



Clip off instructions before affixing pattern to pumpkin!

1 Prepping your pumpkin:

Use a pencil to draw a lid on top of your pumpkin, big enough so you can put your hand in and scoop out the innards. (You may want to draw a notch in the lid for easy replacement.) Take a serrated knife or small saw, angle the blade toward the center of the pumpkin, and cut along your line. Using a large spoon, scoop out the seeds and strings of the pumpkin, scraping the sides clean as well.

2 Attach the pattern:

Cut away the excess paper around the pattern, leaving about a half-inch border around the design. Tape the pattern to your pumpkin. You may have to fold the pattern to make it fit the round surface smoothly.

3 Create guidelines:

Using a pushpin, nail, or other pointed tool, make a dotted line along the edges of the design, indicating where to cut.

4 Carving the design:

Remove the pattern. Holding the pumpkin in your lap, saw from dot to dot, following the guidelines you just made. (The black parts are the parts to be cut away.) To make your cuts, hold your cutting tool like a pencil, using an up-and-down motion at a 90° angle to the pumpkin. For the pattern above, you may find it easiest to cut the eyes and mouth first. Once you've cut out a piece, gently push it out with your finger.

5 Lights!

If you intend to use a real candle (as opposed to a battery-powered light or flashlight), you need to cut a chimney. Secure the candle in the bottom of the pumpkin, then close the lid. The smoke will blacken a spot on the inside of your lid. Cut a hole in that spot so the smoke and heat can escape.

**Happy Halloween
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