

## Halloween Safety Tips

Handing out goodies to trick-or-treaters on Halloween makes for an entertaining evening but your puppy may become frightened as group after group of strangely dressed children and accompanying adults invade your front yard and appear at your front door. To prevent unfortunate mishaps, have your puppy 'Go Place'. By teaching your puppy to go to a designated area, you'll avoid behavior problems but still allow the puppy to be comfortable until the ghosts leave town. You can also designate a quiet room for the puppy to retreat. Locate a crate in a quiet area, place a favorite chew toy in the crate and have your puppy 'Go Kennel' until the gremlins return from whence they came.

If you want your puppy to dress up this Halloween, then it's important to consider your puppy's comfort. If your puppy is not used to wearing clothes, opt for a festive bandanna. If your puppy is a regular doggie fashionista, safety comes before style. The costume should be fitted properly with nothing hanging loose to the floor or pinching too tight. Plan ahead by conditioning the puppy to the costume just as you would a puppy coat. Put the outfit on for short periods, giving verbal praise and a treat. Gradually lengthen the period of time as the puppy becomes comfortable in the new outfit.