or-treating before Halloween night.
- **Set a time** for children to return home.
- Young children under 8 years should be accompanied by an adult. Older children should trick-or-treat with an adult and/or in a group. **No child should trick-or-treat alone.**
- **Wear face paint or cosmetics** rather than masks that interfere with children's vision.
- **Costumes and footwear should fit properly.** Costumes should not be too loose or too long. Avoid large costumes with baggy sleeves and skirts.
- All costumes, wigs and hats should be made of **fire-resistant materials.**
- **Children should not play near lit Jack O'lanterns.**
- **Never allow children to carry sharp, dangerous props** such as knives or swords. These could cause injuries in a fall.
- Children should **carry a flashlight.**
- **Stay in well-lit areas** and only visit houses with the outside light on.
- **Be visible.** Add reflective tape to costumes and bags to make children more visible in the dark.
- Children should always **walk on sidewalks.** Never walk on the road or across yards.
- Trick-or-treaters should **walk, never run.**
- **Cross the road safely.** If there is no crosswalk, **POINT, PAUSE, PROCEED** at the nearest corner. **POINT** across the road to tell drivers you want to cross. **PAUSE** until the cars stop. **PROCEED** when it is safe. Keep checking for traffic.
- Children should **bring home treats for parents to inspect before eating them.** Check for punctures or holes in the candy wrapping or surface of fruits. Cut fruit open before eating.

Tips for all Adults

- When driving in residential areas, **slow down and be alert for children.**
- **Keep lit Jack O'lanterns out the way** of trick-or-treaters.
- **Remove obstacles in your yard** that could be hazards for trick or treaters in the dark, such as tools, toys, and lawn ornaments.
- If you are giving out treats, **leave your porch light on** to light the children's way up your path and step.
- **Keep Jack O'lanterns away from curtains** and other flammable materials.



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Word Search

Fill in the blanks in the **Halloween Safety Tips**.
 Then find the words in the letters below.
 The words are in all directions - forward, backward, up, down,
 diagonally.

Hint: the letters you do not use spell a secret message.



Halloween Safety Tips

1. Walk only on the _____ .
2. Bring all of your _____ home for your parents to check.
3. _____ with an adult or group of _____ .
4. Wear face paint instead of a _____ .
5. Never play near _____ that are lit.
6. Wear bright _____ so others can see you.
7. Carry a _____ to light your way.
8. Never enter a stranger's _____ .
9. Only visit houses with outside _____ on.
10. Tell your _____ the route you will follow.
11. Look both ways for cars before you _____ the street.
12. Wear costumes that are your _____ .

Secret Message:

_____ !
 _____ !

F L A S H L I G H T
 M S A N O F E F K R
 A I P R U D S R A I
 S K A E S R S I E C
 K L R T E N T E C K
 O A E N A C H N O O
 C W N A I D G D S R
 E E T L C N I S T T
 T D S O H R L A U R
 V I E K A S O A M E
 F S E C H A L S E A
 L O W A E Z I S S T
 E E N J S T A E R T