

20 FREE PUMPKIN CARVING *Stencils*



▶ PRINTABLE TEMPLATES ◀

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PUMPKIN CARVING

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1 Carefully cut a hole in the top of the pumpkin for the lid. Make sure to angle your blade inward to create a ledge for the lid.
- 2 Scoop out the seeds and strings with a pumpkin scoop or large spoon. Scrape the flesh from the inside of the pumpkin until it's about 1 inch thick where you would like to carve. Scrape to smooth the interior bottom.
- 3 Trim excess paper, leaving a 1/2 inch border around the pattern. Fold along crease lines if necessary to tape in place, making sure the pattern is smooth on the surface.
- 4 Poke holes through the pattern using a push pin or pumpkin poker. Remove the paper once fully transferred.
- 5 Saw dot to dot, keeping the blade at a 90° angle. Be careful not to apply too much pressure to the pumpkin. Re-insert the blade to change directions. Push the cut piece out gently from the inside out. It is recommended to start with the smallest pieces first.
- 6 As an extra layer of protection, apply Vaseline on the carved edges. This will keep them moisturized and prevent the edges from drying out too fast. If you don't have Vaseline, vegetable oil or WD-40 also works.
- 7 Place light inside and put the lid back on.



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SAFETY TIPS

1 Clean Your Carving Area

Be sure your carving space is clean, dry and well-lit. Be sure your hands and tools are also dry. Place newspaper beneath your pumpkin.

TIP: Cleaning the surface of your pumpkin with an antibacterial wipe protects the pumpkin from rot-inducing bacteria.

2 Always Have Adult Supervision

Adults should always do the actual carving. Children can draw an outline on the pumpkin and help clean out the pulp.

3 Sharper Isn't Always Better

Super sharp knives can get stuck in the pumpkin and be difficult to pull out. Instead, use a serrated pumpkin saw and a scoop.

TIP: An old CD makes a great tool for cleaning out the pumpkin pulp.

4 Proper Technique

Always carve away from the body, not toward the body, in case of a slip. Carve slowly and steadily.

TIP: The stem provides nutrients to the pumpkin, even after it's been cut off the vine. Instead of cutting around the stem, cut a rectangular "door" in the back. This makes it easy to clean out and easier to add a light source.

5 Explore Shape Alternatives

Use the stencils included in this kit. You can also use cookie cutters to make fun cutouts.







































