STILL NEED A HALLOWEEN COSTUME? HERE ARE 7 LAST-MINUTE IDEAS

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Halloween is tomorrow. Your house is adorned in Halloween spirit and you've got buckets of candy and a playlist full of classic hits like "Thriller" and "Monster Mash" to play at Halloween parties. But when you look at your holiday checklist, you realize you don't have a Halloween costume.

Before you panic, know that there's still something to put together. You may not have time to buy a fancy costume, but there are plenty of other ways to dress up. Keep reading for seven last-minute ideas to help you save your Halloween.

Ghost

Ghost costumes are very easy to make. All you need is a white sheet and scissors. After getting the supplies, cut two eyeholes and trim the sheet so it floats above your feet. Once you complete those easy steps, you'll have your ghost costume.

Black cat

Black cats are simple to assemble as well. If you've got a black shirt and pants, you can use them as the costume's base. If you don't have a black shirt and pants, you can always buy them at a store such as Target or Walmart. To add the ears and tail, you can either buy them or make them from paper or pipe cleaners.

Smurf

If you want to make a costume that requires low effort, this is a perfect option.

If you don't know what Smurfs are, they're blue movie characters with white hats. Male Smurfs are shirtless and wear white pants while female Smurfs wear white dresses and shoes. If you've got white pants, shoes or dresses, feel free to use them. If you don't, you can either buy them or skip them. The biggest component of the Smurf costume is blue skin, which can easily be made with blue paint that doesn't have toxic chemicals. A simple hack is to add blue eyeshadow to concealer or foundation.



ILLUSTRATION BY KIRA YOUNG, CONTRIBUTING ARTIST/THE DAILY CAMPUS

Alien

Like Smurfs, alien costumes don't require much effort. The only essential item is paint.

While the most common alien skin-tone is green, aliens can also be purple, yellow, blue and pink, according to Magnific. What's nice about alien costumes is the freedom of choosing and customizing their appearance. Not only do you have many color options, but you can wear whatever you want. If you want to wear a tuxedo, go for it. If you would like to wear jeans, a dress, a spacesuit or antennas, that's cool too.

Superhero

Many who dress as superheroes wear luxurious costumes that look like real superhero outfits. However, you don't need a $500 suit from Amazon to be a superhero for Halloween. All the items you need are inside your dorm or home.

If you want to be Superman or another superhero that wears a cape, you can easily make the cape with a sheet or towel. You can also make the superhero's logo by printing it or drawing it and taping it to your chest. If you don't feel like dressing up as an existing superhero, make your own.

Vampire

Vampires are a popular choice. Every Halloween, I see at least one person dressed as one. Making a vampire costume is effortless and requires only a few materials.

If you want to be a bloody vampire, you can use face paint or makeup to smear fake blood across your face. There are also fake fangs that you can buy in stores. If you want to mirror the pale face that vampires have, you can accomplish that by using white paint or a makeup base. If you'd like to wear a cloak like some vampires do, you can use a sheet or towel.

Marathon runner

If you like running, this is a great option for you. All you need is shorts and a tank top, which can be bought at any store if needed, but are probably already in your closet. When competing, marathon runners usually wear a sticker with a number. If you'd like to add a sticker, you can write a random number on a small sheet of paper and tape it just beneath your chest.

I wish you the best of luck in making your costume. Whether you make a plain ghost outfit or paint your skin green, you're still celebrating Halloween in style.

PUMPKINFEST RETURNS WITH HUGE ATTENDANCE

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A line filled with hundreds of University of Connecticut students waiting to celebrate Halloween early stretched from the Student Union Lawn to the School of Business, surrounded by smoke from fog machines illuminated by a nearly full moon Tuesday night.

The students were waiting to check in to PumpkinFest, an annual event held by Student Activities offering students thrills, games, food and other creative opportunities for free.

Mallory Smith, a graduate assistant for Student Activities Major Events and Programs, said that it was amazing to see so many students excited and standing in line for the event.



Neon lights blazed throughout a haunted maze-like attraction, as fog and spooky tunes filled the air. Scare actors, many of whom were students involved with Student Activities, hid around the corners of the halls filled with objects flipped upside-down, ready to prompt screams and maybe a few laughs from students.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL JEFFERS, GRAB PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

"I hope they keep coming out," she said at the beginning of the night, and they did.

Last year, about 1,200 students attended PumpkinFest, and this year, attendance was predicted to be between 1,200 and 1,500 students, said Erin O'Keefe, program coordinator for Student Activities.

O'Keefe said the event began a few years ago during the COVID-19 pandemic as a way for students to celebrate Halloween outside. In the past, the festival's main attraction was a light show, accompanied by over 300 pumpkins. While around 250 pumpkins carved by students and staff were present at the celebration this year, the Hall of Illusions was the main attraction.

2026's Hall of Illusions is Student Activities' take on an interactive haunted house, with themes present from the hit Netflix series "Stranger Things," which concluded at the start of this year.

Neon lights blazed throughout the maze-like attraction, as fog and spooky tunes filled the air. Scare actors, many of which were students involved with Student Activities, hid around the corners of the halls filled with objects flipped upside-down, ready to prompt screams and maybe a few laughs from students.

Ryan Franco, a fifth-semester psychology major who is involved with Student Activities' Late Night, was a memorable scare actor of the night.

Holding a red balloon and dressed as a terrifying clown reminiscent of Pennywise from Stephen King's "It," Franco said in an eerie voice that he was having "a grand old time," giving people "the joy of fear."

Franco's clown makeup, as well as the other scare actors' special effects, was the work of Aslin Wolfe, a fifth-semester animal science major who is also involved with Late Night.

Wolfe said that providing students with entertainment was her goal for the evening.

"I love haunted houses myself, so it's fun getting to be on the other side," she said.

Laser tag, a mechanical jack-o-lantern, face paint and balloon animals were set up at other stations outside for students not seeking haunted thrills. Plenty of fall-themed food from trucks was also available for free with entry.

O'Keefe mentioned that she was excited to host a truck from The Mason Jar Exchange for the first time, a food truck company based in Branford, Conn., that serves fresh meals like loaded potato soup and mac and cheese.

The owner of the company, Marissa Vaspasiano, said that The Mason Jar Exchange was excited to be at UConn and hoped to provide "comfort and warmth for the evening."

Jayla Davis, a server for Borrelli Catering, a company based in Rhode Island, said that PumpkinFest was "full of life," and that she had never seen anything like it before.

Students in line said they were willing to wait to spend time with friends.

Diya Panwala, a fifth-semester computer science major, said she loves Halloween and that she didn't have much time to celebrate with it friends, other than at PumpkinFest.

"It looks really fun," she said.

Marlena Downing, a first-semester chemistry and music performance major, was dressed in full cosplay as Maka Albarn from the anime and manga series "Soul Eater."

On her way to the event, Downing said that PumpkinFest was a good way to ensure that students are celebrating Halloween in a safe way. She said the event offered a fun alternative to going out and potentially putting herself in a dangerous situation.

IS JOANNE JEWISH?

'Nobody Wants This' Season 3 rebounds after disappointing last season

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Emmy-nominated hit TV series "Nobody Wants This" returned to Netflix for its third season on Thursday, Oct. 22, one day short of the one-year anniversary of its previous installment.

**Disclaimer: This review includes spoilers for Season 3 of "Nobody Wants This."

The show follows podcaster Joanne Williams (Kristen Bell) navigating her complicated relationship with Rabbi Noah Roklov (Adam Brody). The series picks up with Joanne and Noah trying to find a path forward after breaking up because of their differences in faith.

Joanne doesn't know if she can be Jewish and refuses to agree to convert just for Noah, which is one of my favorite parts of the show because it emphasizes how Joanne is true to herself and waiting for her own realization of faith.

Noah and Joanne finally get engaged in Season 3, a thoughtful and romantic moment viewers will be so excited to see after the ups and downs of the last two seasons. In all honesty, I did not expect the proposal at all, which made it even better to watch it and be just as surprised as Joanne.

Although Noah and Joanne are the main characters, what the series presents best is its secondary romance. Morgan Williams' (Justine Lupe) and Sashas' (Timothy Simons) slow-burn has been my favorite plotline from the start, and it's the part of the show that has never lost its footing. Their relationship has tension and the sense of earned progress that the main couple's story lost once their wedding planning began. Episode VII, which features them in New York realizing their connection, was the best one of the season with no doubt. It's no surprise that the show is more compelling when it gives characters room to grow and banter playfully.

The show ends with Joanne and Noah getting married after Joanne converts to Judaism, and the choice works because the series made a point of emphasizing that she was converting for herself. It isn't a condition of the relationship or a concession to Noah's family. It's her decision, and that keeps the ending from feeling like a compromise to maintain her relationship.

In truth, this was my favorite installment of the series so far. It's a true comfort show, and the banter this season felt realistic and relatable. I hope the writers continue to build the rest of the show just like this season.



Main characters in Netflix's "Nobody Wants This," Joanne Williams (Kristen Bell) and Noah Roklov (Adam Brody). The Emmy-nominated hit TV series returned to Netflix for its third season on Thursday, Oct. 22.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NETFLIX

RATING: 5/5