



THIS HALLOWEEN THINK



Safe Jack-O-Lantern Craft Ideas

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Jack-O-Lanterns and Creepy Candles spook Trick-or-Treaters across the United States every October 31st. While these scary decorations can add to the freaky festivities, they can also become a *real* fright! If not properly maintained, these decorations can quickly catch fire, leading to house fires and/or injuries.

[The National Fire Protection Association](#) reports, “Halloween is the fifth highest day of the year for candle fires... Decorations are the first thing to ignite in more than 1,000 reported home fires each year on Halloween and more than half are started by candles.”

We’ve done some research, and found some unique alternatives to these potentially dangerous flames that will still allow you and your family to enjoy this haunting holiday while remaining safe:

Flameless Candles

When pumpkins begin to dry out, they can easily catch fire. So, adding a tea-light or votive to the inside of a hollowed gourd could spark a dangerous disaster. Additionally, children with long or flowing costumes could easily brush past these flames, causing the costumes to potentially catch fire. To avoid a potential hazard, [KidsHealth.Org](#) recommends replacing real candles with LED or Battery Operated Flameless candles. Just remember to switch them off once the trick-or-treating is over to avoid over-heating.

Pumpkin Pails

Avoid using sharp knives, making a mess and potentially hazardous flames altogether with the unique “Pumpkin Pail” idea from [HGTV](#). In this kid-safe project, HGTV recommends taking a glass jar, filling the bottom with sand and insert an LED or Flameless candle to add a touch of glow. Use paint, permanent markers or stickers to make these adorable decorations look like pumpkins, ghosts or other dastardly decorations. Your imagination is the limit with these cute creations!

Chalk-It-Up

Forget the carving and lighting and be the talk of the town with the “chalk pumpkin” idea from [Parents.com](#). This pumpkin idea is particularly good for parents of small children. This website advises to coat your pumpkins in craft paint, and then allow kids to draw their own designs using chalk. It’s safe, easy and fun for all ages.

Whether ghoulish ghosts or happy hauntings are your theme of choice this Halloween season, be sure to choose safe decorations for your home.

From all of us at Pioneer State Mutual, we wish you and your family a Safe & Happy Halloween!

