

Halloween

Halloween is right there among the most popular holidays in the world. For sure, all of us are aware of Halloween, but not all of us know about its meaning, purpose, and history, which are what we'll be discussing today.



Halloween Definition & Meaning

Halloween, also called All Hallows' Eve, All Saint's Eve, and Allhalloween is a yearly traditional holiday where children and adults dress up in costumes and typically attend spooky-themed parties.

Halloween is an annual holiday that marks the beginning of the Allhallowtide season which consists of the Christian holidays All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day.

When Is Halloween?

Halloween is celebrated every October 31 each year because the Celts used to celebrate their new year on November 1. It is their belief that the night before their new year (October

31st), the line separating the realm of the living and the dead thins, hence allowing ghosts to walk on Earth during that night.

Halloween History

Halloween has come a long way. So let's explore how it started and evolved throughout the centuries.

Two Millenniums Ago

Halloween started as a Celtic festival called Samhain. It's a festival marking the closing of the harvest season and the start of the winter season. On Samhain, the dead were believed to cross the border separating them from the world of the living. Worried that the souls of the dead have evil intent, the Celts wore masks, dressed up in costumes, and lit bonfires to ward them off.

43 AD

The Roman Empire added more customs to the Samhain festival, among those is honoring the Roman goddess of trees and fruits, Pomona. Because the goddess Pomona's symbol is an apple, it's strongly theorized that the bobbing of apples on modern-day Halloween is inspired by her.

1556

The first known derivations of trick-or-treating began in 1556. Back then, there was this practice known as "souling." In this practice, peasants travel from house to house begging for food that was offered in memory of the souls of the dead.

1600s

The Puritans of New England banned non-Catholics and non-Episcopalians from celebrating Halloween. They believed that Halloween is exclusively a Catholic holiday. And so for the next two centuries, only Catholics and Episcopalians were able to observe Halloween.

1800s

Immigrants from Ireland and Scotland arrived in America bringing along their Halloween traditions. They introduced Halloween to the Americans and it eventually become a popular holiday. The immigrants left their home countries to escape the Great Famine.

Early Years of the 1900s

The idea of Halloween being centered around ghosts and witchcraft has been neglected. It became more of a holiday that was intended for get-togethers, parties, family gatherings, and general leisure.

1921

Anoka, Minnesota organized its first official Halloween celebration in the United States. Other cities and states in the US then did the same in the few years that followed.

1930s Onwards

Halloween became a mainstream celebration. Shops selling Halloween items and costumes sprouted across cities. Subsequently, Halloween started being commercialized by major companies. It also made its mark on pop culture. Novels, TV shows, and books centered around horror released every year since then.

Halloween Purpose, Importance

Halloween is more than just dressing up as fictional characters, witches, and pumpkin heads. There are deeper reasons why Halloween is celebrated that modern times have overshadowed.

Preparation for the Allhallowtide Season

Halloween precedes the Allhallowtide season, specifically All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day. Christian families spend Halloween on October 31 preparing for those days. Many of

them will be visiting their deceased loved ones in the cemeteries, offering prayers for their souls, praying to saints, and attending mass.

Ward Off Spirits

Though the practice is virtually extinct nowadays, it's important to point out that Halloween was originally celebrated by the Celts to ward off dark spirits. As mentioned earlier, they believe that the night of October 31st (the night before their new year celebration) is when spirits will cross the boundary between the living and the dead. So to ward them off, they lit bonfires and wear costumes. The Celt's wearing of costumes is where the modern Halloween celebration got the idea of dressing up as witches, ghosts, goblins, mythical creatures, and fictional characters.

Dress Up and Have Fun

Modern Halloween is more about dressing up and having fun, particularly for children. Today's Halloween has a great sense of community. Kids would dress up as Disney princesses, superheroes, witches, or fairies and go trick or treating. Some adults attend Halloween parties filled with music, good food, and lots of drinks.

What's on Halloween?

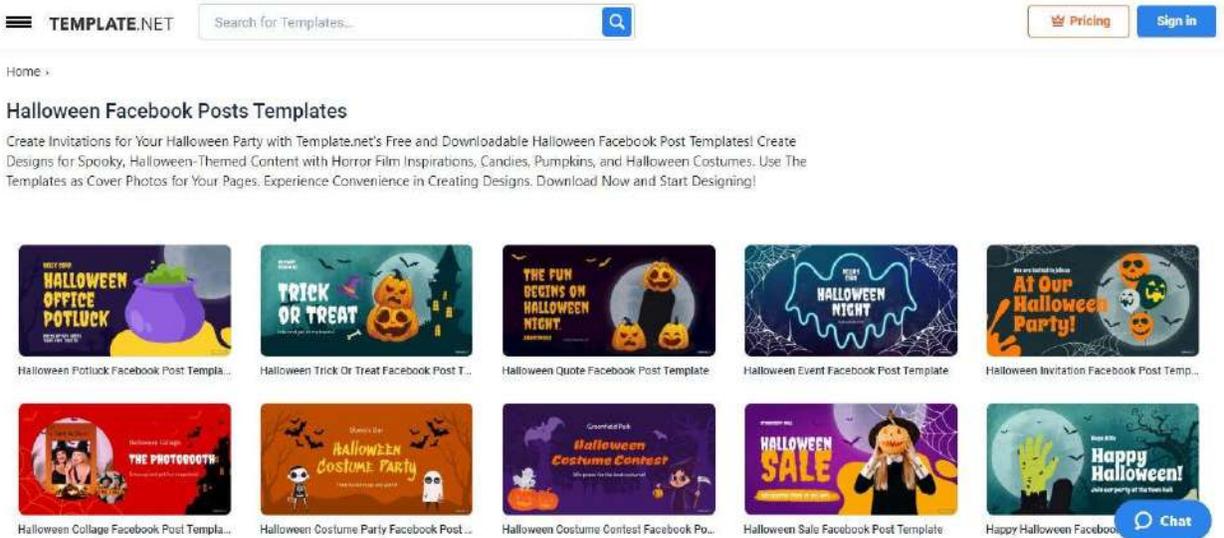
On the day of Halloween, kids will be trick or treating all day. They would go from house to house bringing along treat bags and asking for candies and other sweet treats. Halloween parties for adults will also take place in houses and clubs. Attendants of such parties would dress up as anything or anyone they want, typically fictional characters.

How to Create a Halloween Social Media Post

Thanks to social media, we can share just about anything that we have in mind in an instant. So if you're excited about this year's Halloween, express your excitement on social media. Create a Halloween social media post and share it with your friends and followers.

Facebook

1. Choose any of our [Halloween Facebook Post Templates](#).



We have a high-quality selection of Halloween Facebook Post Templates. Each has a design perfect for Halloween festivities. Select one and go ahead and customize it using our Editor tool.

2. Begin writing your Halloween message.



In the Editor tool, you can begin customization by writing your unique Halloween message. Just head to the Fill panel and edit the content of the Fill Text boxes. You can write greetings such as "Happy Halloween" or invitation messages like "Join our Halloween party tonight."

3. Insert additional Halloween clip art.



Add more Halloween-themed graphics to your post if you want. Go to the Graphics panel and type “Halloween” in the search box. You’ll find multiple Halloween-themed clip art. We have one depicting a graveyard, a spider, and a skeleton. Simply click, drag, and drop your selected graphic into the template.

4. Try different background colors.



Our Editor tool offers plenty of background colors. There's purple, red, grey, and many more. Go to Background, select See All in Colors, and select a color under Default Colors. Any color that you'll pick will immediately apply as background.

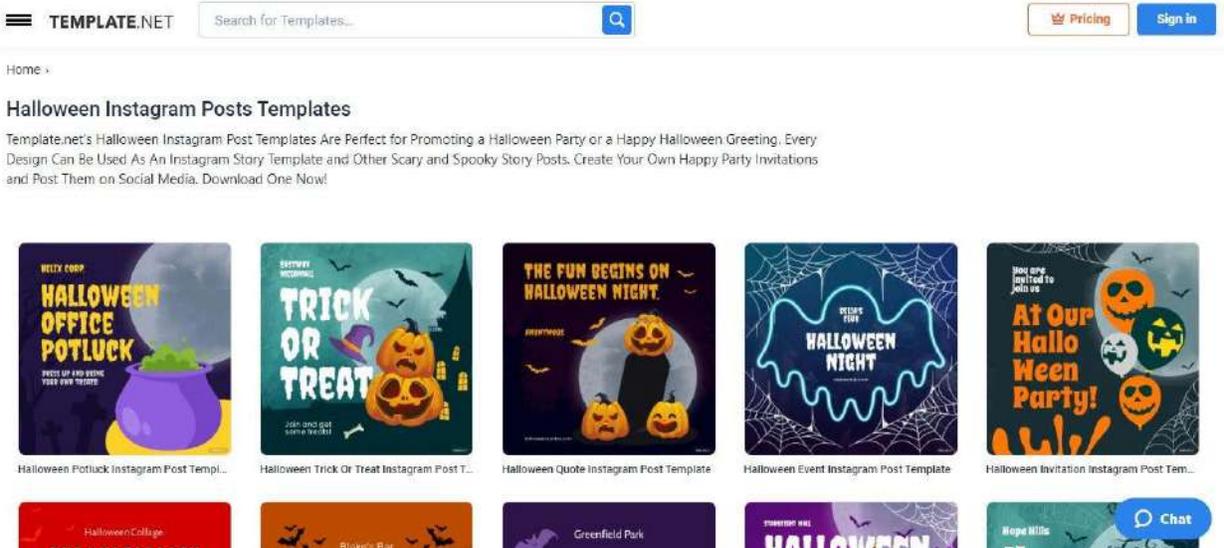
5. Save your Halloween Facebook post draft.



To save your draft, select the button in the upper right corner then select the Save button. Hold on to your Halloween Facebook post draft for now. Share it on Facebook on October 31.

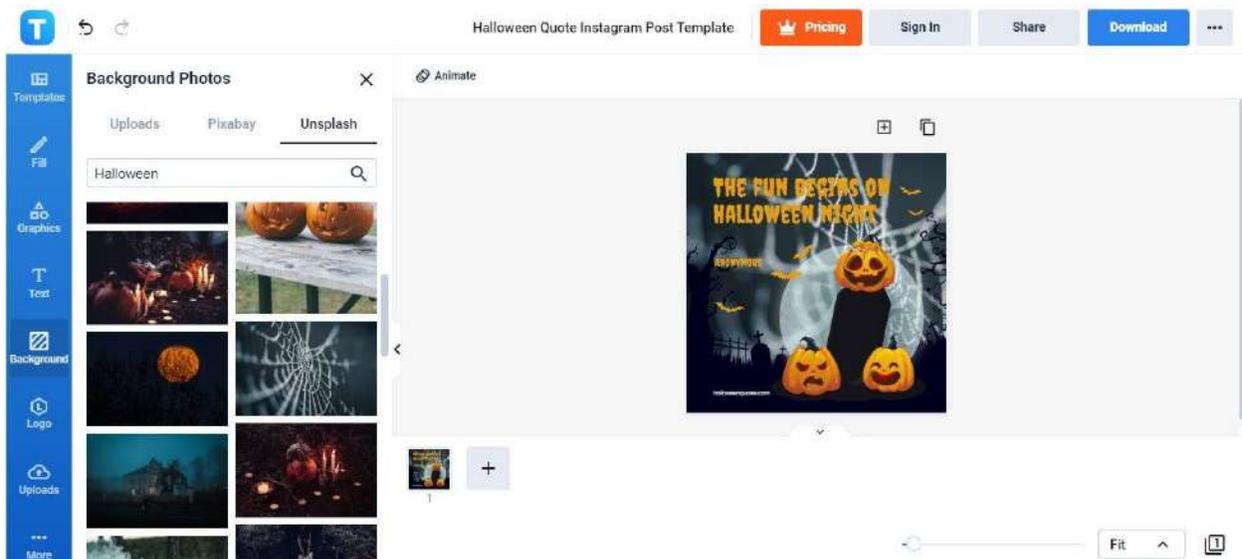
Instagram

1. Choose any of our [Halloween Instagram Post Templates](#).



We have loads of Instagrammable Halloween Instagram Post Templates. Each is editable in our Editor tool anytime. Select a Halloween Instagram template that you like and open it in our Editor tool.

2. Use a Halloween photo as a background.



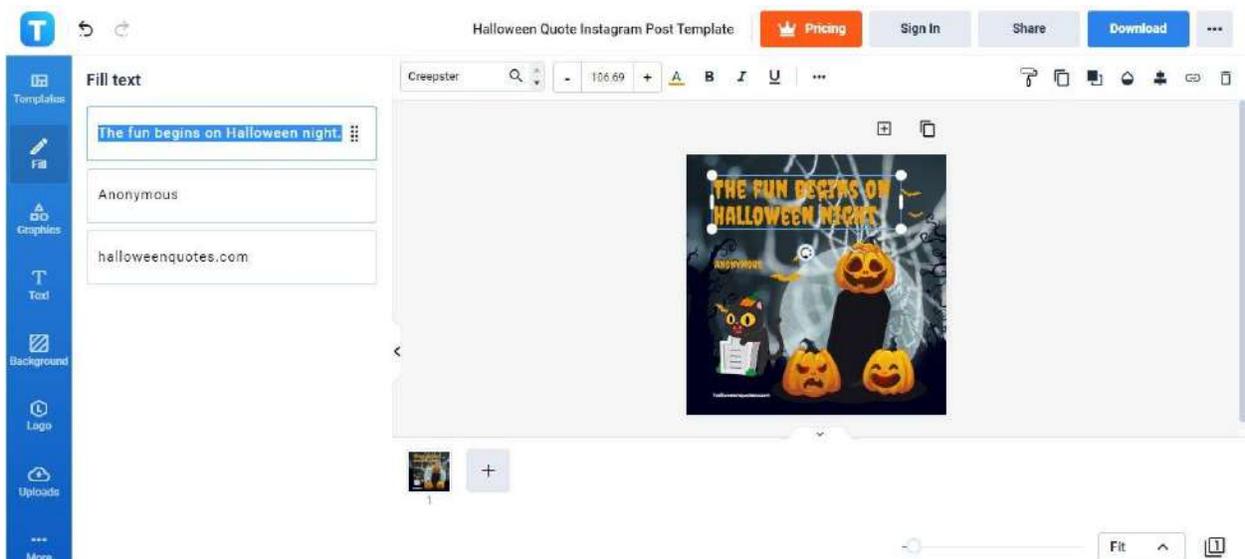
You can use a Halloween photo as the background for your Instagram post. To do that, go to the Background panel, click See All in Photos, type "Halloween" in either the Unsplash or Pixabay search box, and pick a photo in the search results. You may also upload your own photos via the Uploads tab on the left side of the Pixabay tab.

3. Add a Halloween cartoon drawing.



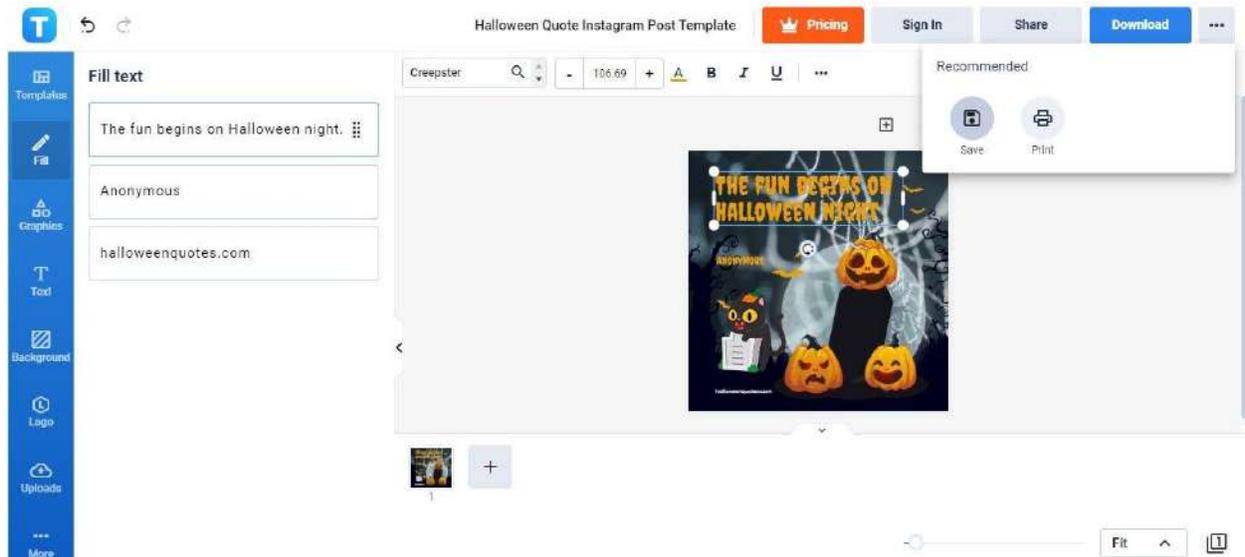
Cartoon drawings depicting Halloween items are available in our Editor tool. You can find them by heading to the Graphics panel and typing "Halloween" in the search box. Just drag and drop your chosen graphic to the template and adjust its size if necessary.

4. Write your Halloween quote or message.



Next, go to the Fill panel and write your Halloween quote or message in the Fill Text boxes. It's advisable to keep it brief so the text doesn't overlap with other design elements in the template.

5. Save your Halloween Instagram post draft.



Don't forget to save your Halloween Instagram post draft when you're finished. Open the Recommended pop-up menu by clicking the button in the upper right and then select Save. Your post draft is ready for uploading to Instagram on October 31.

Whatsapp

1. Use any of our [Halloween Whatsapp Post Templates](#).

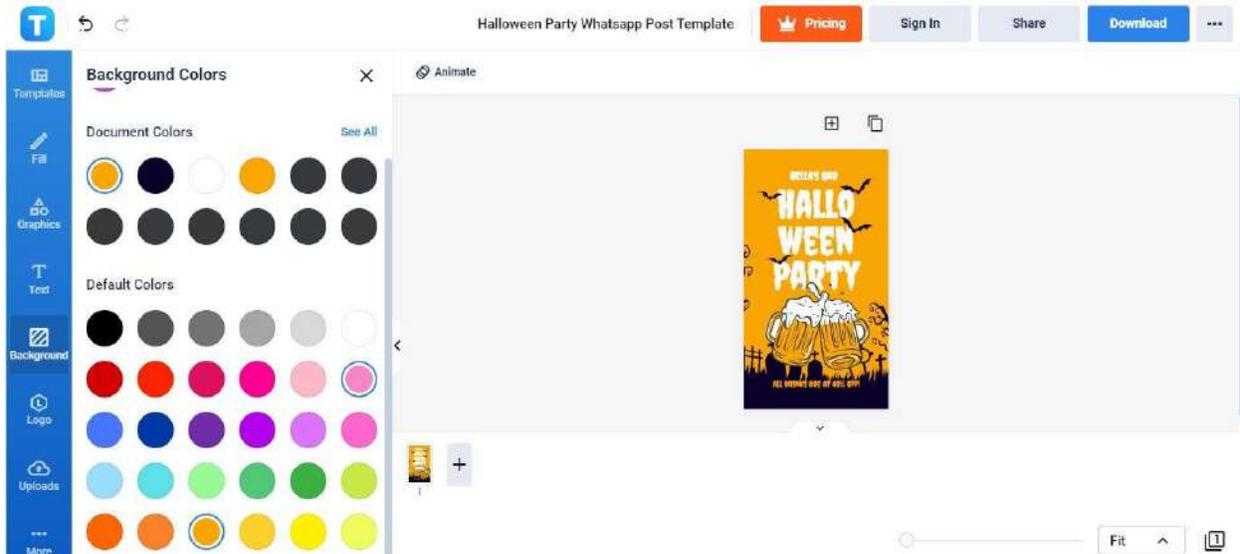
Halloween Whatsapp Posts Templates

Send Out Invitations to Your Spooky Halloween Party and Halloween-Themed Costume Party with Template.Net's Free and Downloadable Halloween Whatsapp Post Templates! Every Template Is Suited for Party Posters and Flyers. Post an Instagram Story with Your Lovely Costume Using Our Templates Too. (Grab Your Copy and Experience Real Convenience!)



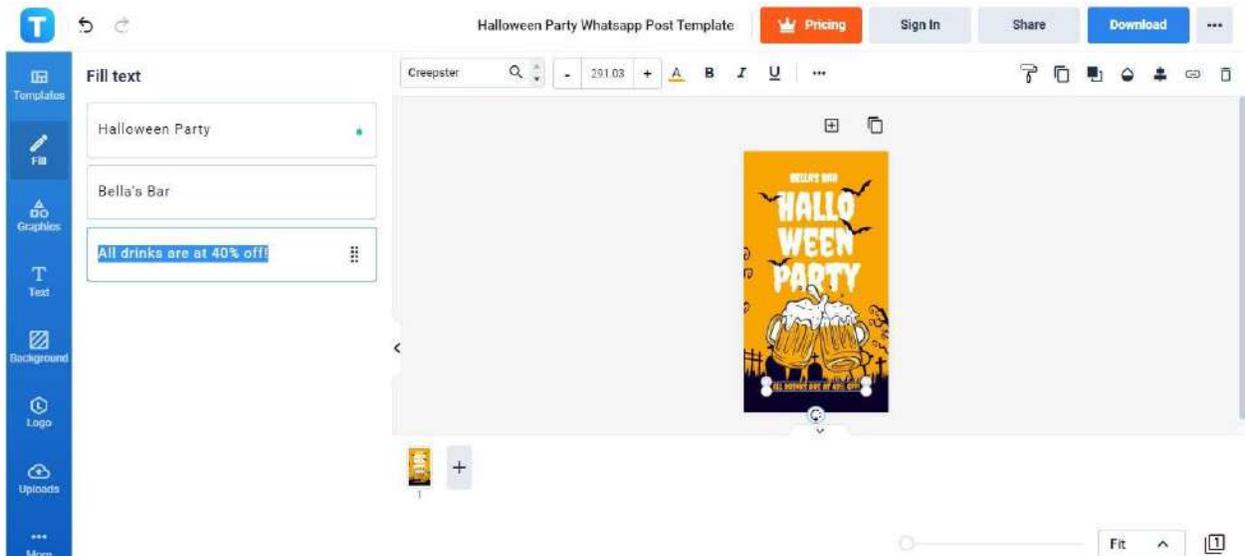
Check out our Halloween Whatsapp Post Templates and choose one that you fancy. They're all editable in our Editor tool.

2. Use your favorite color as the background.



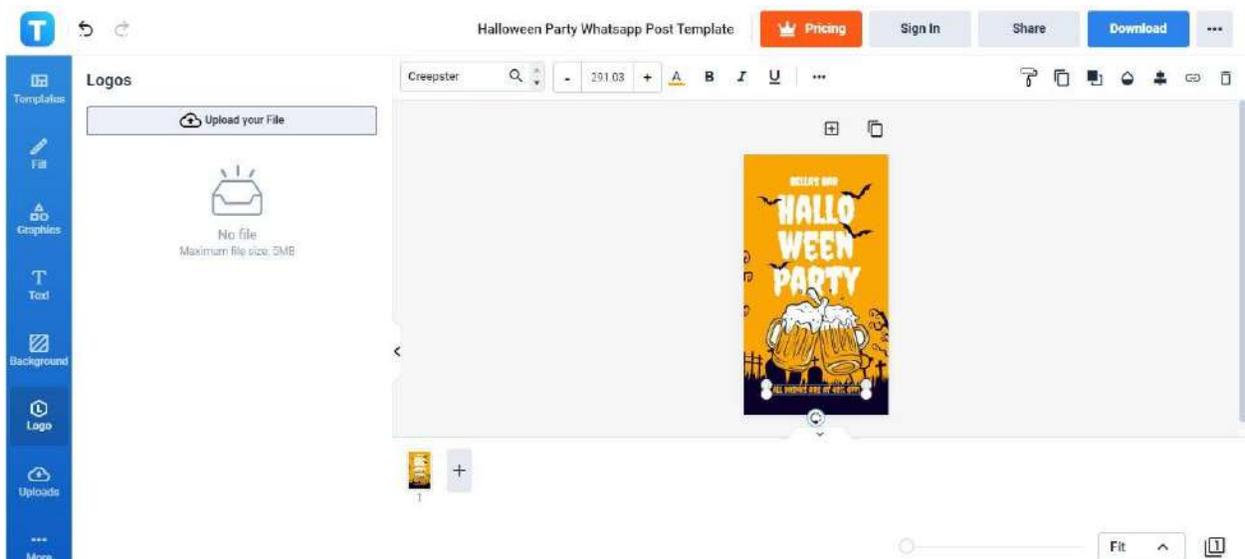
Don't like the default background color of your selected template? Feel free to change it. Head to the Background panel, click See All in Colors and choose a color under Default Colors. You can pick your personal favorite color if that's what you want.

3. Type in your Halloween announcement or message.



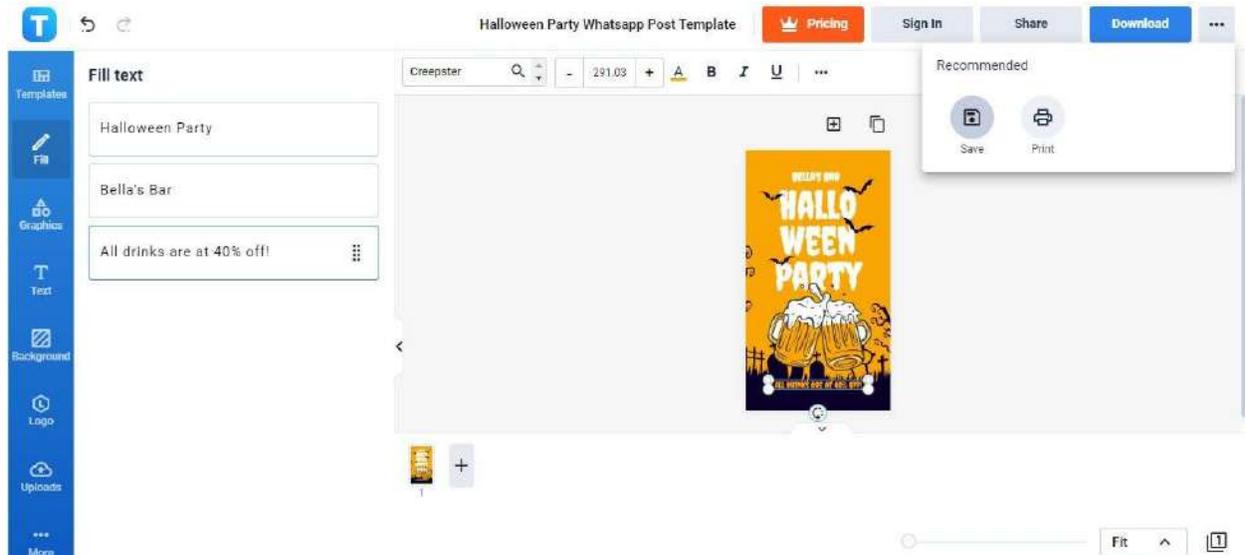
For this step, head to the Fill panel and customize the content of the Fill Text boxes. Write your Halloween announcements or message. You can announce whether you're having a party, a discount promo on your business, or any Halloween-themed event.

4. Upload and include your brand logo.



If you're representing your business on the post, you should include your brand logo. To do that, go to the Logo panel and click the button that says "Upload Your File." Upload an image file of your business logo and attach it to the template.

5. Save your Halloween Whatsapp Post Draft.



Lastly, click the button with a three-dotted icon in the upper right corner and click Save. This saves your Halloween Whatsapp post draft. Keep it and wait until October 31 to upload it to Whatsapp.

Halloween Facts

Here are some interesting and fun facts that you should know about Halloween:

- Traces of ancient Halloween celebrations date way back 2,000 years ago during the time of the Celtic people.
- Halloween was originally celebrated to ward off ghosts on the festival of Samhain by the Celts.
- Pumpkins which are famous items on Halloween are actually classified as fruits, not vegetables.
- It was Irish immigrants in the US who introduced Halloween to the Americans.
- The famous Jack-o'-Lantern on Halloween is inspired by an Irish urban legend about Stingy Jack, the man who is believed to have fooled the devil.
- Candy wasn't a trick-or-treat item until the 1950s.

- The famous magician Harry Houdini died in 1926 on the day of Halloween.
- The classic Disney show Hocus Pocus was initially titled Halloween House.
- Some states in the US have an unofficial event called Mischief Night. It's observed the night before Halloween when teenagers pull pranks.
- There's a name for the feeling of fearing Halloween which is Samhainaphobia. The term is derived from a Celtic festival called Samhain—the festival that inspired Halloween.

Halloween vs. Thanksgiving

Halloween is a yearly celebration observed on October 31 where people attend parties in costume and kids go trick-or-treating dressed up as mythical characters and creatures.

[Thanksgiving](#) is a national holiday in the United States celebrated to be grateful for the blessings and good fortune of the year that passed.

Halloween Ideas & Examples

Make your Halloween plans as early as today. It's better to prepare now so you can just relish your excitement later on. Go over our Halloween ideas and examples below for inspiration.

Halloween Ideas

Here are some excellent activities for Halloween:

- Hang some Halloween ornaments and decorations inside your house and in your front yards such as bats, spiders, cobwebs, witch's broomsticks, and more.
- Craft DIY masks of witches and goblins and other Halloween props.
- Go trick-or-treating outdoors with your kids.
- Create and send Halloween postcards to your loved ones and friends living in other cities.
- Bake cookies and other sweet treats.
- Prepare a DIY Halloween outfit and wear it for a Halloween party.
- Create your own Halloween cocktail menu.
- Purchase toys and give them as Halloween gifts to your kids.
- Dress up as your favorite superhero, princess, or any fictional character on Halloween.

- Binge-watch horror movies with your friends and make it a movie marathon party.

Halloween Examples

Below are displays of some of our most well-designed [Halloween Day templates](#) and examples. Check them out and don't forget to download them.

1. [Black Halloween Club Flyer](#)



2. Halloween Costume Party Invitation



3. Halloween Sticker



4. [Zombie Invasion Halloween Flyer](#)



5. Halloween Party Poster



6. Halloween Trick or Treat Poster



7. Halloween Face Painting Poster



8. Halloween Holiday Planner



9. Halloween Folded Card



10. Halloween Fest Banner



FAQs

Why do we celebrate Halloween?

Nowadays, we celebrate Halloween to dress up in costume, going trick-or-treating with kids, and attending parties.

What makes Halloween scary?

The scary thing about Halloween is that it's believed to be a time of the year when the souls of the dead walk the Earth.

What do you say on Halloween Day?

You say "Happy Halloween" to people that you meet.

Why do you wear masks on Halloween?

The original reason why the wearing of masks is a custom on Halloween is to conceal people's identity from ghosts who might mistake them as fellow spirits.

When was the first Halloween started?

The first Halloween celebration in the US was in 1921 in Anoka, Minnesota.

Who came up with Halloween?

Not one person came up with Halloween; it was derived from Samhain, an ancient festival in Celtic culture.

Why do we trick or treat on Halloween?

In modern times, trick or treat is practiced on Halloween to make kids happy by giving them candies and other sweets.

How do you explain Halloween to a child?

To explain Halloween to children, you can simply say that it's a day to dress up in costume, go out with friends, and visit houses to ask for sweet treats.

What does a pumpkin mean on Halloween?

The pumpkin on Halloween is said to symbolize the celebration of the memory of lost souls.

Why did Halloween start in America?

Halloween started in America not long after Irish and Scottish immigrants introduced the holiday to the Americans.

What vegetable is part of a stinky tradition on Halloween?

The vegetable that's part of a stinky Halloween tradition is cabbage.

Why do you get candy on Halloween?

The practice of getting candy on Halloween is derived from our instincts as humans to crave sugar during the fall, according to Beth Kimmerle, a candy historian.

What is the main symbol of Halloween?

The candle-lit pumpkin is the main symbol of Halloween.

What are the traditions of Halloween?

The most prominent Halloween traditions are dressing up in costumes, trick-or-treating, and pumpkin carving.

Why do you dress up on Halloween?

Dressing up on Halloween is inspired by the Samhain festival where the Celtic people wear costumes as a way of warding off spirits with ill intent.

What is usually done on Halloween?

The most obvious thing that's usually done on Halloween is people wearing costumes.