

HERE FOR THE BOOS!

(And the candy, too!) Introducing a hands-on guide to ghouls' night out, from clever costumes to decked-out doorways



x-x-x-x-x
A vintage quilt makes for a playful cape.

x-x-x-x-x
Wooden dowels and dowel toppers become oversize knitting needles.

x-x-x-x-x
A sewing basket does double duty as a trick-or-treat "bag."



SUPERQUILTER & YARN GIRL

It's a bird, it's a plane, it's Korliss and Zoe, here to save the universe one stitch at a time! This stylish superhero duo comes armed with a super-human eye for detail.

See page 62 for the how-tos.



x-x-x-x-x
Rattle some (plastic) chains before collecting candy in a ghost pillowcase.

x-x-x-x-x
"Morgue drawers" are made from precut foam core and silver hardware.

x-x-x-x-x
Spray-paint a plastic planter in a moody metallic (Titanium Silver by Rust-Oleum; \$7; lowes.com).

GAUZY GHOSTS

Yards of chilling cheesecloth transform Calvin and Melissa into a pair of friendly specters.

See page 62 for the how-tos.

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x-x-x-x-x
Wrap an oversize mailing tube in wood-grain contact paper for a rustic fall welcome.

x-x-x-x-x
Hang a child-size bike tire from rope for a tire swing "wreath."

x-x-x-x-x
A simple wicker basket "nest" is a natural choice for a candy caddy.

GIVE OUT:
TOOTSIE POPS



HOOTING OWL

Bird-watchers, take note of a feathered Collin in repose among the leaves.

See page 62 for the "hoo"-tos.



x-x-x-x-x
Seed packets featuring fall produce add harvest charm to a door.

x-x-x-x-x
Green pool noodles make for fresh asparagus stalks.

GIVE OUT:
CANDY PUMPKINS

FARMERS MARKET FAMILY

This "growing" family features Sarah the asparagus, farmer Chris, baby carrot Mary, and sweet strawberry Ruthie, who collects candy in a galvanized watering can.

See page 63 for the how-tos.



x-x-x-x-x
Hang a variety of vintage brooms on the door for a bewitching entrance.

x-x-x-x-x
A Ouija-inspired doormat welcomes all who dare enter.

x-x-x-x-x
Clear acrylic treat globes with black cording mimic crystal balls.

COUNTRY COVEN

Gussied up in black-and-white gingham, sweeping beauties Olivia and Laurel set out to cast their spells.

See page 63 for the how-tos.



x-x-x-x-x
Haunting book jackets make for a spine-chilling entrance.

x-x-x-x-x
A bushel basket planter topped with apples sets a schoolhouse tone.



x-x-x-x-x
A library card canvas tote is an on-theme candy carryall.

BOOKISH BUDS

Quiet, please! Smartly dressed librarian Anne Elliot is on the hunt for overdue books with the help of Bedford and his monocle. See page 63 for the how-tos.

HALLOWEEN HOW-TOS

Re-create the costumes, candy carriers, and door decor with these more detailed instructions. Download costume templates at countryliving.com/templates.



SUPERQUILTER & YARN GIRL

The Costumes: Quilt Mom: Cut a quilt into a trapezoid shape; sew a corresponding color bias tape around the edges to finish. At the top corner of the trapezoid, sew a corresponding color ribbon for ties. Use a scrap of the quilt to cut out an oversized letter "Q" and blanket stitch it to the front of a T-shirt. Blanket stitch around the edges of a felt superhero mask (\$12; amazon.com) and round out the look with a tailor tape measure bracelet adorned with sewing charms. Glue a metal thimble to a silver ring blank (\$1.50; makebeautifuljewelry.etsy.com) to create a superpower ring.

Yarn Ball: Measure child's shoulder width and head diameter. Blow up an 18- to 24-inch round balloon or beach ball (the size will depend on child's height). Mold CraftWrap (\$11; walmart.com) around the balloon or ball, leaving wide enough openings on the top (for the head) and the bottom (for the head and shoulders) to pass through; allow to dry.

Remove balloon or beach ball. Adjust openings if needed and use an X-Acto knife to cut out armholes. Coil a base layer of thick yarn (we used mustard yellow) around the form, hot-gluing it in place as you go. Attach autumnal colored yarn (we used orange, cranberry, and mustard) in a random pattern, hot-gluing it in place at irregular points of the openings. Cut two 1- by 24-inch wooden dowels to 16 inches; glue dowel caps to one end of each. Thread through yarn.

The Candy Caddy: A red polka-dot cloth-covered sewing basket (\$23; amazon.com) makes a thematic catchall.

The Door Decor: Create a candy corn-inspired "quilt." Paint wide stripes, using acrylic paint (we used orange, mustard, cranberry, and gray), on thick artist's paper. Once dry, cut into equal-size triangles. Cut a 2-inch paper trim in a corresponding color. Attach to door using double-sided tape. Add whitewashed woven planters (\$40 each; homedepot.com) and "Lobster Rope" doormat (\$60; thenewenglandtradingcompany.com).



GAUZY GHOSTS

The Costumes: Start with a base layer of black clothing. Paint face with white face paint (\$4.50; facepaint.com) and add black eyeshadow around the eyes. Drape and pin neutral cheesecloth (\$2.40 per yard; dharma trading.com), holding it in place with white safety pins and allowing it to trail on the floor a bit. Add a second layer of large, loosely woven, white gauze—we used door and window decorating material—(\$8; amazon.com). Drape a plastic chain (\$6; hobbylobby.com) and vintage-inspired lock (\$14; amazon.com) around the shoulders.

The Candy Caddy: Fold back the top third of a pillowcase. Tack down around the top edge. Cut from the bottom of the fold upward to create a shredded and spooky look.

The Door Decor: Attach three precut 20- by 30-inch pieces of foam core together with spray adhesive. Attach a piece of black paper, cut to size, to the top piece of foam core using spray adhesive. Insert the rectangular piece of two

6-inch stainless steel T-hinges (\$14; acehardware.com) between the first and second pieces of foam core on one of the short sides; "screw" in place. Place a 6 1/2-inch handle (\$9; amazon.com) on the opposite side; "screw" in place. Cover exposed edges of the foam core with silver duct tape, folding any excess to the back. Make two more doors. Adhere to house door with heavy-duty self-adhesive Velcro (\$21; officesupply.com). Cut five coffin shapes from black and gray kraft paper. Paint letters on gray coffins with red acrylic paint to spell "morgue" and attach to black coffins with double-sided tape. Hang a plastic chain above the door and attach coffin cutouts with hot-glue. Add plastic pedestal planter (\$40; homedepot.com) painted Titanium Silver by Rust-Oleum and "Swiss Cross" doormat (\$99; westelm.com).



HOOTING OWL

The Costume: Shirt: Trace the body of a shirt (we used a basic long-sleeve brown T-shirt, \$11.50; primary.com) onto kraft paper. (You do not need to trace the sleeves.) Starting at the neckline, measure and mark a 2-inch curve down from the neckline all the way across the body. Continue measuring 2 inches down from each line until you reach the bottom of the shirt. (The 2-inch sections will start to turn into more of a straight line as you reach the armpit.) In each 2-inch strip, draw a scallop shape from one edge

to the other within the 2-inch boundary. Cut out sections and trace on pattern fabrics, starting with a light color fabric and working through gray, brown, and mustard as you move down. Hand stitch or use Stitch Witchery (\$5; amazon.com) to attach each scalloped strip of fabric onto the shirt, overlapping slightly. To create an irregular design, cut a few single scallops out of fabric and glue them over random scallops on the shirt.

Mask: Trace mask shape (see template) onto brown felt; cut out. Cut out eye rings from yellow felt; attach with Stitch Witchery. Embroider around the outside of the brown felt and inside of the yellow felt with a blanket stitch to create a decorative edge. Iron a 3/4- by 5-inch stripe of fabric into folds and stitch on the back of either side of the mask to create the flanges. Cut two 2-inch squares from white fabric; fold into triangles and sew to the top back of the mask to create ears. Cut another piece of white fabric into an oblong triangle; sew a piece of yarn along the edge to create a decorative edge. Sew onto the mask, between the eyes, to create the bill. Sew ribbons on the back of either side to tie around the head.

The Candy Caddy: A grapevine basket looks like an owl's nest (\$14 for similar; etsy.com).

The Door Decor: Wrap a 6- by 60-inch mailing tube (\$12; uline.com) with wood-grain contact paper (\$13; homedepot.com). Attach to the outer edge of the door trim with a small nail or heavy-duty self-adhesive Velcro. Wedge fall branches into the top opening of the tube. Hang a child-size bike tire from the frame of the door with rope and a small nail. Add tree stump planters (\$38 each; wayfair.com) and "Rope Knot" doormat (\$30; worldmarket.com).



FARMERS MARKET FAMILY

The Costumes: Asparagus: Gather five lime green pool noodles (\$6.50 for 3; foamnoodles.com). Cut leaves from purple and green felt (see template); you will need 10 to 12 for each stalk. Adhere to noodles, concentrating them at the top, with spray adhesive. Bundle pool noodles with purple duct tape. Tape a pair of suspenders to the back of the noodles and drape over shoulders.

Farmer: Draw USDA Organic logo (see template) onto a 6-inch diameter piece of card stock. Color in with green and brown felt pens. Glue a safety pin to the back and attach to overalls.

Carrot Baby: Cut thin strips of brown felt and adhere to an orange onesie—making sure to leave room for the zipper to function—with Stitch Witchery. Cut four 5- by 6-inch strips of green felt and roll, lengthwise, into tubes; adhere ends with hot-glue. Stitch on the top center of an orange beanie.

Strawberry: Cut seeds (see template) from yellow felt. Adhere to a plain red dress (\$16; primary.com) with Stitch Witchery. Trace leaves (see template) onto green fabric; cut out. Adhere to dress with Stitch Witchery. Use Stitch Witchery to adhere same green fabric to a piece of green felt. Trace hat (see template) onto fabric and cut out. Cut out a 3- by 1-inch rectangle and roll lengthwise into a tube; adhere end with hot-glue. Add stem

to the center of hat with fabric glue. Sew a small barrette to the underside of hat.

The Candy Caddy: A 3.5-liter galvanized watering can (\$16; amazon.com) is a country-strong catchall.

The Door Decor: Download fall-themed vintage seed packets (\$1.50 to \$2 each; etsy.com) and print on 8 1/2- by 11-inch cream-colored paper. Adhere to door with double-sided tape. Add vintage crate planter and pumpkin doormat (\$20; hobbylobby.com).



COUNTRY COVEN

The Costumes: Cut two 31- by 20-inch rectangles from black-and-white gingham fabric. Sew ends together, leaving armholes toward the top of the rectangle. Fold in the top 1 inch of the fabric and sew a channel, leaving a 1-inch opening. Thread a ribbon or string through the channel. Once on, pull the ribbon to gather it at the top. Cut a 3 1/2- by 36-inch strip from black eyelet fabric. Sew a hand-running stitch along the edge of one of the long sides. Leave a knot at one end and pull the string on the other side to create gathers. Pin at the back of the costume or add a snap. Finish with witches hats (\$3 each; amazon.com).

The Candy Caddy: Drill two small holes, opposite one another, near the opening of an 8-inch clear acrylic globe (\$13; 1000bulbs.com). Thread black cording through holes, adjusting length to suit your child's height; knot ends. Hot-

glue knots if cording frays.

The Door Decor: Drill a small hole in the handle of two large outdoor brooms (\$20; homedepot.com). Hammer five small nails in front door. Hang two brooms, right sides up, through holes. Hang a third large broom and two small "witches brooms" (\$3; google.com/shopping) by threading the bristles over the remaining three nails. Add black plastic Grecian urn planters (\$29 each; homedepot.com) and "Spirit Board" doormat (\$99; grandinroad.com).



BOOKISH BUDS

The Costumes: Librarian: Peter Pan collar blouse, cardigan sweater, and plaid skirt (all from landsend.com), fake glasses (don't forget the gold chain!), pearls, and custom name tag (\$7; amazon.com)

Pet Professor: Cable knit sweater (chewy.com for similar), monocle (\$9; halloweencostumes.com), and name tag

The Candy Caddy: A library-card canvas tote can be used year-round (\$20; amazon.com).

The Door Decor: Cut long, thin rectangular pieces of differing colored kraft paper (we used red, gray, and black). Draw titles of books on the paper. Outline letters with gold paint pens. Fill in outline with paint pen or gold acrylic paint. Attach to door with double-sided tape. Add large bushel basket (\$10; hobbylobby.com) and buffalo-check doormat (\$20; hobbylobby.com).