



### Home Remedies For Diarrhea In Dogs

These are some of the best home remedies for treating diarrhea in your dog:

#1 Take away all food and water for 24 hours. Do not take away water if your dog seems dehydrated and/or hasn't been drinking much before this. In that case, give ice cubes or very small amounts of water several times a day. Then (after 24 hours), instead of his usual dog food, give your dog small servings of a bland diet 4 to 5 times throughout the day. Choose from: cooked white rice (no butter or flavorings), cottage cheese (no liquid), boiled chicken (no grease, no skin, no flavorings), boiled turkey (no grease, no skin, no flavorings), scrambled egg (no butter or oil), boiled egg (no butter or oil), boiled or baked potato (no skin or flavorings).

#2 Continue to feed several small servings of this bland diet for a couple days and gradually increase the amount of this food until a formed stool has passed. Then, start to wean your dog back to his regular food (over the course of a week) by gradually working in small amounts of his regular dry dog food.

#3 Do not give your dog bones, snacks or table scraps because these may irritate his intestinal tract.

#4 Dogs can also be given a dose of Pepto-Bismol every 6 hours. (Dosage depends on your dog's



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Nancy Lee

weight: 1 ml per lb.) Pepto-Bismol will also works to stop vomiting. The typical dose administered to dogs is 0.5 to 1.5 ml per pound per day (1 to 3 ml/kg/day). The total daily dose should be divided into 2 to 4 doses. This amounts to approximately 2 teaspoons (10 ml total) per 10 pounds per day, ideally split between 2 to 4 doses.

#5 Two other over-the-counter medicines can be given to dogs with diarrhea: Imodium AD (1 ml per lb. every 8 hours) and Kaopectate (1 ml per lb. every 2 hours). Dogs: 0.05-0.1 mg/pound by mouth every 8 hours. This treatment should only be needed for 1-2 days.

If diarrhea persists more than 48 hours or worsens, contact your veterinarian.

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## How to Trim Your Puppy's (or Dog's) Nails

Most of our dogs don't exactly love to get their nails clipped and if they are very active, the nails usually fall off on their own. However, if you have a dog that spends a lot of time indoors, it's important to keep their nails' trimmed. And, what better way to get them used to trimming than starting the process when they are puppies.

### What happens if you don't trim your dog's nails?

If your dog's nails are overgrown, they can become caught in bedding and carpets. They may curl as they grow, and embed into the tender flesh of the paw pad. Claws can split or tear and will then need to be surgically repaired that is painful for your dogs and expensive. Further, overgrown nails cause the foot to spread and change your puppy's gait. The claws on the inside of the lower leg need particular attention since they never contact the ground.

### When should you trim your puppy's nails?

Nails at their longest should just clear the ground when the puppy stands in place. If you hear your puppy clicking on your kitchen floor, it's time to trim those nails. Your groomer or veterinarian can trim your dog's nails at routine visits, but it's easy enough to do yourself.

### Type of nail care equipment:

Commercial nail trimmers are scissor-action or guillotine style. When your puppy is really young, you should start with human nail clippers, but eventually will need clippers designed to cut the dog's toenails at the correct angle without splitting or crushing the nail. ↗

("How To Trim Your Puppy's (or Dog's) Nails" cont.)

Check out this great video from Dr. Foster's Smith on trimming your dog's nails <http://www.drsfostersmith.com/VideoCenter/>.

Choose a style that you feel comfortable using. Dog nails may also need to be filed after trimming. Use an emery board or a nail file available from a pet supply store to smooth the edges and keep them from getting caught in the carpet.

### Paw Handling Tips:

Many puppies are resistant to having their paws touched. Handle your pup's feet routinely during play and petting, and reward him your puppy with toys and treats for letting you do so. Begin simply by touching each paw, one after the other. When the puppy allows this without pulling away, gently hold a paw for five seconds and releasing—again with the reward for tolerance.

Next, hold a paw and touch the nail clipper to a nail—but DON'T trip. Do this several times, and reward him for not struggling or pulling away. Stop before he gets fussy so you leave him with a good memory of the experience.

### How to Clip Your Puppies Nails:

Once your puppy is used to your holding his or her paw and touching the nail, trim just the tip of the nails. All the nails don't have to be done in the same session. Rather than upset your puppy, try trimming a single nail every evening for two weeks. It gets the job done without scaring the baby and damaging your relationship. If you can enlist a helper, it will make the trimming easier. It's helpful to have two pairs of hands during nail trimming, one to steady the paw while you handle the clippers. A wiggling dog makes it more likely you'll catch the hair in the trimmer (painful!) or "quick" the nails, cut into the living vessels that feed the nail bed, and cause them to bleed.

When the nails are white or clear, the pink quick is visible and makes it easy to avoid the danger zone. If your pup's nails are dark or opaque, clip off only the hook-like tip that turns down. Tipping the nails will prompt the quick to draw back up, so you can trim a little each week until reaching the proper length.

If you do happen to cut through the nail, stop for the day. Try using a styptic pencil to stop the bleeding. And, of course, give your puppy extra attention or treats to show that even if something uncomfortable happens, he'll get extra love.

You can find more articles on pet care and advice on [petpav.com](http://petpav.com), our pet social network that is like Facebook for pets. ☐

## Your Dog Has Just Swallowed a Bone or Toy...

As all dog owners know, our dogs love to chew anything and everything. When they are puppies, it seems as if chewing toys, bones, socks or anything around the house is just a normal occurrence. However, sometimes our puppies and/or older dogs swallow something that just doesn't go down as it should and can be potentially dangerous. It's important to find out immediately what your dog has ingested.

### Signs that your dog might have swallowed something foreign:

Any sudden onset of choking that affects your dog's breathing should be dealt with urgently. Signs of intestinal or digestive discomfort (typically

(continued on next page)



("Your Dog Has Just Swallowed a Bone or a Toy..." cont.)

in the form of vomiting and possibly diarrhea) should put you on high alert. You should next try to find out what toy or parts of a toy are and items are still around. You can then figure out what your poor dog might have swallowed to give your veterinarian a point of reference.

**Your dog is choking on something:**

If your dog is choking on something, the best thing you can do is try to help your dog immediately. Choking for big dogs and small dogs are handled differently. Just as in humans, the goal is to get it out of your dog's system immediately.

Below are some good tips on how to help your dog if he is choking from Pet MD...

[http://www.petmd.com/dog/emergency/common-emergencies/e\\_dg\\_choking](http://www.petmd.com/dog/emergency/common-emergencies/e_dg_choking)

**If your dog isn't choking, check your dog's mouth:**

First thing you should do is check your dog's mouth for foreign objects that may be lodged there and, only if very easily accomplished without injury to yourself or your dog, remove them. If you can see a thread, string, or another form of cord hanging from the dog's mouth, do not pull it or cut it. If you pull it, you can injure your dog's throat or esophagus, or pull out his or her teeth.

**Take your dog to the vet immediately:**

In all cases, call your veterinarian immediately for advice as to the next steps required. These will vary depending on what your dog swallowed, the time of ingestion and the symptoms that your dog is currently showing. If need be, your vet will have you make an appointment to investigate.

**Your veterinarian will take x-rays:**

Your veterinarian will be able to perform tests and take X-rays if you are unsure of what the dog has swallowed. Barium studies, ultrasounds and CT scans are some of the tests that your vet can perform to determine whether surgery may be needed to remove the object or not.

**Treatment for your dog:**

Treating a dog that has accidentally swallowed an object can vary widely from simply plucking the object from the throat while sedated to intestinal surgery that may require the removal of several feet of bowel. The potential severity of a corn stock or even a sock can be serious and will need to be removed.

**How to prevent your dog from swallowing unwanted items:**

Although it's almost impossible to stop our dogs from putting things in their mouth, try to keep an eye on what they are chewing when you can. Make sure to avoid leaving out too many toys that they could potentially swallow as well as chew sticks that are too chewed and can easily be swallowed. Our human items, such as socks and underwear, can also be a danger for chew-prone dogs so put them away and out of your dog's sight!

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## Grieving The Loss of a Pet One Day at a Time

I have so many friends and acquaintances who have recently lost a dog or cat either due to age or unforeseen circumstances. Losing a pet is devastating and it is very important to realize it takes a long time to heal. And...we each heal differently and at our own pace.

Our pets are our fur kids. They provide us with companionship, emotional support, and unconditional love. They don't talk back to you (well sometimes they do!), are always happy to see you and don't go through their terrible teenage years! There is nothing more comforting than coming home to see your dog wagging his tail or your cat running to the door to greet you.

Given the intense bond we feel for our pets, it is only natural to feel devastated when a pet dies. You may also feel shocked, confused, angry or have trouble sleeping or even difficulty focusing.

There truly is no right or wrong way to grieve. Some people may not understand the profound feelings you had for your pet, but you should never feel guilty or ashamed about grieving for your beloved baby. The key to coping is to accept your feelings and embrace the emotions you feel. Be with family and friends that understand how you feel. Friends who have never had pets will not get it.

Grief can be compounded by the role the pet played in your life. If you live alone and your pet was your only companion, coming to terms with his or her loss can be even harder. Or if you attempted to get help for an older dog that didn't work and/or if your pet died at a young age, you might even feel a greater despair.

Don't let anyone tell you how to feel, and don't tell yourself how to feel either. Your grief is your own, and no one else can tell you when it's time to "move on" or "get over it." Let yourself feel whatever you want to feel without embarrassment or judgment. It's okay to be angry, to cry or not to cry. It's also okay to laugh, to find moments of joy and to let go when you're ready.

You might consider doing something to memorialize his or her death. You can plant a tree in his or her memory, compile a photo album or scrapbook or otherwise share the memories you enjoyed with your pet.

It is important to take care of yourself during this time. The stress of losing a pet can quickly deplete your energy and make you feel especially vulnerable. Eat a healthy diet, get plenty of sleep, and exercise regularly to help boost your mood.

If you have other pets, they usually feel the loss as well. They will grieve in their own way and/or will become upset with your sorrow. It is important to keep up with their daily routine or even increase their play time which, in the end, will help both of you.

Some owners feel the need to get a new pet right away. Others take more time. Do whatever feels right and makes you happy. Everyone has a different time frame and only you know when or if you are ready for another pet. It could be a week or even a year.

There is no easy way to deal with the loss of your beloved fur kid. However, while we never get over the loss, time does help lessen the pain. ☐



## ANT kill[R

Using an empty water bottle (cut it down to about 2" tall), mix 5 tbsp. baking soda, 5 tbsp. powdered sugar with 3 tbsp. water. Place small amounts of this mixture against the walls, on other areas where you would not normally walk and where you would normally see the ants.

The ants will be attracted to the sugar, will eat some of it and, also will collect more to take home to feed others, so...all of the ants will eat their share of this mixture.

Since the baking soda and the powdered sugar are similar, once they are mixed together, the ants cannot separate the two ingredients, so...as they eat the sugar, they will also ingest the baking soda (which they would otherwise never touch). This is the reason for including powdered sugar.

Once the ants eat the baking soda, it will react with the formic acid in their stomachs and create gas. The bodies of ants are unlike humans and the ants cannot eliminate gas...so it will build up inside and kill the ants. ☐

## The DOG OWNER'S ENCYCLOPEDIA

### of HELPFUL HINTS and TRADE SECRETS

This handy, one-of-a-kind encyclopedia contains over 2,000 helpful hints and trade secrets for owners of all dogs (show dogs and pets alike) in a single comprehensive book.

Compiled by Nancy Lee Cathcart (the creator, publisher and editor of an award-winning international dog fanciers' publication that spanned over 30 years), this invaluable guide contains amazing secrets and solutions from professionals in the dog-show world and from pet owners. Of the thousands of hints received, those included in this book were carefully selected to best represent the most helpful and informative solutions available. In addition, for 15 years this author owned, bred and showed consistently-winning dogs (breaking several breed records within the competitive world of dog shows), and her background proved invaluable in creating this detailed reference book.

Organized for ease of use, *The Dog Owner's Encyclopedia of Helpful Hints and Trade Secrets* is not only separated alphabetically into categories of hints and ideas, but is cross-referenced into 199 different topics.

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