



Deluxe Pumpkin Carving Storybook

By DUZ Creative
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Welcome to Hack & Hash

Halloween is one of our favorite holidays here at DUZ. So, we thought we'd spread the spookiness to you, our friends. Included in this storybook are some fun, funny (and a little scary) Halloween stories, plus special carving templates that will help you have the coolest pumpkins on the block.

Adding to the excitement is our hashtag promotion. Carve your own pumpkin using one of our templates, snap a photo and post it with the hashtag **#hackandhash** and you could win a gorgeous chef knife!

Or, if you've got a great pumpkin carving your own, post and tag that with **#hackandhash** and you could win* a nice iTunes gift card to round out your scary movie and music library.

We hope you enjoy our stories and our artwork and eat lots of candy. Happy Halloween!



*We'll draw randomly on November 3rd from all the entries for both prizes.

NIGHT LIGHT



There she is, the wee faerie, bright as a spark, quick as a dart. Is she friend or is she foe? Follow her and only then you'll know.

Over the fields and into the woods, the sun slips away. You are led to the bonfire and asked to jump the flames for good luck. It is a time of division, between light and dark, endings and beginnings. The world of the living and the world of the dead. For now the door opens between the natural and the supernatural, and you may walk with the spirits, dance with your ancestors. But beware those who wish to bring you harm. For them, the carved jack-o-lantern is lit from within. Let its glowing grimace frighten the evil ones away, back to where they dwell in the darkest dark.

At the close of harvest, the coming of winter, it is time to celebrate the Feast of Samhain, the ancient Celtic holiday. Call it "sah-van" or "sow-in" or "sah-ween." Call it what you will, it is still the Feast of the Dead. Time is suspended, the veil thins, allowing the world of the living and the world of the dead to be one and the same for a day and a night. Ancestors are honored, evil spirits are warded off with lanterns of light, masks, and costumes.

Keep to the light and you will be safe. Oh, this the faerie knows well. She masks you, spins you, and sends you reeling around the fire. On and on you dance, greeting friends and family, flesh and spirit, until the embers snap last and dawn peers forth. You are alone, in a familiar world with an unfamiliar memory. It is winter and you are among the living.





Fire fairy

Search for **#hackandhash** online to see the completed carving! Don't forget to tag a picture of YOUR creation for a chance to win!

DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY



Childishly Simple

Fiendishly Hard





The Scarecrow

About an hour into trick-or-treating, we walked up to a darkened house in the middle of Molly's block with fake gravestones on the edge of the yard. They had a long sidewalk to their porch, but it was one of those houses where we could tell there'd be good candy. We were, after all, fourth graders and seasoned experts at this whole thing.

As we climbed the steps to the porch, we saw the single most fabulous and most confusing thing: a stuffed scarecrow lying on a bale of hay, with a huge bowl of candy on his lap. On the bib part of his overalls, there was a hand-lettered sign: PLEASE TAKE ONLY ONE.

An entire bowl of candy! And no adults in sight! We each took turns tentatively stepping up to the bowl and choosing our favorite candy bar out of the dish, carefully looking around to see what the catch was.

Just then, Rudy, our neighborhood's bully and general jerk-about-town, shoved his way in front of our group. Typical. "One? Yeah, right!" he said, and in one motion, picked up the bowl and dumped it into his pillowcase. We stood with our mouths open as he flung the bowl back down and held up his bag of loot. We couldn't believe it. This weenie just took it. All of it.

As he stood facing us, gloating, something behind him moved. Suddenly, the scarecrow sat bolt upright and grabbed Rudy by the collar of his costume and in the creepiest voice ever said, "It says TAKE ONLY ONNNNNNNE!" Like a shot, the bulk of our group took off running, not sure what had just happened. I froze, now at the bottom of the steps.

Rudy was still held up by the scarecrow. I couldn't help feeling a little happy when I realized it was one of the older kids in our neighborhood dressed as the scarecrow. But not as happy as I was seeing a dark spot in the middle of Rudy's light pants grow bigger and bigger.

I learned some valuable lessons that Halloween: If the sign says take only one, you take only one. And bullies who pee their pants are automatically 100% less intimidating.



The Scarecrow

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DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY



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Fiendishly Hard





Roscoe The Squirrel

Roscoe had dined like a king.

He'd been out on an epic pumpkin bender. A veritable orgy of gourd gluttony.

But in his distended stomach, he felt the rumblings of rebellion. Lightheaded and heavy-limbed, his paws grasped clumsily at a tree. Best call it a night and deal with the consequences come the morning, he thought.

As he steadied himself against the tree, a voice exploded from the darkness: "WHO DARES DISHONOR THE GREAT PUMPKIN? SHOW YOURSELF!"

It was a ghastly roar that rattled the earth, and Roscoe trembled in fear. Out in the distance, he saw what he took to be The Great Pumpkin, looming larger and louder, its eyes shining like twin blinding beams.

Shaking himself, Roscoe's fear was replaced by confusion that quickly turned to rage. He was a squirrel. Squirrels didn't fear pumpkins. They ate pumpkins.

Chattering angrily, Roscoe took off at full speed, running straight for the avenging gourd as it hurtled toward him. Faster and faster he went, his thoughts drowned out by the wind and the sound, everything around him a blur.

As he bore down on the monster, he bared his teeth in a snarl. At the last moment, he leaped into the blackness, teeth gnashing, claws tearing at the air.

* * *

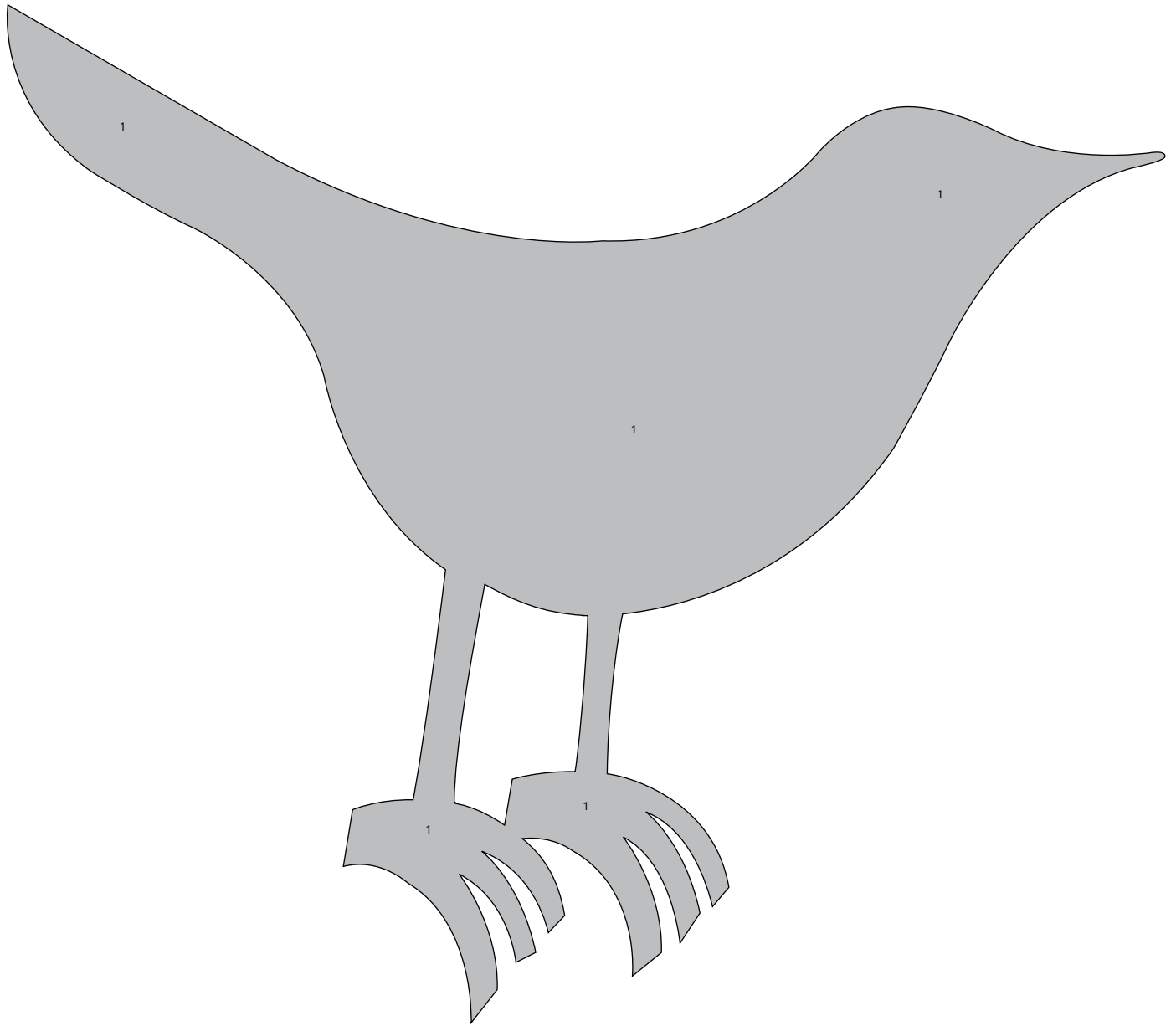
Burton tried to explain to the patrolman that there was not, in fact, a dismembered body in the trunk of his car.

He — well, his car — had been attacked by an animal. A squirrel, maybe? Launched itself right into the engine. Strangest thing.

And when he opened the hood, engine still sputtering, a tornadic gout of bloody fur and viscera flew out. All over the clown costume Burton had rented for the Halloween party.

It was a helluva story, the patrolman thought.

He wasn't buying it.



DUZ Bird

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DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY



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Instructions for carving

1. TOOLS AND SUPPLIES

Find a pumpkin that is big enough to fit the pumpkin pattern you want to carve. One with a nice smooth side will make your work easier. You'll also need a carving kit. At the very least the kit should come with small sawtooth blades. A kit might also come with a scoop and poker tool.

2. PUMPKIN GUTTING

Create a lid in the top of the pumpkin with a knife or sturdy carving tool, cutting at an inward angle so your lid won't fall inside. Remove most of the seeds and strings with your hands. Then use a scoop tool or big spoon to scrape the inner walls of the pumpkin to about 1" thick where the design will be.

3. PATTERN TRANSFERRING

After printing your pattern, trim off the excess paper around the design, and tape the pattern securely to the pumpkin. You can cut slits or pleat the paper to help it wrap around the surface. Then using a poker tool or push pin, poke holes (just enough to pierce the paper and pumpkin skin) along the lines of the pattern.

4. PUMPKIN CARVING

Holding your carving saw tool like a pencil, push it straight into the pumpkin on one of the lines you transferred. Begin sawing (up and down motion) following the lines. To keep the surface stable as you carve, try to cut out the small pieces first, and work your way from the middle outward. When done carving, poke the pieces out gently. Some may have to be pushed out from the inside. Look at your original paper pattern for reference. You'll be removing the areas that are shaded grey.

5. PUMPKIN PRESERVING

A quick rinse in the sink will give your finished pumpkin a hydration head start. To keep the design from shriveling, you can coat the cut edges with petroleum jelly (like Vaseline) to seal in the pumpkin's moisture. When not on display, store your pumpkin in a cool place. If your design does start to shrivel, a soak in water for a few hours can bring it back to life.

6. PUMPKIN LIGHTING

Light a small candle and place it inside your pumpkin. Using a glass candle holder will make it safer and prevent the flame from blowing out. With a small or enclosed pumpkin, a safe step would be to cut a hole in the lid to act as a vent. To keep things extra safe, consider battery powered lights, which come in a variety of colors.

