What to Keep in Your Pet First Aid Kit

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Adhesive tape
- Blanket or towel
- Clean cloth
- Cold/warm compress
- Diphenhydramine (Benadryl®) – *if approved by your veterinarian*
- Gauze sponges/compresses and pads
- Non-latex disposable gloves
- Roll gauze
- Roll cohesive wrap
- Scissors (with a blunt end)
- Sterile saline or Epson salts to make saline solution
- Sterile water-based lubricant
- Styptic powder
- Sterile saline eye wash
- Tweezers
- Aural and/or Rectal thermometer – *do not attempt if your pet does not tolerate*
- Grooming clippers
- Muzzle
- Nail clippers

CONTACT NUMBERS:

- Your veterinarian's phone number
- Local veterinary ER phone number
- Animal Poison Control phone number

SPECIFIC INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR PET:

- Pre-existing conditions
- Last known weight
- Vaccination status
- List of current medications
- Recent photo of your pet
- Animal ID chip number if applicable

HOW TO USE AN AURAL THERMOMETER

- Place ear tip probe on tip.
- Turn on, lift up ear pinnae and place in ear.
- Push start button and wait for reading.

HOW TO USE A RECTAL THERMOMETER

- Lubricate the thermometer with a waterbased lubricant or petroleum jelly.
- Grasp the base of the tail and lift it to access the anus.
- Insert the thermometer. Keep a firm grip on the tail to keep your pet from escaping or sitting down.

NORMAL TEMPERATURE RANGE

99.5° to 102.5° F

If your pet has a medical condition, ask your veterinarian what specific items you should include in your first aid kit. (e.g. karo syrup if your pet has diabetes mellitus.)

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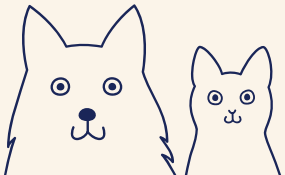


SMALL ANIMAL FIRST AID TIPS

COMMON TOXINS

This list contains all the items you would normally find in your household. It is not a complete list of all substances toxic to your pet.

If you suspect your pet has consumed something toxic, call your vet immediately. They may have you call Animal Poison Control.

- Antifreeze
- Artificial sweetener *(xylitol)*
- Chocolate
- Caffeine – e.g. coffee, tea
- Household cleaners *(bleach, detergent, etc.)*
- Insecticides
- Rodenticides
- Human medications – e.g. NSAIDS, Tylenol, prescription medications
- Flea products
- Tobacco and other drugs
- Raw bread dough
- Onions and garlic
- Grapes and raisins
- Certain household plants

Did you know?

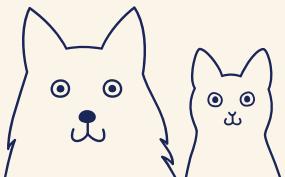
All parts of a plant can be toxic for animals—flowers, leaves, pollen, and even water. Lilies are especially toxic to cats—ALL parts of the plant!

WHAT TO DO IN THE EVENT OF CHOKING

- **If your pet will allow**, open your pet's mouth and carefully sweep the inside with your finger to try to dislodge the object. Be careful not to push the object farther down the throat. DO NOT get bit.
- Give five sharp blows to the back.
- If object not dislodged, give 5 abdominal thrusts. Alternate back blows and abdominal thrusts until object dislodged.
- If your pet becomes unconscious start CPR.

HOW TO DRESS A WOUND

- Hold a piece of gauze, wash cloth or other material over the site and apply direct pressure.
- If the material soaks through, do not remove it. Instead, apply another cloth over it.
- **If bleeding has not stopped and is spurting:** continue applying direct pressure over the wound, and hold the area just above the wound to try closing off the blood vessel.
- **If bleeding has not stopped blood is NOT spurting:** hold the area just below the wound to try closing off the blood vessel.

VISIT A VETERINARY ER IMMEDIATELY FOR ALL EMERGENCIES!

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