PET SAFETY

Safety Tips for *Halloween*

Pet Health & Wellness · Seasonal Edition

Halloween is a fun and festive time for the whole family — but for our pets, all the excitement can come with hidden hazards. From tempting candy bowls to startling costumes and constant knocking at the door, a little preparation goes a long way toward keeping your furry friends safe.

Candy & Food Hazards

Stash Your Candy Stash

Some treats are toxic to pets, especially **chocolate** and **sugar-free foods that contain xylitol**. If you think your pet has ingested a treat containing harmful ingredients, call your vet right away. And don't forget to discard candy wrappers, too — they can cause choking or intestinal blockages.

> ***"Even small amounts of chocolate or xylitol can be dangerous to pets. Keep all Halloween candy well out of reach."***

Door & Escape Safety

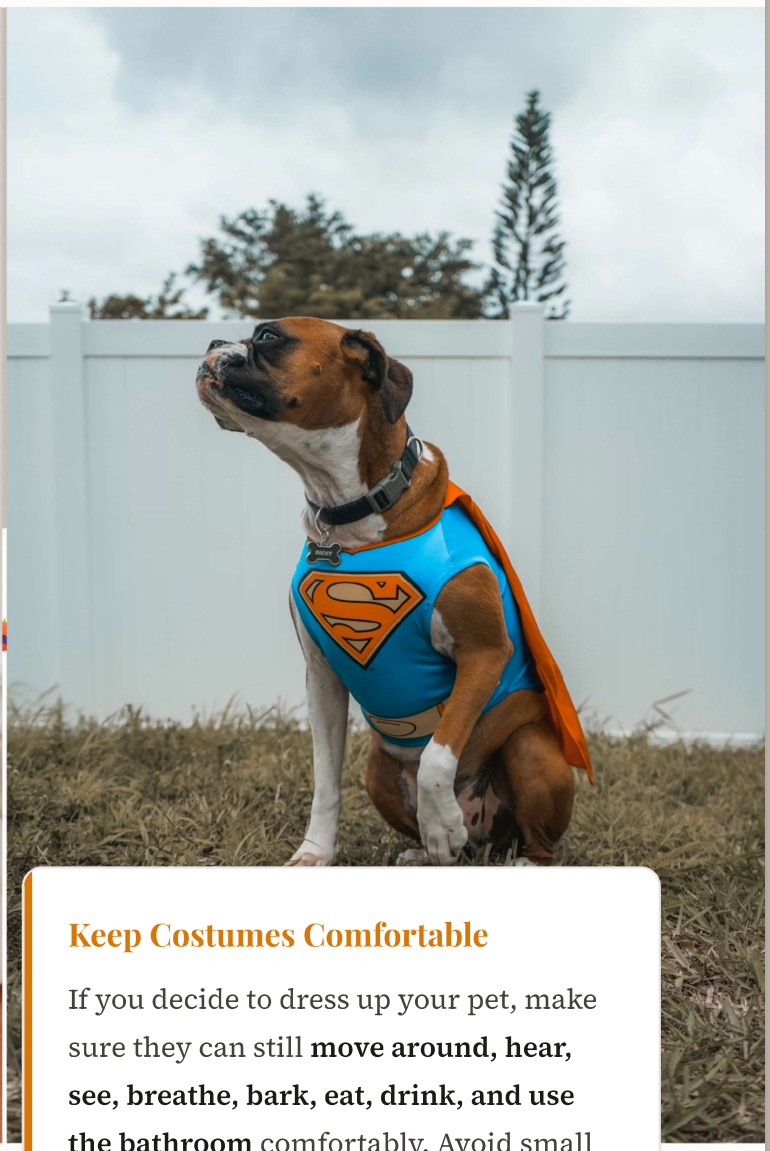
Watch the Front Door

Even the calmest pets can get overwhelmed by a stream of strangers stopping by. With so many trick-or-treaters knocking, your pet **could easily slip out and run off**. Put them in a separate, secure room away from the door until you're done handing out candy.

Update Those ID Tags

If your pet gets away from you, proper identification can be a lifesaver. Make sure they're wearing **updated ID tags on their collar**, and if they're microchipped, verify that the information is current.





Avoid Dangerous Decorations

Some decorations can pose a risk to pets. Avoid dangling cords or small parts **that could be swallowed**, and always keep lit candles — including jack-o'-lanterns — out of paws' reach to prevent burns or fire hazards.

Keep Costumes Comfortable

If you decide to dress up your pet, make sure they can still **move around, hear, see, breathe, bark, eat, drink, and use the bathroom** comfortably. Avoid small or dangling parts that could pose a choking risk.

Quick Safety Reminders

- Keep chocolate and xylitol treats completely out of reach
- Secure your pet in a calm room before trick-or-treaters arrive
- Check ID tags and microchip info before Halloween night
- Keep lit candles and jack-o'-lanterns away from curious pets
- Test any costume before the big night — ensure full comfort
- Discard candy wrappers immediately to prevent choking

If you suspect your pet has eaten something toxic, **contact your veterinarian immediately.** *Don't wait for symptoms to appear — early treatment makes all the difference. Have your vet's emergency number saved before the holiday arrives.*