



Doggone Hot!

Summer Safety for Dogs

Summertime can be a fun time, but warm weather can also be tough on dogs. If it's too hot outside for you to be comfortable, it's likely too hot for a dog.

Beat the Heat

On hot days, especially with high humidity, skip exercise and opt for only potty breaks. Exercise your dog early or late in the day — but only if it's not too warm.



Larger breeds, and dogs with thick or long coats can be more susceptible to the negative health effects of heat.



Medium-sized dog breeds, characterized by moderate body size and fur coats of varying lengths, have increased vulnerability to heat-related issues particularly during peak daytime temperatures. Light-colored dogs with shorter fur are especially prone to sunburn and heat absorption.

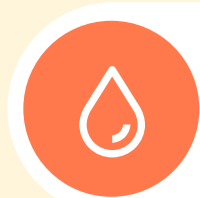


Dogs with short snouts —bulldogs, pugs, boxers, etc. —have an especially hard time in the heat.



Too Hot for a Walk? Take the 5-Second Test

Before walking your dog, press your palm flat against the sidewalk for 5 seconds. If it's too hot for your hand, it's too hot for your dog's paws.



Lead a Dog to Water

Make sure your dog has plenty of water. Whether returning from the great outdoors or just hanging out on a summer day, fresh water is key to your pup's health.



Signs of Heatstroke

- Heavy panting, difficulty breathing
- Increased drooling
- Stumbling or dizziness
- Lethargy or weakness
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- Small amounts of urine or no urine
- Blood in bowel movement or stool or black, tarry stools
- Extreme discoloration of gums or tongue

Think you see any of these symptoms? Seek immediate veterinary care.