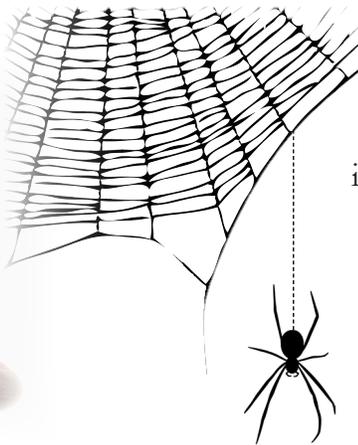


# have a *spook-tacular* **Howl-O-Ween!** with these pet **safety tips**

## Cautious Costumes

Most of us can't resist a four-legged vampire, a tail-wagging superhero, or a fluffy princess. In fact, pet parents spend an average of \$350 million on pet costumes each Halloween. So, if you and your fur baby's Halloween plans include dressing up for a costume contest, parade, or trick-or-treating, there are a few things to keep in mind. Choose your pet's costume with care; make sure that it fits well and doesn't restrict his breathing, movement, eye sight, barking, or meowing. Be mindful of any dangling pieces of fabric or buttons that can be chewed off and swallowed. Costumes can be stressful for some pets, so no matter how adorable your cat looks dressed up as a pirate or your dog as Darth Vader, if he seems distressed, it's best to avoid the costume.



## Prevent Spooked Pets

Seeing excited trick-or-treaters dressed up and having fun may be one of your favorite parts of Halloween, but it may also be a scary and stressful time for your pet. To reduce anxiety and prevent your precious pet from fleeing, most pets do best when kept in a separate room,



away from the front door while trick-or-treaters are out and about. Remember, the best dressed pets this Halloween are wearing a collar with an I.D. tag and a microchip! Proper identification is the best chance of you becoming reunited with your pet should he become lost.

## Stash The Goodies

What's Halloween without a bounty of candy? Whether it's a bowl of candy ready for little ghosts and goblins, or the loot brought home from a night of trick-or-treating, it should be kept far out of reach of Fido and Fluffy. Chocolate, especially dark or baking chocolate, is dangerous for pets, and Xylitol, an artificial sweetener found in sugar-free candies and most types of gum, can also cause very serious medical problems for your pets. **If you think your pet has eaten something toxic, please call us or the ASPCA Poison Control Center at 888-426-4435 immediately.**



**Courtesy Of:**