

Pumpkin Halloween Treat Bag

Sew up a cute pumpkin to tote along when you go trick-or-treating.

Crafter Level: Intermediate

Time Needed: 1 hour

What you'll need

- ½ yd. orange fabric (44-in. wide)
- 18" x 22" piece black fabric
- 2 6"-square scraps green fabric
- 6"-square scrap batting
- 1 yd. boning for mouth opening
- 1½ yd. green trim for handle
- Fabric-marking pen or pencil
- Fabric glue or low-temp hot glue gun and glue sticks
- 1 white felt square for teeth
- 1 black felt square or scrap of black fabric for eyes
- Scissors and pins
- Thread to match orange fabric
- Sewing machine
- Iron
- 2 large googly eyes (optional)



How to make it

1. Cut orange fabric in half, crosswise, so you have two pieces about 18-by-22 inches. Layer together, one on top of the other, right sides facing, and lay black fabric, right side up, on top of orange fabrics. Trim all three pieces to the same size. Iron out any wrinkles. Pin together layers.
2. Using a sewing machine, stitch the three pieces together along three sides in a "U" shape (like you are making a pillowcase).
3. Clip corners and turn all three pieces inside out so that your two orange fabrics are right side out with the black fabric layer between them.
4. Bend your piece of boning in half (fold inward, with the curve) to make the mouth opening. It should resemble a football shape. Then bend one end of the boning again about 1 inch from the end to make a hook. Catch the open end of the boning inside the "hook" end to hold its shape. See Diagram 1.
5. Lay the shaped boning on the front orange piece of fabric where you want the mouth opening to be. (Keep in mind you'll want plenty of room at the bottom of the bag to hold the candy.)
6. With fabric-marking pencil or pen, draw around the inside of the boning onto the fabric. Carefully cut out the top layer of fabric, inside the marked lines by about ½ inch. Clip curves up to the marked line. See Diagram 2 on the next page.

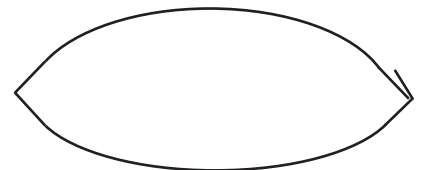


Diagram 1



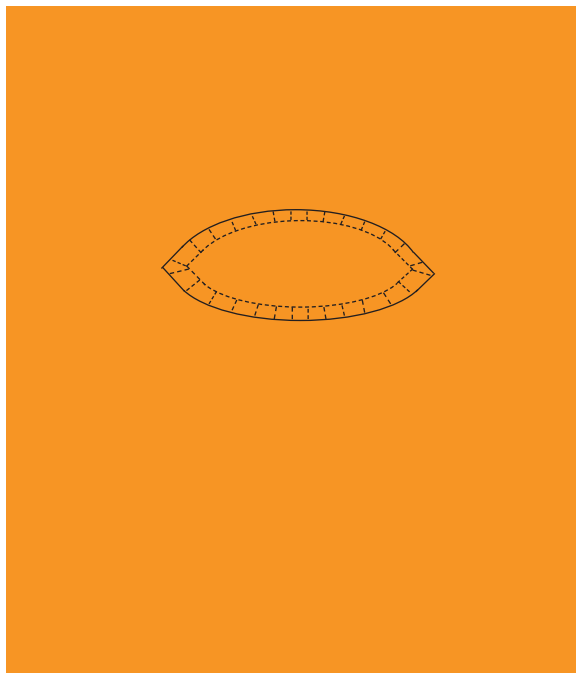


Diagram 2



Center boning on orange fabric where you want the mouth opening to go. Draw inside boning and cut away top orange layer of fabric about ½ inch from drawn line. (You should now see the black fabric where you've removed the orange fabric.) Clip curves to drawn line.

7. Glue the clipped fabric to the inside edge of the boning to hold it in place. (Don't worry about the boning showing through the gaps of the clipped orange fabric as the boning will be covered by the felt teeth.
8. Cut two long strips from the white felt square about 2 inches wide. Cut teeth from both strips for the top and bottom of the pumpkin mouth without cutting all the way through the felt. Align the felt strips along the top and bottom boning, trimming teeth more as needed to fit the mouth opening. Hot glue or fabric glue the felt strips of teeth to the outside edge of the boning to cover the raw edges of the orange fabric.

9. Cut out two eyes in the shape you want from the black felt or fabric. Place the eyes on the front of the pumpkin—above the mouth and below the top, open edge of the orange fabric. Glue eyes in place. Add googly eyes (optional) to centers and glue on.
10. Now he's ready for his stem and tote handle. Turn the pumpkin inside out so that the front and back orange fabrics are facing each other.
11. Cut green trim into two equal lengths and slide them between the two orange fabric layers so that the ends of the trim align with the top open edge of the fabrics. Pin in place.
12. For the stem, layer two pieces of green fabric, right sides facing and cut a stem shape. Keep layers together and place on a scrap of batting. Cut batting into the same basic shape but trim about ½ inch additionally around the batting. Sew the green fabrics, rights sides together, along the sides and top of the stem. Clip corners and turn inside out. Insert the shaped batting.
13. Place the stem between the two orange fabrics with the unfinished bottom edge of the stem aligning with the raw edge (top) of the pumpkin (as you did the trim). See Diagram 3 side view.
14. Pin everything in place and sew across the top raw edge. Turn inside out through the mouth opening, being careful not to pull any teeth loose.
15. Now, take a minute to rest before it's time to go trick-or-treating!

Tip: To make our pumpkin more pumpkin-shaped, we just tucked in his top and bottom corners and ironed flat.



Diagram 3

Sandwich the stem and trim between the two orange layers. Place the stem in the middle and the trim ends on either side, with raw edges aligned with top raw edge of the orange fabrics.