



PET FIRST AID

Knowing Pet First Aid is crucial for handling emergencies with your pet. It can save their life, prevent long-term issues, and reduce veterinary costs. Regular health assessments, a healthy diet, exercise, and good records are necessary for their well-being. Stay calm, trust your instincts, and seek veterinary help when needed.

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SHOCK MANAGEMENT

Shock can be caused by injury, infection, poisoning, or exposure, and can lead to collapse or death. Signs of shock include weak, rapid breathing, confusion, pale gums, and weakness. **Take quick action to ensure your pet's survival. Check their heartbeat and breathing, restrain and muzzle them if necessary, and keep them cool while monitoring their capillary refill time. Do not give them any food or water.** Get prompt veterinary attention for pets in shock.



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CHOKING

CONSCIOUS PET

If your pet swallows a small object, let them try to remove it. If they can't, take them to the vet immediately. **Don't try to remove the object or pull on any strings.** If your pet chokes, do chest thrusts until they cough it up or pass out. Even if they seem better, get them checked for airway damage.



DROWNING

Not all pets know how to swim. In urban areas, pet drownings occur when they can't escape swimming pools. Teach them how to exit to prevent accidents. Hold their hind legs and drain water by hanging them upside down if your pet struggles. For larger dogs, elevate their hind end with the head lower. **Assess the situation and provide Rescue Breathing or CPR if needed. Treat for shock and seek immediate veterinary care for drowning incidents.**



CHOKING

UNCONSCIOUS PET

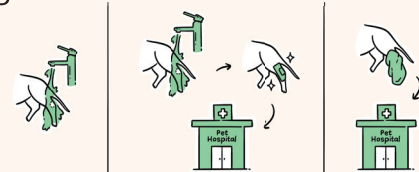


If your pet is unconscious due to airway obstruction, check for any foreign objects in the throat and begin CPR immediately if there is no breathing. Give breaths over one second and reposition the head if necessary.

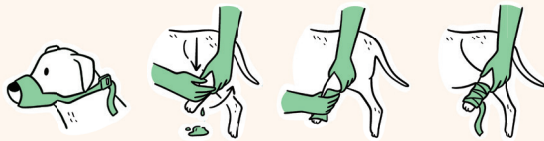
If you cannot remove the obstruction or establish an airway after several minutes, take your pet to the nearest veterinarian or animal hospital for further assistance.

BURNS

Pets can get burns from chemicals, heat, or electricity. **To prevent infection, determine the type and cause of the burn. For first-degree burns, cool with water and don't bandage. Second-degree burns need vet care and bandaging. Third-degree burns need quick transport to a vet. For chemical burns, flush with water and determine the chemical. For electrical burns, vet care is urgent. Seek vet care and treat burns properly.**



BLEEDING PROTOCOLS



If your pet is bleeding severely, act quickly and seek medical attention. **Restrain your pet, evaluate their breathing and heartbeat, and apply direct pressure with sterile gauze or cloths. Use a constricting hand or band if necessary. Once the bleeding is under control, keep applying firm pressure with a bandage and treat for shock. Don't forget to remove any constricting bands once at the vet.**

FRACTURES & LIMB INJURIES

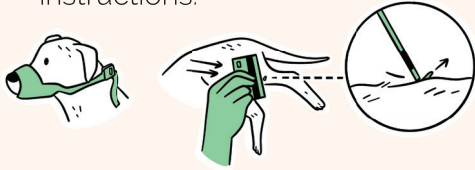
Pets can injure their bones and joints in accidents, resulting in limping, favoring a limb, or obvious pain. It's crucial to have a well-stocked pet first aid kit. To provide first aid for fractures, **immobilize and muzzle the pet, use a suitable splinting material, wrap rolled gauze above the injured joint, and transport the pet to the nearest emergency animal hospital or vet.** Seek professional help promptly and avoid bites when providing first aid.



INSECT BITES

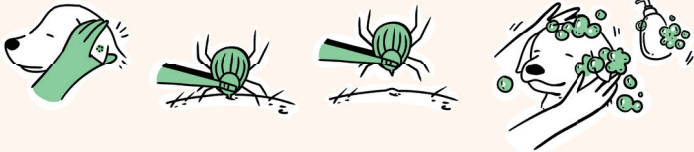
Pets can be bitten or stung by insects, causing redness, swelling, and pain. Veterinarians recommend approximately one milligram of Benadryl per pound of body weight. Follow First Aid steps by immobilizing and confining your pet, reducing activity, and removing the stinger if possible. Consult your vet for additional instructions.

1 mg of benadryl per dog pound



TICKS

Small arachnids that feed on blood, they transmit diseases to pets if not removed promptly. **Regularly check for ticks, especially after outdoor activities. To remove a tick, wear disposable gloves, use fine-tipped tweezers to grasp it close to the skin, pull upward steadily, and ensure the entire tick is removed.** If desired, test the tick for diseases using a Universal Tick Test or place it in rubbing alcohol for safe disposal.



HEAT STROKE & DEHYDRATION

To keep your pet safe in hot weather and prevent heat-related issues, it's important to limit their outdoor activities. This is especially crucial for pets with "pug" faces, as they are more susceptible to heatstroke. In addition to heatstroke symptoms like panting, foaming at the mouth, or lethargy, it's essential to watch out for signs of dehydration. Ensure your pet has constant access to cool water. **If heatstroke occurs, you can help cool them down using water or wet towels to lower their body temperature.**



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RESCUE BREATHING



If your pet is unconscious but has a pulse and no breathing, perform rescue breathing. Check for a heartbeat after two minutes of CPR. Open the airway, pull out the tongue, create an airtight seal over the nose, and give a breath over 1 second while watching the chest rise. Repeat for one minute. **While continuing rescue breathing, take your pet to a vet or emergency hospital.** Causes of respiratory arrest can include poisoning, head trauma, electrocution, drugs, or drowning.

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SNAKE BITES

VENEMOUS AND NON VENEMOUS

Prevention is important by keeping pets on a leash or under visual control. 30% of bites are nonvenomous. Venomous bites show immediate symptoms. Try to identify the snake but don't risk yourself or others. **Snakebite kits don't work. Immobilize the pet, reduce activity, and treat for shock. Transport to a vet or emergency hospital with antivenin. Remove constrictive items, and monitor for infection and complications for 24 hours.**



POISONING

Keep your pets safe from accidental poisoning by being careful with toxic substances. Dogs are curious and can ingest, inhale, or absorb poisons, leading to serious health issues. Store substances safely and out of reach. **Seek veterinary care immediately if you suspect poisoning.** Common poisons to watch out for include rat poison, snail bait, insecticides, and antifreeze.

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In case of poisoning, quickly gather information, contact a vet or ASPCA Poison Hotline 1 (888) 426-4435, and follow their advice.

COLD INJURIES

FROSTNIP AND FROSTBITE

Cold injuries like frost nip and frostbite can occur when skin and tissues freeze due to exposure to low temperatures. The ears, paws, scrotum, and tail are commonly affected, causing swollen, red, and painful skin that can become hard and pale. Prevention is crucial. **For frostnip, warm the affected parts with wet towels. For frostbite, immediate veterinary care is necessary. After being in the cold, warm and dry your pet and check and remove ice or salt crystals from their paws.**



CPR



If your pet is unresponsive and not breathing, perform CPR immediately by following these steps:

- Start CPR if there is no breathing.
- Perform 30 compressions and 2 breaths for 2 minutes.
- Check the pulse and reassess after 2 minutes.

Use appropriate compression techniques based on your pet's body type.

Get to a vet or animal hospital ASAP.

