



TIPS & TRICKS FOR YOUR RACER

- 1 When choosing a pumpkin, be sure that the pumpkin is small enough for the axle to stick out and put wheels on but big enough that two axles and wheels can fit and spin freely.
- 2 A bigger or heavier Pumpkin Racer is not necessarily a faster Racer. Rarely does the biggest pumpkin win.
- 3 The best way to build a Pumpkin Racer is to make sure the axles are parallel so it will roll straight down the track. Most participants are eliminated because their Racer veers into the side before crossing the finish line.
- 4 Make sure wheels are parallel before each race.
- 5 Have fun making your Racer! Pick a theme and be creative. Remember, even if your Racer isn't the fastest, it can still win a 'best dressed' award!
- 6 Be on time for your rounds and listen for announcements! We don't want you to miss your race!

HOW TO BUILD A PUMPKIN RACER

Follow the steps below or visit our website & follow along with a video tutorial at:
www.turningpointeautismfoundation.org/pumpkin-race/

- 1 Insert axle directly into a cordless drill, and drill each axle into the side of your pumpkin.
- 2 Twist two inner wing nuts onto the axle (wing side toward the pumpkin).
- 3 Using a rubber mallet, insert bearing into each wheel by hammering gently. Slide wheels onto the axle.
- 4 Twist outer wing nuts onto axle (wing side away from the pumpkin) leaving a slight gap to allow wheel to spin.
- 5 Test to see if your racer goes straight. Adjust wheels and axles if necessary using the included zip ties.

CHEATER PUMPKINS

Any Pumpkin Racer that is caught cheating on purpose (wink, wink) will be smashed! Before any pumpkin is smashed, the head referee will check with mom or dad to make sure that the pumpkin is ok to be smashed. We know how hard you worked on them :)