

Questions Answered

Where is the best place to find a last-minute Halloween costume?

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College students can be procrastinators, and that includes finding a Halloween costume. Despite the calendar showing only one day to go before All Hallows Eve, students can find the perfect Halloween outfit. Five retailers in Lawrence still have some ghoulish garb for sale.

5. Party America

Party America, located at 1441 W. 23rd St., still has a semi-varied selection of costumes, but those same costumes have few sizes available. The costumes range in price from \$9.99 to \$99.99. The store marked down many adult costumes to 10 percent off the original price, and some are marked down even further. Party America is keeping its regular store hours this week from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

4. Wal-Mart

Known for its low prices, Wal-Mart, located at 3300 Iowa St., keeps its Halloween costume prices low. Prices range from \$8.99 to \$19.99. Bob Garner, Wal-Mart manager, said the store has also marked down prices on some of its costumes.

"We still have a pretty nice selection," said Bob Garner, Wal-Mart manager.

Wal-Mart does have a variety

of costumes, but not to the same extent as stores that open specifically for Halloween, such as Spirit Halloween and Fun and Games. Last-minute customers at Wal-Mart should prepare to dig for the costume they want. The store condensed the costumes for all age groups into one aisle, making it difficult to see all of the available costumes. Since the store stays open 24-hours a day, procrastinators can snag a costume at any hour.

3. Target

Target, located at 3201 Iowa St., has a limited selection of costumes. The adult costumes available for both men and women only fill up half of an aisle. Prices range from about \$15 to \$40. The store offers the best sale on costumes out of these five stores, taking 30 percent off the original price on all costumes. Target opens weekdays from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

2. Spirit Halloween

Spirit Halloween, located at 925 Iowa St., still has a variety of different types of costumes in the store, from the Geico gecko to the classic witch. The assortment of different types of costumes doesn't transfer to the sizes, though. Many costumes have only one size left, or the only costumes available in a certain category are as "one size fits most."



Kirsten Hudson/KANSAN

Several stores, including Party America, Target and Wal-Mart, still have a wide selection of affordable and fun Halloween costumes.

"Everything is kind of picked over," said Clinton Haynes, manager of Spirit Halloween. "We've been open since August, so people have had a chance to come in and get the good stuff."

"There's nothing here now," said Emma Cook, student at Lawrence High School while shopping for a sailor girl costume. "When I came earlier this month there was a lot more."

Spirit Halloween offers no markdowns or sales on Halloween costumes until after Oct. 31. Prices at Spirit Halloween range from \$29.99 to \$99.99 with the average at about \$39.99, Haynes said.

The store will be open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Thursday, an hour later than normal, and Friday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

1. Fun and Games

Fun and Games, located at 1601 W. 23rd St., offers a different alternative when picking a Halloween costume. Unlike other stores where customers view packaged costumes hanging on walls, Fun and Games has four 3-inch binders filled with pictures of the costumes for sale. Customers flip through the books,

select a costume and then workers bring the costume to the customer to look over or try on.

The store still has costumes as varied as the candy in a 10-year-old's trick-or-treating sack. The costumes are also available in several different sizes.

"Since we're a year-round store, we can keep more costumes in the store and always have a good selection," said Kyle Billings, manager of Fun and Games.

Costumes range in price from \$30 to \$50.

The store opens weekdays from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., but usually stays open until 9 p.m. helping customers.

Don't let last-minute costume shopping scare you; these stores still have options to help you get dressed up this Halloween. If you still can't find that perfect outfit, all of these stores sell accessories and gruesome make-up, perfect for creating your own costume. Now all you have to worry about this Halloween is not overindulging on the candy corn and avoiding those pesky vampires.

— Edited by Kelsey Hayes