

HOW TO HELP YOUR DOG WITH HALLOWEEN FEAR



Halloween can be downright scary and stressful for dogs who suffer from anxiety. Try these tips to reduce your dog's stress level this holiday, and while you're at it, practice our safety tips.



BE COSTUME CONSCIOUS

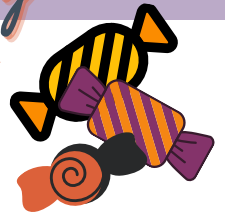
If your dog loves dressing up, costumes can be fun and make great social media photos. But, for anxiety ridden dogs, a costume could cause undue stress. Watch the body language and you'll know which your dog prefers. Definitely go for a comfy, non-restrictive costume and be sure to check the safety.



GREET & TREAT OUTDOORS

If the weather permits, hand out treats to trick-or-treaters outdoors to avoid door knocking and doorbell ringing. The sound of a knock or a ringing doorbell can upset or excite your dog. Plus, a door opening and closing continuously to noisy groups of people can be stressful and confusing for your dog. Revamp the trunk of your car and your driveway into a trick-or-treaters' delight.

Safety Tips



CANDY BEWARE

Keep candy out of your dog's reach! In between trick-or-treaters, stash the candy bowl on a high shelf. Chocolate in all forms can be dangerous for your dog. And, other candies might contain xylitol, a sugar substitute that can be fatal for dogs. If you have children, make sure they keep their candy "haul" hidden from your dog. Use caution while walking your dog for several days after Halloween. Dropped candy and wrappers on lawns and streets can be a danger for your dog.



MINIMIZE THE NOISE

If the weather doesn't permit being outdoors to hand out treats, then for sure disable your doorbell or cover it with a sign asking to not ring it. You can also set up a motion detector to alert you when trick-or-treaters are near. Create a safe space for your dog in another room away from the front door during peak trick-or-treating hours.



KEEP YOUR DOG INSIDE

The safest place for your dog on Halloween night is inside your home. The last thing you want is for your dog to be the victim of a vicious prank. There are plenty of stories where dogs left in yards or roaming loose are teased, injured, stolen or even killed on Halloween night.