

How to Prevent Hot Spots in Dogs

Most dog owners know how painful hot spots can be for dogs. For the lucky or uninitiated, hot spots are areas of the dog's skin that become irritated and inflamed and are very uncomfortable for our pups. These spots are usually a circular shape and are accompanied by hair loss, inflammation and sometimes a discharge of pus. Hot spots are a form of dermatitis and may result from allergy, flea infestation, behavioral problems or other causes.

It is important to treat hot spots right away to prevent spreading.

Below are some steps of what to do

once a hot spot appears:

1. Trim your dog's hair carefully from around the hot spot so the area will be easier to keep clean. Clean the area with a mild antiseptic and dab the area with cotton balls.
2. Apply a cool compress to the hot spot for five minutes three to four times a day to soothe your dog's sore skin.
3. Soothe sore hot spots with a dab of Vitamin E oil. Vitamin E oil is well known for its healing effects and dogs can also benefit from the oil. Dab Vitamin E oil on the affected area two to three times a day to help loosen the crusty areas that have formed and aid healing.
4. Dab the affected area with a cotton ball that has been soaked in tea that has cooled. Tea contains tannic acid which aids the healing process. Repeat the process three to four times daily.

Make an appointment with your veterinarian if the hot spots don't go away immediately.

The following tips can help prevent hot spots:

1. Make sure your dog is groomed on a regular basis and your dog's hair is clipped short, especially during warmer months.
2. Feed your dog a healthy, fat-enriched diet. If your dog suffers from recurring skin conditions or has dull, thin fur, a change in his or her diet may be needed.
3. Give your dog a daily vitamin supplement that contains fatty acids known as Omega 3. Omega 3 fatty acids will speed healing, promote healthy skin and fur and prevent further break outs of hot spots or other skin irritation. Oils high in Omega-3s include fish oils, krill oil and flaxseed oil.
4. Coconut Oil has antifungal properties and can be useful both topically and internally, and it contains medium ↗

Dear Readers...

I NEED YOUR INPUT!

Please let me know if you would like me to continue creating this free newsletter as I've been receiving very little feedback.

Since it requires over a week to create each newsletter, I'm re-evaluating its value to you—the reader.

So...if this newsletter is important to you, would you be so kind as to send me an email (s.pacesetter@sheltie.com) and share your thoughts.

Depending upon the responses I receive, I will decide whether to:

- continue this newsletter as is,
- decrease its frequency
- or,
- discontinue this service.

And finally... many thanks to those few individuals who have acknowledged each newsletter!

("How to Prevent Hot Spots in Dogs" cont.)

chain triglycerides that complement the Omega-3 oils. Alternating different types of oils is a good way to include coconut oil in your dog's diet, feeding coconut oil one day and Omega-3 oils the next.

5. One way to relieve allergies naturally is to feed a diet rich in antioxidants. Antioxidants come in many forms and from the following foods: berries, green leafy vegetables, apples, chlorella, spirulina, olive leaf, kelp, raw meat and organic organ meats (particularly liver).

6. If your dog requires an extra boost, the use of high doses of vitamin C can help animals with suppressed immune function. Vitamin C should be started with a low dose given in the food about a quarter to one teaspoon depending on the size of your dog.

Don't expect a hot spot to go away overnight. It will take a little time for the skin to heal and the fur to grow back. Check the spots daily to see if the area is healing. If the hot spot appears to get worse, consult your veterinarian immediately. □



Water Toxicity or Hyponatremia in Dogs — Water Playtime Can Be Deadly!

by Laurie Brzostowski,

President, Snaggle Foot Dog Walks and Pet Care

We have all done it...we take our dogs to the dog park that has a lake, or we take them to a lake or a river or a swimming pool then throw a ball or stick or whatever and let our dogs just go crazy jumping in after that object.

What happens when they jump in for that? They open their mouths. When they do that, insane amounts of water are ingested by the dog—through their noses, their mouths and sometimes down into their lungs.

Too much of this can cause water hyponatremia or water toxicity in dogs. This can be fatal.

I just heard about this and I was so freaked out about this that I thought I would write about it so everyone knows what this is about and what to watch out for and how to prevent it. I personally have a Yellow Lab who loves to swim and catch balls thrown into the water but I certainly don't want him to get hurt by it.

So let's start...

What is Hyponatremia or Water Toxicity?

Hyponatremia is the clinical term given to a condition in which a dog is suffering from low concentrations of serum sodium in the blood. As a component of the extracellular fluid (fluids outside of the cells), sodium is the most abundant positive charged atom in the body. For this reason, a condition of hyponatremia usually reflects a concurrent condition of hyposmolality, an underconcentration of osmotic solution in the blood serum. That is a lack in the ability of body fluids to pass through the cellular membranes (osmosis), by which the body's chemical concentrations are kept in balance. Hyposmolality is typically associated with a decreased amount of sodium content throughout the body.

Theoretically, hyponatremia can be caused by either water retention or solute loss (loss of a dissolvable body substance—in this case, salt/sodium is the solute). Most solute loss occurs in isoosmotic solutions (e.g., vomit and diarrhea), and as a result, water retention in relation to solute is the underlying cause in almost all patients that are diagnosed with hyponatremia. In general, hyponatremia occurs only when there is a defect in the kidney's ability to excrete water.

What are the causes?

When water enters the body faster than it can be removed, bodily fluids are then diluted and a potentially dangerous shift in the electrolyte balance occurs. This shift causes cells to swell as a result of ↗

the changes in internal pressure, which can affect systems such as the central nervous system and the brain.

What are the symptoms?

- Ataxia (staggering, falling over)
- Vomiting
- Weakness, lethargy
- Pale gums
- Bloating
- Excessive salivation
- Dilated pupils, glazed eyed
- Seizures, convulsions

How can we treat it?

Primary treatment will depend on the severity of the hyponatremia, and the associated neurological symptoms. The severity of any underlying disorders will guide treatment priorities as well. Treatment generally consists of addressing the underlying cause, and increasing the serum sodium concentration if necessary.

Overly rapid normalization of the hyponatremia can have potentially severe neurological results, and may be more detrimental than the hyponatremia itself. Therefore, an isotonic saline is the fluid of choice in the large majority of cases. More aggressive correction of the serum sodium concentration with hypertonic saline is rarely necessary. Hypervolemic patients (patients with too much fluid in the blood) are typically managed with diuretics (fluid reducers) and salt restriction.

Conversely, hypovolemic patients (patients with too little fluid in the blood) are managed by replacing the volume deficit with isotonic saline. Other therapeutic interventions are dictated by the underlying cause of the hyponatremia.

How can we prevent it?

When you play with your dog in the water, make sure you watch how much water your dog may be ingesting in constant play in the water. Give your a dog break between playtime since he needs time for his body to process any water he may have ingested. If you suspect your dog is experiencing water toxicity, you must contact your veterinarian immediately! Putting off treatment could be a matter of life and death for your dog! ☐



Natural Solutions For Tick Season by Dana Scott

More and more dogs owners are looking for natural alternatives for tick prevention.

Although ticks can be a concern in the warmer months, dog owners also have to consider the effects that chemical tick treatments have on their dog's digestive tract, internal organs and overall health, both short and long term.

If you are concerned about the impact these chemicals have on your dog, then read on as there are a few ways to treat tick bites with all natural products.

Three Natural Solutions For Tick Season

1. Dietary Tick Preventatives:

Garlic — Garlic given as a dietary supplement makes the dog less appealing to ticks, too. The smell is excreted through the skin and repels both ticks and fleas. However, garlic contains sulfoxides and disulfides, which can damage red blood cells and cause anemia in dogs when fed in large amounts. To learn how much you can safely feed your dog, read *Garlic: Friend Or Foe?* (<http://www.dogsnaturalymagazine.com/garlic-friend-or-foe/>)

Apple Cider Vinegar — Apple cider vinegar adds acidity to your dog's blood, making it less appealing to ticks and fleas. Add 2 tablespoons of the apple cider vinegar to the dog's food or water bowl as a preventative.

2. Topical/External Tick Preventatives:

Herbal flea and tick powder — There are several herbal flea and tick powders and sprays (https://market.dogsnaturalymagazine.com/products/dermagic-diatomaceous-earth-dust?utm_source=Website&utm_medium=Text-Link&utm_content=Natural-Solutions-Tick-Season&utm_campaign=DERMagic-Flea-Dust) on the market utilizing various herbal combinations to prevent ticks. You can easily make your own powder at home with just three ingredients. Find the recipe at <http://www.dogsnaturalymagazine.com/flea-tick-powder/>.

Herbal flea/tick collars — There are several herbal flea and tick collars on the market, but you can also make your own at home. Mix 2 tablespoons almond oil with Rose Geranium Oil or Palo Santo. Dab a few drops on your dog's neck area before heading out. Alternately, you could place the essential oil directly on his collar. Reapply the essential oil to the collar weekly.

Tick Shampoo — Mix several drops of Palo Santo with your favorite organic lavender shampoo. Let the suds sit on your dog for twenty minutes before rinsing. This will kill any existing ticks or prevent new ones. (No time to make it? Try this: https://market.dogsnaturalymagazine.com/collections/shampoos?utm_campaign=Puppy-Suds-Flea-Shampoo&utm_content=Natural-Solutions-Tick-Season&utm_medium=Text-Link&utm_source=Website.)

Citrus repellent — Cut a lemon into quarters and put into a pint jar. Cover with boiling water and let steep overnight. Put the solution in a spray bottle and spray all over the dog, especially behind the ears, around the head, at the base of the tail and in the arm pits.

3. Environmental Tick Preventatives:

Nematodes — Beneficial nematodes are a microscopic, ↗

("Natural Solutions For Tick Season" cont.)

worm-like organism that live in soil. They feed on tick larvae so break their life cycle and kill off the parasite.

Diatomaceous earth — Diatomaceous earth (https://market.dogsnaturalymagazine.com/products/dermagic-diatomaceous-earth-dust?utm_source=Website&utm_medium=Text-Link&utm_content=Natural-Solutions-Tick-Season&utm_campaign=DERMagic-Flea-Dust) is a non-toxic powder consisting of ground fossils, marine life and fresh water organisms. While non-toxic to humans and animals, this powder is lethal to ticks and fleas.

Use Several All-Natural Tick Prevention Products Together

When looking at the all natural tick prevention products, keep in mind that these products will be most effective if used in combination with each other.

A dietary solution, combined with a topical and an environmental product, provides broad-spectrum protection while avoiding the complications that introducing chemicals into the dog's system and surroundings can bring.

Preventing ticks doesn't need to be a chemical based treatment. There are many all natural methods of prevention so your dog can live a healthy, chemical free life. ☐

Lyme Disease In Dogs — What You Need to Know!

by PetPav

Summer is here and the flea and tick season is rampant. While you are with your dogs' either walking, hiking or at the beach, there is always a chance that they will get bitten by a flea or tick. And ticks can carry a number of illnesses, including Lyme disease which can affect dogs and humans. Lyme disease can cause tiredness, fever and joint pain in your dogs.

What is Lyme disease?

Lyme disease is an infection that causes arthritis and lameness and is transmitted to dogs (and some cats) through the bite of infected ticks. If it is untreated, Lyme disease in dogs can cause heart, kidney, and neurological problems. Lyme disease is a zoonotic disease, which means it can be spread from animals to humans. Lyme disease can be transmitted if an infected tick from a dog bites a human. Cats can get Lyme Disease but it is very rare and the symptoms are just like those in dogs.

Lyme disease is more common in certain areas of the United States, including the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, and upper Midwest.

Symptoms of Lyme disease

Some of the symptoms may not appear for several months

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("Lyme Disease in Dogs" cont.)

after a dog is infected with Lyme disease. And some infected dogs don't always show the symptoms. The signs of infection can typically include the following: your dog is very tired and stops exercising, fever, joint pain, loss of appetite, symptoms seem to get better and then re-appear later.

The diagnosis of Lyme disease

Lyme disease is usually diagnosed based on a medical history that includes the possibility of tick exposure, the above symptoms and/or the results of diagnostic testing.

Many veterinarians test for Lyme disease using an in-hospital SNAP test. SNAP tests are a group of quick, convenient, blood tests that can be performed at your veterinarian's office.

SNAP testing is very accurate and a good way to identify dogs that may be infected. SNAP testing is also very convenient because it uses a very small amount of blood and takes only a few minutes to perform.

Depending on the results, your veterinarian may recommend additional testing to follow up a test result or look for other evidence of illness related to heartworm disease or one of the tick-borne infections.

Treatment of Lyme disease

Treatment of Lyme disease usually consists of antibiotics and (if necessary) other medications to temporarily help control joint pain and other symptoms. Some dogs show significant improvement after only a few days of antibiotics, but most veterinarians now recommend a 28- to 30-day course of treatment. Relapses can occur so always monitor your dogs' carefully for signs of illness.

Prevention of Lyme disease

Periodic testing is a good way to see if your dog has been infected by Lyme disease. Even dogs that wear year-round tick control products and don't spend a lot of time outside are at risk for exposure to tick-borne diseases. Testing helps identify dogs that need treatment or an adjustment in the type of tick control being used.

There is a Lyme disease vaccine, but it is not necessarily recommended for all dogs. Ask your veterinarian about the risk of Lyme disease where you live and whether the Lyme vaccine is recommended for your dog.

And, some other quick tips that can also help protect dogs from Lyme disease exposure: check dogs (and humans) frequently for ticks. They should be removed right away.

Use a reliable method of tick control (several spot-on products kill and repel ticks).

If possible, avoid tall grass or wooded areas where ticks are likely to hide.

As always, if you watch for the signs, use tick-prevention year round, and keep up with your annual veterinarian visits, you and your dogs should be okay.

If you find a tick on your dog or cat, take a look at this article (<http://petpav.com/get-rid-ticks-dogs-cats/>) on how you can get rid of ticks on your dogs or cats. □



HOW TO MINIMIZE YOUR DOG'S SHEDDING!

by PetPav

We love playing with our dogs and most of the time let them leap on our furniture or hang out on our beds. While we love bonding with them, we don't love when their hair is all over the place! Dogs naturally shed and there is no way to stop it, but with a good, healthy diet and grooming, the shedding can at least be minimized.

What makes a dog shed excessively?

What seems like excessive shedding can be normal for some dogs, but it can also be the result of stress, poor nutrition or a medical problem. Your veterinarian can best determine if your dog's hair loss is part of the normal shedding process or is a symptom of an underlying medical condition.

A healthy diet can help minimize shedding

If you are looking for a healthy dog food to help reduce shedding, make sure that the first ingredient is meat or protein. A cheaper or lower quality dog food has fewer nutrients and will cause excess shedding and an array of health problems in the long-term. Though high quality dog foods are more expensive, your dog doesn't need as much to fill him up and will eat less making them less expensive in the long run.

Anti-shedding supplements can help

There are anti-shedding supplements on the market that can help reduce shedding. The supplements contain oils that help reduce your dog's shedding. Your vet can probably recommend a good supplement for your dog. Or, a less expensive way is to add a couple tablespoons of apple cider vinegar to your dog's food to help reduce shedding. It works wonders!

Make sure to groom or brush your dog daily

Brushing your dog on a daily basis is extremely important to reducing shedding. When you brush your dog's fur, the loose strands of fur are collected by the brush. If left in place, your dog would naturally shed the fur throughout the course of the day. When you brush your dog, it helps reduce shedding by collecting the fur before it falls off the dog's coat and lands on furniture, floors and all over your clothes!

Don't be alarmed if there is a lot of shedding in the first week or so; this is just a build-up of dead hair. Once the dead hair is removed, the grooming will be quick and shedding will be reduced.

Regular dog baths can help reduce shedding

Although, it isn't always easy, bathing your dog on a regular basis will help minimize shedding. If you bathe and then brush your dog, it will condition his skin and fur and collect all the fur that would have been shed had you not bathed him or her.

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("How To Minimize Your Dog's Shedding" cont.)

Some dogs even like baths and you can try to make it fun for your pup by giving him or her treats after the bath. Some ideas on how to groom your dog!

If your dog is stressed, he or she will shed a lot

Stress can cause a dog to shed excessively. If for some reason, your dog starts to shed excessively, there might be an added stress in his or her life. If you think this is the case, take note of any behaviors or differences in your dog's life. Did you move? Buy a new bed for your pup? Dogs are sensitive creatures and even the slightest change can increase stress and, in turn, shedding.

With a healthy diet, daily brushing and a good vacuum, your dog's shedding will certainly decrease on you and all over the house! ☐



Help! My Dog Hates Taking a Bath!

by Mikkel Becker

Q. My dog hates taking a bath. How do I make it more enjoyable for us both and not such a struggle?

A. Your dog isn't alone in despising baths. Bath time often sparks an unwanted game of chase, with the human sprinting and diving after the pooch just to bring him to the tub. Once he's caught, the chase isn't over; it's a constant struggle to prevent the pup from fleeing. Although making bath time one of your dog's favorite things to do may not be realistic, you can help make baths more tolerable—for you and for him.

Let your dog know it's bath time by using a certain cue, such as "bath." By associating a certain word with his bath, you help take away any surprise that a bath is coming. Simply by alleviating his fear of the unknown, you can help your dog begin to relax. You can also use treats to coax your dog to you when you need to catch him for the bath. Avoid chasing after your dog, although, this game of chase can be fun for your dog and may reinforce the behavior of running away from you.

Bath time should always be paired with something your dog enjoys. I use a snack jar in my bathroom when bathing my pugs, so I can reward calm behavior of all four feet in the tub. I also give them a long-lasting toy or chew after their bath, such as a Greenie, or a food puzzle that makes the bath more tolerable because they grow to expect a fruitful reward when it's over.

Use warm water, which is less likely than cold water to make a dog panic. Place an anti-skid mat or a towel on the bottom of your tub. Many dogs struggle in the bath because their feet slip when they can't gain traction. You can also use a grooming ↗

("Help! My Dog Hates Taking a Bath" cont.)

tether or a nylon collar and leash to keep better control of your pet while he's in the bath—just keep a watchful eye to reduce the risk of choking or other injury.

Don't douse your dog with running water since this will make him nervous. Use a washcloth to wash your dog's face—it's less frightening than running water splashing over his snout. Hold your dog's nose and chin up at an angle when running water over his neck and the top of his head; his nose should be the highest point. This prevents the water from running down into his nose or eyes.

Use a pet shower sprayer attachment, such as the Bamboo Pet Deluxe Pet Shower Sprayer, to bathe your pooch. This nifty gadget allows you to bring the water to your dog with the long hose and spray attachment; water flow on the sprayers can also be adjusted to the pressure that fits your dog's comfort level. It's less terrifying for a dog to have water flowing from a source that can be brought to the direct area where he is already standing in the bath than to be forced into running water under the faucet or the shower sprayer.

With these tips, bath time should be a more relaxed experience for both you and your dog. ☐

Can my dog eat this?

YES	YES, BUT . . .	NO
BANANAS  Rich in potassium and vitamin C	APPLES  . . . don't let him eat the seeds!	AVOCADOS  Can cause vomiting
BLUEBERRIES  High in antioxidants	LEMONS  . . . he may not like the bitter taste.	CHERRIES  Can cause cyanide poisoning in large quantities
KIWIS  Good source of vitamin C and potassium	ORANGES  . . . they're high in natural sugar; give in moderation.	GRAPES  Can cause kidney failure
PINEAPPLE  Try frozen for a cool treat!	PEACHES  . . . remove the pit; it can cause intestinal blockage.	RAISINS  Can cause kidney failure
STRAWBERRIES  High in fiber and antioxidants <small>fabulouspets.blogspot.com</small>	WATERMELON  . . . remove the rind first!	





Tips to Clean Your Cat's Ears Quickly and Efficiently!

Our cats are amazing self groomers, but the one place they can't reach is their ears! To keep their ears in great condition and to avoid infection, it's a good idea to examine them at home on a regular basis for signs of infection or mite infestation. Here's what you should know about keeping your cat's ears healthy.

Look inside your cat's ears on a weekly basis

The inside of a healthy feline ear is a pretty, pale pink. It may have a light coating of wax, but you shouldn't see areas that look dirty, inflamed or crusty. The outer ear, covered in fur, shouldn't have bare areas. The ears should not have an unpleasant odor. If the odor changes, it's a sign that a problem may be developing.

Only clean your cats ears if there is excess dirt or debris, wax build-up or anything unusual.

Cleaning the Ears —

Create the right mood and make it quick.

1. Make it a positive experience. This sounds simple but it's the step that most people forget. Treats during and after the cleaning to keep the experience positive. Make sure to have a happy voice and let your kitty know that this is fun and easy!
2. Try to clean your kitty's ears when your cat is in a good mood. At home, make sure to do the cleaning when your cat is in a good place, not after a bath or associated with other dreaded treatments such as nail clipping.
3. Hold the tip of your cat's ear between your thumb and forefinger and gently roll it up so you can see the inner ear. If your cat tries to scoot away, you can gently grab the loose skin on the back of his or her neck.
4. Look inside your cat's ears for redness or discharge. Light brown wax is okay, but black, red or infected-looking colors (e.g. yellow or green pus) can indicate a problem. Gently wipe the inside of the ear with the tip of a q-tip or a moistened Kleenex.
5. If your cat's ear contains a lot of wax or debris you should squirt five to ten drops of an ear cleaner into the ear. You can usually get a recommendation of a good ear cleaner from your Veterinarian or local pet store. Massage gently for five to ten seconds at the ear base as the solution drips deep into the ear canal. You will probably hear the solution squish around as you massage, which is normal.
6. After the massaging, stand back and let your pet shake his or her head to bring the softened wax up out of the ear canals. Use clean cotton balls to gently wipe out and up the canal, removing any wax or cleaning solution you see.

And you're done! If your kitty's ears seems sensitive or infected or if your cat is shaking its head or scratching at the ear, have her examined by a veterinarian. ☐



Is Separation Anxiety — In Cats a Myth? — PetPav

Most dog owners know that their pups can and sometimes do develop separation anxiety. And while cats are pretty independent and it's sometimes harder to read their emotions, they too can develop separation anxiety. There are some things to look out for in your cat that you might have thought was illness, but in reality, is separation anxiety.

Some of the signs of separation anxiety

Some of the signs of separation anxiety in cats can include: hiding, pacing, loss of appetite, biting at his or her tail or fur, vomiting or meowing more often than usual. Some other signs include excessive self-grooming, eating too fast or not eating at all when you aren't there.

Cats are creatures of habit

and can become stressed by any change.

There are certain triggers that can cause a cat to become anxious such any change of environment, a new pet or even moving can cause your cat to be stressed out. Even something as simple as changing your work schedule can make our cats' anxious!

Try the following if you think your cat is suffering

from separation anxiety.

1. Try to figure out what and when your kitty is stressed out: Are there certain times of day when your kitty seems stressed out? Does she meow and meow when you leave? How does your kitty adjust to change? Some cats can't even stand if their food bowl is moved. Is there something in particular that triggers a stressed response? If you can answer any of these questions, you can seemingly adjust accordingly.
2. Give your cat a safe space where he or she can go to when feeling stressed: Give your cat a room or area that is quiet and secluded and away from all the household activity and noise. This can be her go-to place when your cat is feeling stressed. It could even be a climb-up cat tower or shelter or even under a table in between your couches.
3. Playing with your cat gives him energy and confidence: When you play with your cat, it helps stimulate your cat, give him exercise and confidence. A cat loves to practice and engage in the prey drive and enjoy a successful capture, even if it is a play mouse. While playing tires him out, it can also help reduce anxiety.
4. If your cat gets upset when you leave, be very casual about it: If you think that your cat is going to suffer from separation anxiety when you leave, you'll just make it worse if you overdo the goodbye process. Your kitty will think you're leaving for a month instead of just a few hours. Make your good-byes very casual and leave. If you make a big production about it, your kitty will pick up on it and act out accordingly.

With time and patience, you can figure out what is actually stressing out your cat. Our kitties don't hold on to bad memories for too long, so if you can change the behavior, play with your kitties and give them lots of love and praise, you can help reduce the anxiety in your cats. ☐

BARK BACK

IF YOU WANT TO "BARK BACK" WITH CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES
OR SIMPLY SHARE A THOUGHT WITH OUR READERS...PLEASE DON'T HESITATE—SEND THEM IN!

Dear Nancy Lee,

I know that many would like to treat or prevent fleas "naturally", but according to my favorite veterinarian, she has yet to see any clinical trials showing that home remedies work or that they are safe. "Natural" doesn't necessarily equate with safe; after all, rattle snake venom is "natural" as is Foxglove and Lily-of-the-Valley. There are so many safe, effective products on the market now, the whole argument about "natural" versus "chemical" seems ridiculous.

Cynthia Webster
Will O'Wisp Shelties

Hi, Nancy Lee...

Thank you, Nancy Lee!! What great articles and all are so interesting that I had to share them with my friends.

Also, just a thought...I sell Kuranda Dog Beds and the money goes to Sheltie rescues that I donated them.

Linda Cornella
Royal Hill Shelties

Hi, Nancy Lee,

I just want to thank you for another great newsletter!

Sharon Brown
Karahill Shelties

Dear Nancy Lee,

Thank you once again for your Sheltie Newsletter. As always, I found many of the articles to be helpful and interesting, especially the article on OTC supplements.

Carole Wolfram

Dear Nancy Lee,

DMS testing — \$80 to \$98

VetGen is now offering a new DNA dermatomyositis (DMS) test for \$98 and when this DMS test is done through a "health clinic" the same test is available at \$80!

Results are now being posted on the OFA website and this test is one of the electives for the CHIC status.

You can read much more about the test at: <http://americanshetlandsheepdogassociation.org/dermatomyositis/>. The ASSA page also links to "Learning Exercises" at <http://americanshetlandsheepdogassociation.org/dms-learning-exercises/> intended to help breeders understand how to use the test.

Best regards,
Mary Mahaffey ☐

Website addresses for information regarding "How to Introduce Cats Safely" —

<http://www.catbehaviorassociates.com/how-to-introduce-a-second-cat/>
<https://www.petfinder.com/cats/bringing-a-cat-home/cat-to-cat-introductions/>
http://www.humanesociety.org/animals/cats/tips/introducing_new_cat.html?referrer=https://www.bing.com/
<http://bestfriends.org/resources/introducing-new-cat>
<http://lasthopeanimalrescue.org/introduce-cat/>



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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.

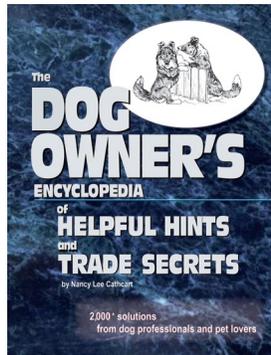
Organized for ease of use, *The Dog Owner's Encyclopedia of Helpful Hints and Trade Secrets* is not only separated alphabetically into categories of hints and ideas, but is cross-referenced into 199 different topics.

It's a true encyclopedia packed with valuable solutions and trade secrets directly from dog professionals and pet owners. This handy reference book will become an integral part of your library.

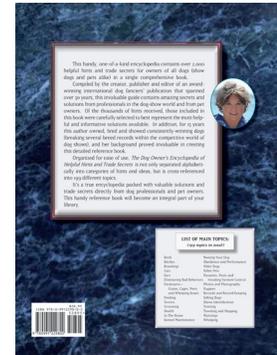
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