

# Holiday Safety

## Halloween



Adapted from the  
International Law  
Enforcement Educators  
and Trainers Association

## Halloween Safety

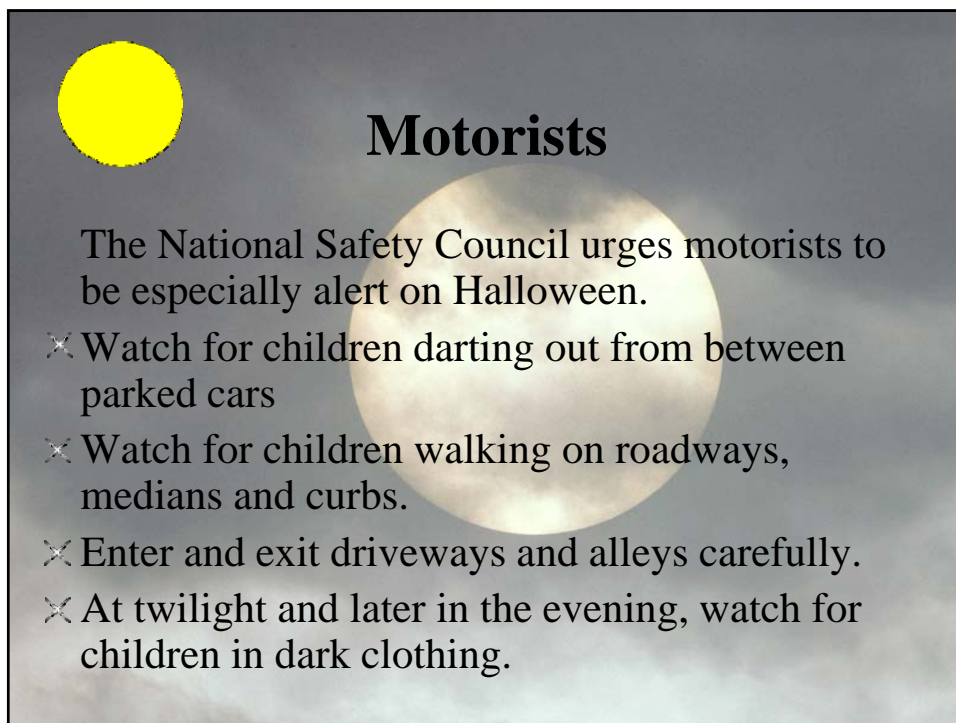
- Halloween is a cherished tradition but the excitement of the night can cause children to forget to be careful. There is no real "trick" to making Halloween a real treat for the entire family.



A slide titled "Halloween Safety" with a background of a full moon and flying bats. The text is centered on the left side of the slide.

## Halloween Safety

- The major dangers are not from witches or spirits but rather from falls and pedestrian/car crashes.
- Both children and adults need to think about safety on this annual day of make-believe.

A slide titled "Motorists" with a background of a full moon and a yellow circle in the top left corner. The text is centered on the left side of the slide.

## Motorists

The National Safety Council urges motorists to be especially alert on Halloween.

- ✗ Watch for children darting out from between parked cars
- ✗ Watch for children walking on roadways, medians and curbs.
- ✗ Enter and exit driveways and alleys carefully.
- ✗ At twilight and later in the evening, watch for children in dark clothing.

## Parents

Before children start out on their "trick or treat" rounds, parents should:





- Make sure that an adult or an older responsible youth will be supervising the outing for children under age 12.

- Plan and discuss the route trick-or-treaters intend to follow. Know the names of older children's companions.

## Parents




- Instruct your children to travel only in familiar areas and along an established route.
- Establish a return time.
- Teach your children to stop only at houses or apartment buildings that are well-lit and **never** to enter a stranger's home.
- Tell your youngsters not to eat any treat until they return home.





## Parents

- Review all appropriate trick-or-treat safety precautions, including pedestrian/traffic safety rules.
- Pin a slip of paper with the child's name, address and phone number inside a pocket in case the youngster gets separated from the group.

## Costume Design

- Only fire-retardant materials should be used for costumes.
- Costumes should be loose so warm clothes can be worn underneath.
- Costumes should not be so long that they are a tripping hazard. (Falls are the leading cause of unintentional injuries on Halloween.)

## Costume Design

- If children are allowed out after dark, outfits should be made with light colored materials. Strips of retro-reflective tape should be used to make children visible.



## Face Design

Masks can obstruct a child's vision. Use facial make-up instead.

- When buying special Halloween makeup, check for packages containing ingredients that are labeled "Made with U.S. Approved Color Additives," "Laboratory Tested," Meets Federal Standards for Cosmetics," or "Non-Toxic." Follow manufacturer's instruction for application.





## Face Design

- If masks are worn, they should have nose and mouth openings and large eye holes.



## Accessories

- Knives, swords and other accessories should be made from cardboard or flexible materials. Do not allow children to carry sharp objects.
- Bags or sacks carried by youngsters should be light-colored or trimmed with retro-reflective tape if children are allowed out after dark.

Carrying flashlights will help children see better and be seen more clearly.




## On the Way

- Children should understand and follow these rules:
- Do not enter homes or apartments without adult supervision.



## On the Way

- Walk, do not run, from house to house. Do not cross yards and lawns where unseen objects or the uneven terrain can present tripping hazards.
- Walk on sidewalks, not in the street.
- Walk on the left side of the road, facing traffic if there are no sidewalks.





## Treats

- To ensure a safe trick-or-treat outing, parents are urged to:
- Give children an early meal before going out.
- Insist that treats be brought home for inspection before anything is eaten.
- Wash fruit and slice into small pieces.
- When in doubt, throw it out.

