Pumpkin Feeder

WHAT YOU NEED

- birdseed
- strong twine or cord
- hollowed-out pumpkin
- two wooden dowel rods

Don't toss your jack-o'-lantern after Halloween. Turn it into a feeder for neighborhood birds!

WHAT YOU DO

1. Cut off the top of the pumpkin, as shown. (Ask an adult for help.)
2. Poke a dowel into the pumpkin a few inches down from the top edge you just cut. Push it straight out through the opposite side of the pumpkin.
3. Poke the second dowel through the pumpkin so it crosses just under the first dowel.
4. Cut the twine into four equal lengths. Tie a strand to each dowel, as shown. Then tie the loose ends together in a large knot at the top.
5. Fill the pumpkin with birdseed, and then hang it in your yard.

TIP Make several small holes in the bottom of the pumpkin to let rainwater drain out.

TIP If you don't want seeds to spill out of the pumpkin's face, you can line the feeder with a sheet of newspaper before filling it.

SHOW US!

We want to see photos of your *gourd*geous feeders—and the birds that stop by for a snack, too! Send your letters and photos to *Ranger Rick; 11100 Wildlife Center Dr.; Reston, VA 20190-5362.* E-mail: **rick@nwf.org**

We enjoy all your letters and photos, even though we can publish only a few in the magazine. All letters and photos become the property of National Wildlife Federation.

PHOTO BY MARK GODFREY