

OCTOBER/2025

Halloween Cat Safety Checklist

Halloween is fun for people, but it can be stressful—or even dangerous—for cats. Use this checklist to keep your feline family safe during the holiday.

Candy & Food Safety

- **Keep all candy** (especially chocolate and sugar-free treats with xylitol which are highly toxic to cats) out of reach.
- **Dispose of candy wrappers immediately** to prevent choking or blockages.
- **Remind kids and guests** never to share candy with pets.
- **Call your vet or the ASPCA Poison Control Hotline** if ingestion is suspected.

Costumes & Decorations

- **Avoid dressing cats in costumes**—they restrict movement and increase stress.
- **Choose safe**, festive alternatives like themed collars or bandanas.
- **Keep candles, jack-o'-lanterns, and incense** out of reach to prevent burns or fires.
- **Avoid tinsel, fake cobwebs, and glow sticks**—these can be harmful if chewed.

Indoor Cat Safety

- **Set up a quiet safe room** with food, water, litter, and cozy bedding.
- **Use soft music or white noise** to mask doorbell sounds.
- **Keep cats away** from frequently opening doors to prevent escapes.
- **Consider pheromone diffusers** to ease anxiety.

Outdoor & Community Cat Care

- **Provide hidden**, insulated shelters away from busy sidewalks.
- **Feed colonies** before dark to limit exposure during peak activity.
- **Avoid drawing attention** to colony areas with decorations or visible feeding stations.
- **Check shelters** the day after Halloween for disturbances.

Quick Reminder: Keeping cats safe doesn't mean missing out on fun—it just takes a little planning. Download and share this checklist to help others protect their cats this Halloween.

