

Taylor Ratcliffe
Eco-Friendly Halloween Costumes | Earth911.com

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Eco-Friendly Halloween Costumes

Gemma Alexander October 12, 2018



14 SHARES

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However conscientious you are in daily life, holidays have a way of getting out of hand. Even a minor holiday like Halloween can mean big waste — candy wrappers, cheap disposable decorations, and costumes that get worn once and thrown away. But a little creativity is all it takes to avoid a scary amount of waste on Halloween.

Consider the Source

Printed-plastic costumes are fortunately a thing of the past, but the ready-made costumes you buy at the drugstore are still an environmental failure. These are usually poorly made with inexpensive fabrics and won't hold up to repeated wear. They also incorporate materials — like sequins, plastics, and feathers — that make them harder to recycle than most textiles. Costume rentals are a splurge but do provide high-quality costumes that will be used many times.

DIY for the Win

If you can sew, you can use remnant or ecofriendly fabric to guarantee that your costume is sturdily made from recyclable fabrics. But you don't have to be a textile master to make your own costume. Scrounging a costume from existing materials is the least resource-intensive, and the most fun, way to make a costume.

You might be surprised what you can create from items in your closet. After all, everyone except Lady Godiva wears clothes. A long-sleeved T-shirt can be a ninja mask. Become a fortuneteller by adding a headscarf and big earrings to a boho dress; skinny jeans with the same headscarf and one earring make a pirate.