

## How to...

### DID YOU KNOW?

About 24% of people say they'll dress up their pets for Halloween.



# Host a costume party

Throw an entertaining Halloween bash for you and your friends.

Halloween is almost here! One way to celebrate is to have a costume party with your friends. A costume party is fun to do for Halloween because it gives everyone an extra chance to dress up. It also lets you get creative with food and activities. Clear the idea with a parent, including deciding on social distancing measures. Then use these tips to plan the event.

### Invite your friends

With just a few weekends left until Halloween, you can pretty much throw your party anytime now. Or you could gather your friends for a party on Halloween itself, which is a Sunday this year, and then go out trick-or-treating as a group before or after. Talk to your parents about how many people you can invite, then start getting the word out. You can tell kids yourself or ask your parents to text or email their parents. Even more fun: Drop off spooky invitations at their homes. Cut Halloween shapes—like ghosts, pumpkins, or spiders—out of construction paper and write the party details on the back.

### Deck out your space

If your family is planning to go pumpkin picking, the pumpkins will make great decorations. You can carve or paint them and use them as centerpieces. Then, check out what you have in your craft supplies. You can print

out a simple picture of a bat online, then trace it onto black craft paper several times. Cut them out, fold them slightly in the middle, and tape them to the wall. Or use orange and black paper to make paper chains you can drape around your home.

### Set up activities

Make signs that say "Happy Halloween" and silly monster masks, and set up a backdrop for a photo booth. This is a fun way to make sure everyone gets a good shot of their costume. You can also play Halloween games. Have a competition to see who can wrap a friend in toilet paper like a mummy the fastest. Put out a giant bowl of candy corn and let everyone guess how many there are. (You will have to count them first!) Or play a festive game of charades: Put slips of paper with scary phrases on them into a bowl, and laugh as everyone acts them out.

### Serve fun food

Ask your parents if you can order pizza or sandwiches as a main dish for everyone. Then make festive appetizers and desserts yourself. Use Halloween cookie cutters to cut cheese slices into ghosts or bats, then serve with crackers. Mix microwave popcorn with orange and black sprinkles and candy eyeballs. Make silly zombie cupcakes using the recipe on the opposite page.



Decorate with carved pumpkins.

## 5 Halloween tunes to play at a party

This is the ultimate playlist for your costume party. Crank up the music and have fun!

### "The Addams Family" by Andrew Gold

The theme song to the show and movie about a "creepy" and "kooky" family is fun to snap and sing along to, especially if any of your friends are dressed up like Wednesday or Cousin It.



### "Ghostbusters" by Ray Parker, Jr.

Turn the volume down after they sing the famous line "Who you gonna call?" and let all your guests yell "Ghostbusters!"

### "Halloween Sharks" by Pinkfong

This Halloween take on the famous baby shark song is definitely not just for babies. The sharks get dressed up in spooky costumes to dance to their classic melody.



### "Monster Mash" by Bobby "Boris" Pickett

This is a classic Halloween song and a must-play at any party. Bonus points if you and your friends each come up with your own versions of the "monster mash" dance.



### "The Purple People Eater" by Sheb Wooley

This monster is more silly than scary, but the tune will get everyone in the party mood.



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