

Ideas

Seasonal | Celebrating Halloween

No-Carve Pumpkin Decorating Ideas





Are your Jack-o-Lanterns becoming Jack-o-Boring? These four no-carve pumpkin decorating ideas make it easy to add a bit of whimsy to your [Halloween decor](#). Make a googly-eyed family of pumpkins, Dia de los Muertos pumpkins, red carpet glam pumpkins or a cactus pumpkin. Even better: use these ideas as inspiration for your own creations. These crafts are easy enough for kiddos and fun enough for adults. All you need are a few simple [craft tools](#) and supplies.

Quick tips

- Both real pumpkins and faux pumpkins will look fantastic for these craft projects. But if you use the faux ones, your pumpkin creations can make repeat appearances for years to come.
- Variety is the (pumpkin) spice of life, so choose a selection of pumpkin shapes and sizes.

Googly-eyed family of pumpkins

Imagine grandpa, mom, your quirky uncle, silly sister or the baby as a pumpkin. Then make that playful vision a reality. Invite each member of the family to decorate a pumpkin as themselves. Or draw names to assign a different family member to each person (Secret Pumpkin, anyone?). Remember to snap a pumpkin family portrait, as well as photos of each person with her or his pumpkin double. This craft also works well for groups of friends and even coworkers.

Tip

To make an accurate and adorable pumpkin representation of a person, choose one visual element that is unique to her or him. It can be a physical characteristic like a mustache or strong eyebrows. Or an accessory like glasses, magenta lipstick or a diaper (for baby pumpkins).

Craft supplies needed: [Googly eyes](#), felt, faux flowers, sparkly [pipe cleaners](#), scissors, [glue gun and glue](#)

Dia de los Muertos pumpkins

Dia de los Muertos (which means Day of the Dead) is a Mexican holiday that honors friends and family who have died. But despite the association with death, this holiday is marked by a beautiful rainbow of vivid colors. In 2017, the first day of the celebration is on October 31 and it ends November 2; it usually falls near Halloween, which makes it perfect inspiration for pumpkin decorating.

Tip

Use glow-in-the-dark puffy paint to add a hidden surprise to your Day of the Dead pumpkins. Charge them up in sunlight and let them glow at night.

Craft supplies needed: Faux flowers, [puffy paint](#), felt, glue gun and glue

Red carpet glam pumpkins

Can't get enough of your favorite celebs? Add a little star power to your Halloween with pumpkins inspired by red carpet

glamour. Here, we were inspired by recent red carpet outfits that made us *ooh* and *ahh*. Looking for ideas? Visit your favorite fashion website and pick a trend look you love. Use the colors and textures as inspiration when decorating your pumpkin. Whether it's a glamorous gown or even a super cool OOTD (outfit of the day), personal style can come from anywhere, and so can pumpkin style! You might find yourself asking: who wore it best?

Tip

Just like with the pumpkin family members, the key here is to pick out one or two key visual elements that capture the entire look. Feathers. A bold stripe. Glitter. Focus on the apparel rather than who wore it.

Craft supplies needed: [Chalk paint](#), brushes, faux flowers, ribbon, glitter, sparkly pipe cleaners, [Mod Podge](#), glue gun and glue

Cactus pumpkin

“There’s no place like warm...there’s no place like warm...” If Dorothy from Kansas had been a pumpkin, then surely she would’ve repeated these five words. No matter who you are or where you’re from, it’s easy to transform an everyday orange pumpkin into a flowering cactus pumpkin that will remind you of warmer days.

Tip

Most acrylic paints will adhere well to both a faux or real pumpkin. But we recommend using [non-toxic chalk paint](#) for this purpose (not chalkboard paint, that’s a different thing). Chalk

paint dries very quickly and has a slightly gritty texture, which helps the paint stick to almost anything. It comes in a wide range of colors, so if orange, black and white aren't in your pumpkin palette, you can change that very easily.

Craft supplies needed: [Chalk paint](#), [paint brushes](#), faux flowers, [puffy paint](#), [terra cotta planter base](#), glue gun and glue



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