

FREE MAKER'S GUIDE · 2026



Halloween Maker's Planner

The projects that sell, the calendar that works,
and the checklists that save your plywood.

svgdiy.com

Your Halloween Calendar

AUGUST

Cut the slow pieces

Lighted shadow boxes and layered panels first — they take the longest. Photograph everything in moody evening light (it doubles perceived value). Order LED strips, frames and cardstock in bulk now, not in October.

EARLY SEPTEMBER

List everything

Etsy and social listings go live NOW — buyers search weeks before they buy. Pin your products: Halloween boards wake up in early September. Fastest sellers to stock deep: door hangers, garlands, luminaries.

LATE SEPTEMBER

Craft fair season

One glowing shadow box on the table sells the twenty items around it. Restock door hangers and garlands weekly — they go first. Bundle slow movers: “porch set” = hanger + two luminaries.

OCTOBER

Sell through, stop cutting

Mid-October: no new stock except restocks of proven sellers. After the 25th: bundle and discount — nobody buys ghosts in November. Note what sold out. That list is 80% of next year's plan.

NOVEMBER 1

Pivot to Christmas

Same seasonal logic, double the volume — start cutting immediately.

11 Projects, Priced Honestly

PROJECT	PRICE	SKILL	CUT WHEN
Lighted shadow box (haunted house)	\$50–130	hard	August
Layered “spooky forest” panel	\$35–80	medium	August
Pumpkin luminaries	\$12–30	easy	August–Sept
Door hangers (witch hat, boo, bats)	\$20–45	easy	September
Bat garlands / cobweb banners	\$10–25	easy	September
Wreath overlays	\$12–30	easy	September
Yard stakes (tombstones, ghosts)	\$25–60/set	medium	September
Halloween ornaments (spooky tree)	\$8–18	easy	September
Cake & cupcake toppers	\$10–20/set	easy	Sept–Oct
Treat box templates	\$6–15/pack	easy	October
Black cat shelf sitters	\$15–35	medium	September

Three things that matter more than the project itself:

1. Photography — a \$30 piece shot well outsells a \$60 one shot on a garage floor.
2. Personalization — add a name option to anything and conversion jumps.
3. Finishing — sanding and sealing is the line between handmade and homemade.

BEFORE YOU CUT

The 60-Second File Check

- ☐ Open the file in your software first — broken paths show instantly.
- ☐ Hunt for double lines (the #1 free-file flaw — they cut twice and scorch).
- ☐ Smallest detail thinner than 1.5× your material thickness? It will break.
- ☐ License allows selling finished items? Read the file page, not the pin.
- ☐ Test-cut one corner in cardboard before committing plywood.

STOCK UP ONCE

Halloween Shopping List

- Cardstock 200–230 gsm: black, orange, deep purple + white for diffusers
- 3 mm plywood (door hangers, stakes) + 1.5 mm for ornament details
- USB warm-white LED strips with inline switches (skip battery packs)
- Battery tea lights for luminaries (flicker type sells the mood)
- Deep frames 4–5 cm for shadow boxes · foam spacers 2–3 mm
- Tacky glue + glue dots · twine for hangers · sawtooth hooks



Where to Get Halloween Files

Creative Fabrica »

Subscription with unlimited downloads — deepest layered & shadow box catalog.

Design Bundles »

Strong laser category, pay-per-bundle. Seasonal drops start late summer.

Step-by-step tutorials on svgdiy.com

- [Halloween Laser Cut Ideas That Sell Out Every October](#)
- [Lighted Shadow Box: From Template to Glowing Wall Art](#)
- [25 Laser Cut Projects That Actually Sell](#)
- [Free Laser Cut Files: 15 Sources Worth Your Time](#)
- [How to Choose a Shadow Box Template](#)

Disclosure: links in this guide may be affiliate links — if you buy through them we may earn a commission at no extra cost to you. Prices are honest market ranges observed in 2026; your market may vary.

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