

Halloween During COVID-19

To minimize the spread of COVID-19 and ensure everyone has a safe and healthy Halloween, Austin Public Health is offering risk guidance for Halloween activities.

Low-Risk Activities

- Carving pumpkins with members of your household
- Decorating your living space
- Hosting a virtual Halloween gathering with a costume contest or pumpkin carving show-and-tell
- Having a candy hunt or piñata within your home

Medium-Risk Activities

The following activities should all include masking and social distancing:

- Lining up individual goodies bags at the edge of your yard or driveway for families to grab
- Attending an outdoor costume party
- Going to an outdoor, one-way haunted house
- Visiting a pumpkin patch where hand sanitizer is used before touching pumpkins

High-Risk Activities

- Participating in traditional door-to-door trick-or-treating
- Having trunk-or-treat events
- Attending crowded, indoor costume parties
- Going to an indoor haunted house
- Going on hayrides with non-household members

We recommend avoiding all high-risk activities and being cautious with all medium-risk activities to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Trick-or-Treating

If you still choose to participate in traditional trick-or-treating, please follow these health and safety tips:

- Stay home if you or your child feels sick or is at high risk of complications from COVID-19
- Trick-or-treat only with people in your household
- Wear a face covering and maintain at least 6 ft of distance from non-household members
- Avoid going to up to doors until all other trick-or-treaters have left the home
- Use hand sanitizer in-between houses
- Take only wrapped candy and wash or leave wrapped candy for 24 - 48 hours before eating

