Mini pumpkins on a narrow mantel: keep one clear line

Mantel spacing template • Free, no signup or purchase.

Line up three or five mini artificial pumpkins along a narrow mantel with unequal gaps and a clear front edge, only where the fireplace below is not in use. The free template is a one-eighth-scale strip for spacing the pieces and recording the gaps before you place them.

What you need

• A mantel or ledge that is not above a fireplace or heater in use, and whose maker permits decoration
• Three or five mini artificial pumpkins you already own; check the actual optional item before buying
• Tape measure, pencil and the free mantel spacing template (PDF)

Steps

1. Check the mantel

Use a mantel or ledge whose maker permits decoration, above a fireplace that is not in use. The U.S. Fire Administration advises keeping anything that can burn at least 3 feet from heat sources, including fireplaces. Remove the display before operating a heat source below it.

2. Measure and draw the line

Measure the mantel's length and depth and choose a clear strip to keep along the front edge. Draw the mantel on the one-eighth-scale strip, where each small tick is 1 inch and each numbered mark is 8 inches, and keep the pumpkins behind the clear strip.

3. Set a quiet rhythm

Mark three or five pumpkin positions with unequal gaps, larger pieces off-center, and record the gaps on page 2. Place the real pumpkins on the surface without precarious stacking, and use only a few leaves. If you buy the optional winemana set, check the selected color option and current total first.

4. Inspect the display

Step back and make sure every item sits securely and cannot roll or fall into a fireplace opening or walkway. Keep any small pieces away from children and pets.

Tips

• Artificial foliage is decorative. Use separate suitable supports and fixings where needed, rated for the actual surface and load. Keep small parts, cords and vines away from children and pets, and keep access, ventilation and heat clear. Never use an open flame near foliage.
• The free printable is available without signup or purchase. Optional Amazon links are affiliate links.
• Gaps that differ by about a pumpkin's width look deliberate; gaps that are almost equal can look like a mistake.

FigureNook design and planning guide. Visuals are original AI-generated concept illustrations; review manufacturer specifications, dimensions, and product instructions for final suitability.

Source: U.S. Fire Administration: Heating fire safety: https://www.usfa.fema.gov/prevention/home-fires/prevent-fires/heating/

USFA advises keeping anything that can burn at least 3 feet from heat sources, including fireplaces. It does not assess these decorations.

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Mantel length × depth

Clear strip kept along the front edge

Fireplace below not in use, or decorative only (confirm)

Number of pumpkins (three or five)

Gaps between pieces, left to right

Leaves used (a few)

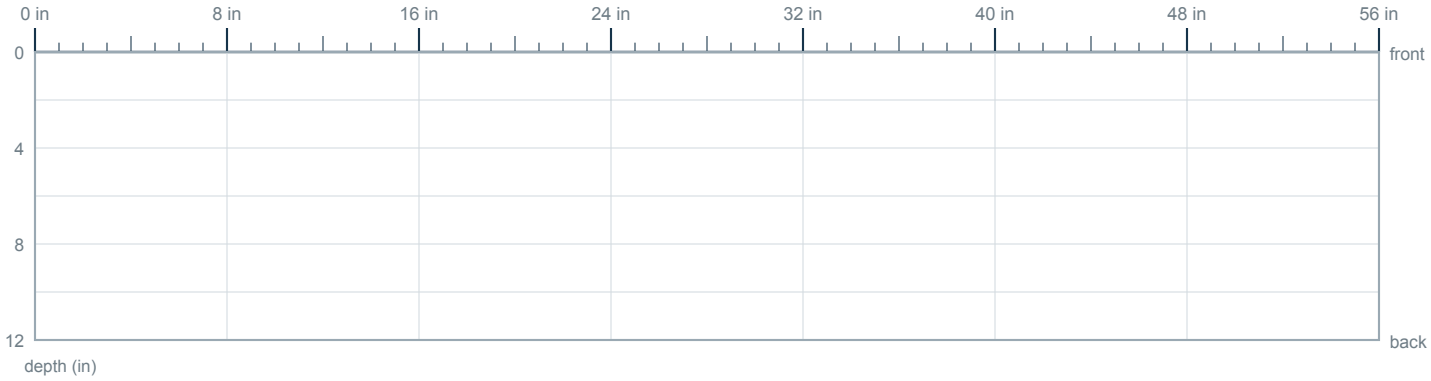
Before you finish

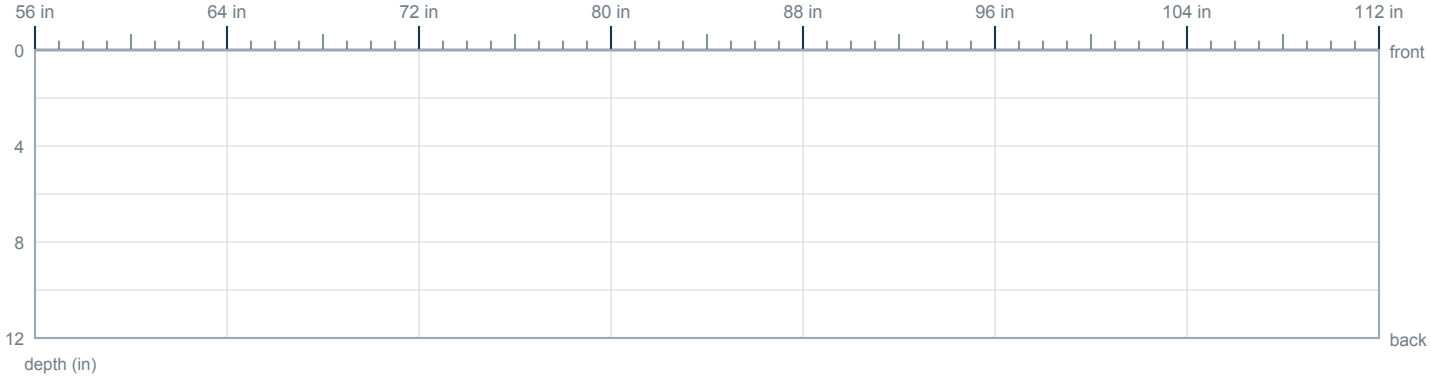
- [ ] The fireplace below stays unused while the display is up
- [ ] Every piece sits flat behind the clear front strip
- [ ] Nothing is stacked or overhangs the edge
- [ ] Small pieces are out of reach of children and pets

One-eighth-scale mantel spacing strip

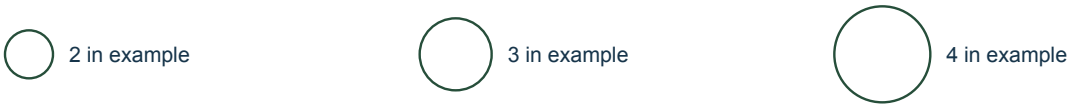
Print at actual size (100%, not “fit to page”) on US Letter. Check the 1-inch box before using.

1 inch / 25.4 mm





Example footprints at 1:8 scale (measure your own decorations):



Scale 1:8: each small tick = 1 in, each numbered mark = 8 in. Two strips cover a mantel up to 112 in long and 12 in deep. Draw your mantel's length and depth, shade the clear front strip, and mark three or five positions with unequal gaps. Record the gaps on page 2. Decorate only above a fireplace that is not in use. Example circles are not product sizes; measure your own decorations.