



**lawn &
garden**

PROJECT PUMPKIN 2.0

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America is in the middle of a pumpkin craze – pumpkin lattes, pumpkin beer, pumpkin ice cream, and more have become fall staples. We love all things pumpkin, yet every year millions of pumpkins are thrown away after Halloween. While obvious ways of repurposing pumpkins are in the kitchen or at a pumpkin chunkin' event, this year try something new!

PUMPKIN DÉCOR

Thanksgiving is right around the corner. Instead of using a boring old cornucopia, reuse small pumpkins to create a unique, seasonal centerpiece. Paint cute designs on your pumpkins or paint them all over with a metallic hue for a more sophisticated look. Move aside, uninspired name place cards! Use a paint pen to write your guests' names on tiny, décor-sized pumpkins to adorn each place setting. Small pumpkins are also great candleholders; remove the stem and cut out a shallow, circular cavity large enough to hold a tea light. To take your centerpiece to the next level, place the lit pumpkins in a glass bowl of water to create floating candles! It's sure to impress your relatives come Turkey Day!

PUMPKIN PRETTY

Pumpkins are rich in antioxidants and loaded with Vitamins A, C and E and zinc, so do your skin a favor and treat your face to a pumpkin facial! Add exfoliating brown sugar and a splash of milk to pumpkin puree and apply to your face for 20 minutes. It's good for your complexion and smells great too. Relax further by taking a cue from Martha Stewart and making pumpkin pie potpourri. Prepare your pumpkin as you would for a Jack-o-lantern, except instead of a face, carve out holes all around the pumpkin's sides. Then rub cinnamon or pumpkin pie spice on the inside of the pumpkin; place a lit candle inside and top with the lid to enjoy the sweet, spicy fragrance of fall for up to six hours.

PUMPKIN PATCH

Pumpkins are a symbol of the harvest, so it makes sense to use leftover pumpkins to replenish the earth. Pumpkins enrich soil with zinc, iron and phosphorus, so they make excellent fertilizer and compost. If growing flowers is your fancy, use medium-sized pumpkins as planters. Fill a hollowed-out pumpkin a third full with potting soil. Place a hardy fall perennial inside, and add more potting soil and water. Enjoy your charming planter for several days and then plant it in the ground – pumpkin and all – so the decaying pumpkin can nourish your plant.

Whether it's for décor, beauty or gardening, prolong the ambience of autumn by repurposing those pumpkins!