

7-MINUTE SOLUTION

DECORATE A PUMPKIN—NO CARVING REQUIRED!

Dina Manzo, former Real Housewife of New Jersey and host of HGTV's Dina's Party, likes a sparkly Halloween. "You can be so much more creative without carving, and it's safer for the young ones."

1 Go for the gold (or the color of your choice). Spray-paint a thin layer on the whole pumpkin—it will help the decorations stick. And do it outside in the yard or on the deck so you don't have to worry about fumes. (Be sure to put down newspaper or cardboard to protect surfaces.) Bright colors are fun, but I did an all-black pumpkin last year, then decorated it with clear rhinestones, and it was fantastic.

2 Play up patterns. Go free-form with swirls and curlicues; have your kids write their names; or make funny faces.

3 Spring for the bling. Use self-adhesive rhinestones, or glue on flat-back rhinestones and colored gems. Hot glue guns work, but an adhesive called Magna-Tac is more effective. Another option: colorful beads with a hole in the center so you can attach them with a straight pin. Studs and rivets are

also big right now. (Supplies mentioned here are available at many craft stores.)

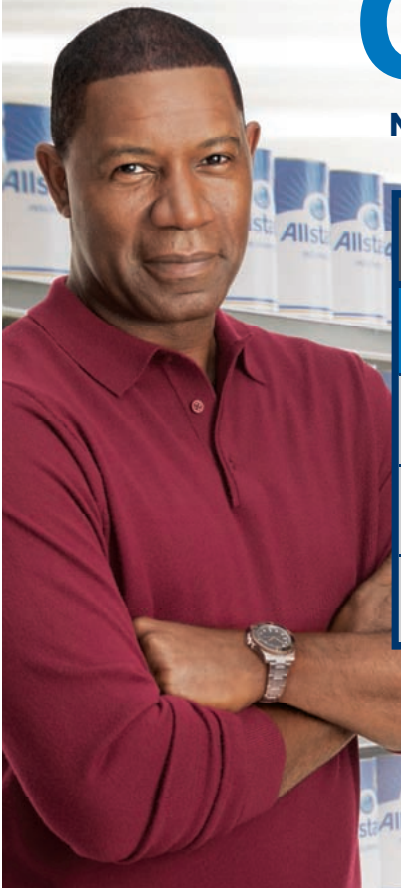
To see Dina's exclusive step-by-step video, go to Parade.com/pumpkin



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