





BRONCOS





Pumpkin Carving Tips for Bronco Nation

Carve out the bottom

Before you start carving, hold your horses! Instead of cutting a hole out of the top of your pumpkin, try cutting out the bottom (or back). Because this keeps the stem intact, your pumpkin will stay fresh longer. Plus, eliminating moisture buildup at the bottom means less rot and more time for showing off your masterpiece.

Scoop like a Bronco champ

Grab a big spoon—or better yet, an ice cream scoop—and get to work on those pumpkin guts. Scrape the insides of your pumpkin until you've cleared out the soft walls. Then, give it a proper cleaning with a mix of 1 tablespoon of bleach and 1 quart of water. This powerful combo keeps mold and rot away, so your pumpkin shines!

Give it a time out

After all that scooping and cleaning, you need a breather—and so does your pumpkin! Let it dry indoors before carving your design. (Mother Nature can be tough on pumpkins, so don't set it outside to dry.) You can speed up the drying process with a towel or a fan set to a low speed. Heat can accelerate the rotting process, so avoid using a blow dryer.

Keep it fresh

Once your pumpkin is carved, seal in the freshness by putting petroleum jelly on the carved edges and inside. This will keep the pumpkin moisturized, so it stays fresh longer. No Vaseline? No problem. You can also use vegetable oil, olive oil, clear spray paint or even white glue to get your pumpkin ready for overtime.

Pumpkin comeback play

Pumpkin looking a little deflated? Submerge it in an ice water bath for up to two hours. Add a dash of bleach to keep the mold at bay, then moisturize the edges again with petroleum jelly or oil before putting it back on display. Your pumpkin will be back in the game in no time!