

HALLOWEEN SAFETY



Halloween is a fun time for children and can be for parents as well. Following these safety tips can help ensure a safe and fun Halloween for your children and you.

Making child's costume safe

- Make sure costumes are flame-retardant.
- Costumes should be kept short to prevent tripping.
- Have children wear comfortable shoes.
- Use make-up instead of a mask.
 - Masks can be hot and can obstruct child's view.
- Children should wear light colors or place reflective tape on costumes.
- Make costume accessories, (such as knives, guns, or swords) from cardboard or flexible materials.

Alternative Celebrations

- Halloween costume parties with treats, games, contests, haunted houses, etc. at:
 - Schools
 - Fire stations
 - Libraries
 - Shopping centers/malls



Making Your Home and Neighborhood Safe

- Turn on exterior lights to welcome trick-or-treaters.
- Remove toys and other items from sidewalks and yard.
- Have your Neighborhood Watch or citizen's group assist in patrolling the neighborhood.
- Ask for volunteers to act as crossing guards.
- If you operate a motor vehicle, drive slowly and be observant for children.
- Report suspicious activity or criminal activity to police.

Tips for Your Trick-or-Treaters

- Older children should travel with friends.
 - Never alone.
- Set time limits for children to trick-or-treat.
 - Map out a safe route.
 - No shortcuts.
- Tell children not to enter a stranger's house.
- Have children trick-or-treat while it's still light outside.
 - If it is dark, have them carry a flashlight.
- Tell your children not to eat treats until they return home and have you inspect them first.
- Allow children to eat only unopened candies and in original wrappers.



HOUSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Community Services Unit

