

Plump Pumpkin Crystal Lamp

Our own Wendy Powell, of *Powell & Company*, shows us how to set the scene and light the way with a sophisticated seasonal showstopper.

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“This autumn season, we transformed a traditional pumpkin into anything but. Illuminate your home with this magnificent pumpkin crystal lamp! Nestled atop a rustic cast-iron urn with vibrant fall foliage, this jack-o’-lantern of sorts is a great way to greet your guests. It also makes for a chic centerpiece.”



Are you having an adult fall festivity for the holidays? Arrange your “lamp-o-lantern” in a vase for a centerpiece that could be decidedly “gourdeous.” Or glitz and glam up your display with some seasonal sparkle and hanging, shimmering crystals.

Let’s start by gathering some of the hardware you’ll need. Crystal prisms can be easily found at flea markets, salvage yards and antiques stores, and they’re typically pieces taken from old chandeliers and light fixtures. Look for prisms and gems that are unique in shape, size and clarity. You’ll need about a dozen crystals (six small pieces and six large pieces). Here, we used an alternating series of diamond- and rectangle-shaped crystals for a vibrant, dramatic effect.

Almost any variety pumpkin will work; just be sure it’s a good fit for your urn before you get started. First, cut out the top section (or the lid) of the pumpkin and set it aside. Scoop out the innards with a large kitchen spoon and discard. Working your way around the outside of the pumpkin in an alternating pattern, carve out the desired shapes about 1 1/2 to 2 inches larger than your prisms.

Using small pieces of craft wire, hang the crystals in the cutouts by attaching the wire to each prism. Here’s how: Loop the wire through the tiny hole at the top of each gem and pierce the wire up through the pumpkin shell. Repeat this process with the small crystals and hang these between the cutouts, about 1/2 inch below the top of the pumpkin. Set a 3-inch pillar candle in the bottom, center of your new jack-o’-lantern and replace the lid. Arrange a natural spray of leafy branches and autumn twigs in a rustic urn and top it off with your new, homemade ‘plump pumpkin crystal lamp.’ ✂



chandelier masquerade

This Halloween, leave the spooky carvings to the kids and show off your sophisticated side. This ‘plump pumpkin crystal lamp’ has another use — an outdoor candle chandelier for your All Hallows Eve monster mash! Offering the appropriate flicker of mood lighting, it’s the perfect addition for an autumn-evening celebration.