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PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST KIT

Entry Forms • Blind Judging Sheets • Prize Certificates

A print-and-go contest for offices, churches, schools, and neighborhood parties — no prep, no spreadsheets, no arguing about who won.

WHAT'S INSIDE THIS SAMPLE

How-To & Category List (p. 2) • Entry Forms — 4 copies (pp. 3–4)
Blind Judging Score Sheets — 2 copies (pp. 5–6) • Tally Sheet (p. 7)
7 Prize Certificates (landscape, following pages) • Awards Script (final page)

Print the entry forms and judging sheets in black-and-white. Print certificates in color on card stock if you can — they look like real awards on a fridge.

Full kit: $8.99 one-time • Print as many copies as your event needs • Reuse every year

SAMPLE — Watermark-free, print-ready preview of the full kit.

HOW TO RUN YOUR CONTEST IN 20 MINUTES

1. **Set out pumpkins + entry forms.** Each carver fills one form. 2. **Number every pumpkin.** Write the Entry # on a tent card in front of it — hide names. 3. **Hand judges a score sheet.** Judges walk, score by number only, and hand sheets back. 4. **Tally on page 7.** Highest total wins its category. 5. **Hand out certificates** with the Awards Script — big applause, photos, done.

Safety & fairness notes

• Adults carve, kids design: for ages 5 & under and the Painted / No-Carve category, an adult may do the cutting. Note it on the entry form. • Use LED lights indoors and at schools/churches if real candles are not allowed. • One entry per person per category; a team entry counts as one. • Judges may not score their own or their family's pumpkin — swap that entry with another judge.

OFFICIAL CATEGORIES

Category	Who Can Enter	What Judges Look For
Scariest	All ages	Genuine chills, shadows, a face you would not want in a window
Funniest	All ages	A real laugh on sight — goofy faces, visual puns, silly props
Most Creative	All ages	An idea nobody else had; clever use of stem, skin, or multiple pumpkins
Classic Jack-o'-Lantern	All ages	Clean triangles, proud grin, perfect glow — tradition done right
Best Painted / No-Carve	All ages, esp. 5 & under	Paint, markers, stickers, yarn hair — no blade required
Best Kids — 12 & Under	Ages 12 & under	Kid-led design and effort, judged kindly against other kids only
Team / Family Build	2+ people	Scenes, dioramas, and multi-pumpkin builds made together

Age groups on every form: 5 & Under · 6–9 · 10–12 · 13–17 · Adult 18+ · Team / Family | **Skill levels:** First-Timer · Hobby Carver · Seasoned Pro · Template / Kit Used. Organizers may award within an age group (e.g., Funniest, Ages 6–9) if turnout is large — just write the age group on the certificate.

Suggested prizes (keep them cheap and funny)

Grand Champion: golden pumpkin trophy (spray-paint a dollar-store pumpkin gold) + first pick of the dessert table. Category winners: certificate + a small prize — candy bag, $5 coffee card, carving kit for next year, or the honor of displaying the pumpkin at the front desk / welcome table for a week. Every kid 12 & under gets an Honorable Mention certificate — see the certificates section.

ENTRY FORMS

Print as many as you need. Cut on the dashed line — two entries per page. Attach the Entry # tent card (bottom of the full kit) to each pumpkin.

ENTRY FORM — Cut here and attach / hand to organizer

ENTRY # _____ (organizer fills in — this number is used for blind judging) **Date:** _____

Carver Name:	_____
Age Group:	■ 5 & Under ■ 6–9 ■ 10–12 ■ 13–17 ■ Adult 18+ ■ Team / Family
Skill Level:	■ First-Timer ■ Hobby Carver ■ Seasoned Pro ■ Carved with a Template / Kit
Category:	■ Scariest ■ Funniest ■ Most Creative ■ Classic Jack-o'-Lantern ■ Best Painted / No-Carve
Pumpkin Title:	_____
Team Members:	_____
Contact:	Phone / Email (for prizes only): _____
Tools / Notes:	■ Real candle ■ LED light ■ Paint / Props Notes: _____

■ I confirm this pumpkin was carved / decorated by the person(s) named above. Signature: _____ ■ Photo permission granted for event recap.

ENTRY FORM — Cut here and attach / hand to organizer

ENTRY # _____ (organizer fills in — this number is used for blind judging) **Date:** _____

Carver Name:	_____
Age Group:	■ 5 & Under ■ 6–9 ■ 10–12 ■ 13–17 ■ Adult 18+ ■ Team / Family
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ENTRY FORMS (continued)

Extra copies — every carver / team needs one.

ENTRY FORM — Cut here and attach / hand to organizer

ENTRY # _____ (organizer fills in — this number is used for blind judging) **Date:** _____

Carver Name:	_____
Age Group:	■ 5 & Under ■ 6–9 ■ 10–12 ■ 13–17 ■ Adult 18+ ■ Team / Family
Skill Level:	■ First-Timer ■ Hobby Carver ■ Seasoned Pro ■ Carved with a Template / Kit
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BLIND JUDGING SCORE SHEET

Judges score by **Entry # only** — no names on this sheet. That keeps it fair for kids, coworkers, and seasoned carvers alike.

Judge Name: _____ **Category Judging:** _____ **Date:** _____

Scoring — 1 to 5 in each column (5 = outstanding). Add across for a total out of 25. Circle your personal favorite in the last column, even if it is not the highest score — that vote helps break ties and pick Crowd Favorite.

Entry #	Creativity (1–5)	Craft & Clean Cuts (1–5)	Wow / Impact (1–5)	Fits Category (1–5)	Glow / Presentation (1–5)	TOTAL / 25	★ Fav?
							■
							■
							■
							■
							■
							■
							■
							■
							■
							■

Tie-breaker & notes

If two entries tie, re-score only those two on **Creativity**. If still tied, the judges' Favorite votes decide. Use the lines below for quick notes you will want at awards time ("#7 — the haunted house windows actually glow").

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Judge signature: _____ Hand this sheet to the organizer before awards are announced. Do not share scores during viewing.

 © Ryan Wilson Projects — For single-event use

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							■
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							■
							■
							■
							■

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ORGANIZER TALLY SHEET

Add each judge's TOTAL for an entry, then average (divide by number of judges). Highest average in each category wins. Star the Grand Champion — the highest average overall.

Entry #	Category	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Average	Place

Winners list — fill in before awards

Award	Entry #	Name (reveal after judging!)	Pumpkin Title
Grand Champion			
Scariest			
Funniest			
Most Creative			
Classic Jack-o'-Lantern			
Best Painted / No-Carve			
Best Kids 12 & Under			
Crowd Favorite			

Tip: announce by Entry # and pumpkin title first, then reveal the carver's name — the gasp-and-cheer moment is the best photo of the night.

• PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST •

Certificate of Award

GRAND CHAMPION

Best Overall Pumpkin

Proudly presented to

_____

(winner's name)

for the pumpkin titled _____ for the pumpkin that stopped the room — highest score of the entire contest.

_____ Event / Organization

_____ Date

_____ Judge / Organizer Signature

• PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST •

Certificate of Award

SCARIEST PUMPKIN

Scariest Pumpkin

Proudly presented to

_____

(winner's name)

for the pumpkin titled _____ for a carving genuinely too spooky to stand next to after dark.

_____	_____	_____
Event / Organization	Date	Judge / Organizer Signature

• PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST •

Certificate of Award

FUNNIEST PUMPKIN

Funniest Pumpkin

Proudly presented to

_____

(winner's name)

for the pumpkin titled _____ for the pumpkin that made the whole room laugh out loud on sight.

_____	_____	_____
Event / Organization	Date	Judge / Organizer Signature

• PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST •

Certificate of Award

MOST CREATIVE

Most Creative Pumpkin

Proudly presented to

_____

(winner's name)

for the pumpkin titled _____ for an original idea, brilliantly executed, that nobody else even thought of.

_____	_____	_____
Event / Organization	Date	Judge / Organizer Signature

• PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST •

Certificate of Award

BEST KIDS ENTRY

Best Kids Entry — 12 & Under

Proudly presented to

_____

(winner's name)

for the pumpkin titled _____ for outstanding kid-led carving, designing, and decorating.

_____ Event / Organization

_____ Date

_____ Judge / Organizer Signature

• PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST •

Certificate of Award

BEST PAINTED / NO-CARVE

Best Painted / No-Carve Pumpkin

Proudly presented to

_____

(winner's name)

for the pumpkin titled _____ for proof that a masterpiece needs paint and imagination, not a blade.

_____ Event / Organization

_____ Date

_____ Judge / Organizer Signature

• PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST •

Certificate of Award

CROWD FAVORITE

Crowd Favorite — Honorable Mention

Proudly presented to

_____

(winner's name)

for the pumpkin titled _____ voted a favorite by the crowd and the judges — a pumpkin people will talk about all fall.

_____	_____	_____
Event / Organization	Date	Judge / Organizer Signature

AWARDS ANNOUNCEMENT SCRIPT

Read it word-for-word if you want — it takes about two minutes and makes winners feel like celebrities. Fill the blanks from your Tally Sheet.

"Welcome, everyone, to our Pumpkin Carving Contest awards! We had _____ pumpkins entered this year, and our judges scored every single one *blind* — by number only — so tonight's winners earned it fair and square."

"First, a round of applause for **every** carver. If you entered a pumpkin, stand up — you made this event." *(applause)*

"Our **Honorable Mentions / Crowd Favorites** go to Entry #_____ , '_____' by _____, and Entry #_____ , '_____' by _____. Come get your certificates!"

"**Best Painted / No-Carve** — Entry #_____ , '_____' by _____!"

"**Best Kids Entry, 12 and Under** — Entry #_____ , '_____' by _____!"

"**Most Creative** — Entry #_____ , '_____' by _____!" "**Funniest** — Entry #_____ , '_____' by _____!" "**Scariest** — Entry #_____ , '_____' by _____!"

"And now — our **Grand Champion**, the highest score of the whole contest. Entry #_____ … '_____' … carved by _____! Come claim the golden pumpkin!" *(big applause, photos)*

"Thank you to our judges, our carvers, and everyone who came to look. Photos by the pumpkins for the next ten minutes — and winners, your certificates frame beautifully. See you next fall!"

Reorder your night

Enjoyed the kit? The full version ($8.99, one-time) adds fillable entry-number tent cards, a one-page poster/flyer, social-media winner announcement graphics, and extra certificate designs for Teachers' Favorite, Best Team Build, and Spookiest Glow. Print it again every year — for the office, the classroom, the church fellowship hall, and the block party.

Questions or a great winner photo to share? Thank you for making fall a little more fun. — Ryan Wilson Projects