

Crimson Hound Newsletter

October 2022

TIPS FOR A DOG SAFE HALLOWEEN

Dog Costumes - Yes or No??

- If your dog has been positively conditioned to wear clothing, then a costume may be okay.
- Do NOT force your dog into any type of costume or gear.
- Look for stress signals indicating that your dog is not comfortable.



YES!



NO!!

Both of these dogs are giving stress signals:

- whale eye
- lip licking
- averting eyes
- leaning away



DANGERS OF HALLOWEEN CANDY

Halloween candy should be kept where your dog can't get to it. Candy may contain ingredients that are toxic to dogs:

- chocolate
- raisins
- macadamia nuts & walnuts
- xylitol or birch sugar (common in sugar-free candy and gum - HIGHLY toxic to dogs!!)

**ANIMAL POISON CONTROL:
(888) 426-4435**

Chocolate Toxicity

A toxic level of chocolate depends on:
type of chocolate
size of the dog
amount consumed

The toxic ingredients are theobromine & caffeine - which cause damage to heart & nervous system.

Symptoms of chocolate toxicity include: agitation, tremors, seizures, vomiting & diarrhea.

The darker the chocolate, the more toxins it contains - Baker's chocolate is the worst.

If you suspect that your dog has consumed chocolate, do not wait for symptoms to appear. Call Animal Poison Control immediately!

PetMD Chocolate Toxicity Meter

<https://www.petmd.com/dog/chocolate-toxicity>



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Top Tips for a Dog Safe Halloween

Halloween is scary for our dogs. They don't enjoy the costumes, loud noises, bright lights and decorations. Here are my Top 10 Tips for a Dog Safe Halloween.

1. **Store candy where your dog can't get to it.**
2. **Trick or Treat:** Leave your dog at home with a yummy chew.
3. **Costumes:** Costumes are for humans, not for dogs.
4. **Potty Break:** Let your dog out to go potty before Halloween activity gets started.
5. **BOO!:** Never purposely try to scare your dog (or any other dogs or pets).
6. **Dress up:** Costumes can be scary. If you dress up, let your dog see you so that he is not surprised when you appear in costume. He may not recognize you.
7. **Safe Space:** Set up a safe space for your dog - away from the noise and activity. Add a box fan or white noise machine to drown out scary sounds & give him a long-lasting chew.
8. **Run Away:** Don't leave your dog in the yard. He may get spooked and escape. A scared dog can run off, get hit by a car or bite someone who scares him.
9. **Confined:** Keep your dog (and other pets) safely confined and away from the door that will be open and closed repeatedly.
10. **Trick or Treat Station:** Leave your dog inside in his safe space & set up a trick or treat station on your front porch or at the end of your driveway. You can dress up, make noise, hand out candy, visit with friends - while your pets are safe inside without the doorbell and other scary Halloween sights and sounds.

What Can You Do With Your Pumpkin Once Halloween Is Over?

You can compost it, leave it out for the local wildlife to eat
OR you can make pumpkin puree for your dog

Pumpkin Puree

1. Wash the pumpkin & check that seeds are removed.
2. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.
3. Cut pumpkin into slices and place on baking sheet.
4. Bake about 45 minutes - until tender when poked with a fork
5. Cool completely.
6. Remove skin and throw it away.
7. Cut pumpkin into chunks and place in blender or food processor.
8. Blend until smooth, gradually adding water until the puree is the consistency of baby food.
9. Freeze in containers or in ice cube trays.
10. Use as dog food topper, add to Kong or lick mat, use for dog treat recipes.

Pumpkin Peanut Butter Biscuits

INGREDIENTS

- 2/3 cup pumpkin puree
- 1/4 cup peanut butter
- 2 eggs
- 3 cups whole wheat flour

DIRECTIONS

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Line baking sheet with parchment paper.
- Mix pumpkin, PB & eggs until well combined.
- Gradually add flour at low speed until dough is no longer sticky.
- Knead on floured surface just until it comes together.
- Roll dough out to 1/4-inch thickness and use cookie cutters to cut out shapes.
- Place shapes on baking sheet.
- Bake 20-25 minutes - until edges turn golden brown.
- Cool completely before feeding to your dog.
- Store in air tight container in refrigerator for up to a week or keep them in a container in the freezer.

