

# Pumpkin Carving

## Safety Tips

Halloween is one of the top three holidays that produce the most emergency room visits each year. Finger and hand injuries account for the greatest proportion of injuries on Halloween. Pumpkin carving can be a dangerous activity, so stay safe this Halloween with these tips.

### How to prevent carving injuries

#### 1 Clean Carving Area

Be sure your carving space is clean, dry and well-lit. Your hands should be dry, as should all of your tools.

#### 5 Explore Alternatives

Pumpkin decorating kits are safe and equally fun.

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#### Adult Supervision

Adults should always do the actual carving. Let the children draw an outline on the pumpkin and clean out the pulp.

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#### Proper Technique

Always carve away from the body, not toward the body, in case of a slip. Carve slowly and steadily.

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#### Sharper Isn't Better

Super sharp knives can get stuck in the pumpkin and be difficult to pull out. Instead, use a serrated pumpkin saw from a carving kit.

### What's in a carving kit?

Hand surgeons recommend using only the tools provided in a carving kit for your pumpkins.



Stencils



Carving Saws



Scoops

Learn more about staying safe this Halloween at [www.HandCare.org](http://www.HandCare.org).



ASSH

American Society for Surgery of the Hand