

101 Things You Didn't Know Could Harm Your Pet

Make your home a safer place for your pets by keeping them away from the following hazardous household items, plants, foods, objects and trouble areas



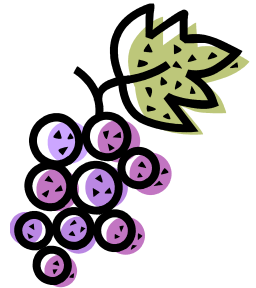
Household Items

1. Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medications (ibuprofen, aspirin, etc.)
2. Acetaminophen (Tylenol)
3. Cold and flu medications
4. Antidepressants
5. Vitamins
6. Home insect products
7. Rat and mouse bait
8. Bleach
9. Diet pills
10. Disinfectants
11. Fabric softener
12. Lead
13. Lighter fluid
14. Mothballs
15. Anti-cancer drugs
16. Solvents (paint thinners, etc.)
17. Flea and tick products
18. Drain cleaners
19. Liquid potpourri
20. Slug and snail bait
21. Oven cleaner sprays
22. Lime/scale remover
23. Fly bait
24. Detergents
25. Tobacco products

Harmful Foods

You should never let your dogs or cats eat any of these foods. Be sure to store them where your pets can't find them.

26. Avocados
27. Chocolate (all forms)
28. Coffee (all forms)
29. Onions & onion powder
30. Garlic
31. Grapes
32. Raisins
33. Macadamia nuts
34. Alcoholic beverages
35. Moldy/spoiled foods
36. Salt
37. Fatty foods
38. Gum, candies, or other foods sweetened with xylitol
39. Tea leaves
40. Raw yeast dough



Objects

These household objects can cause puncture wounds, choking, or internal organ damage to your pets. Make sure they aren't left lying around.



41. Balls (specifically balls that are small or have a smooth outer coating)
42. Batteries
43. Bread twist ties
44. Buttons
45. Coins
46. Cotton swabs
47. Glass
48. Hair pins
49. Jewelry
50. Nylons
51. Paper clips
52. Plastic wrap
53. Socks
54. Rubber-bands
55. Sharp objects (knives, razors, scissors, nails, needles, etc.)
56. String, yarn, or dental floss
57. Towels
58. Wax



Plants

Do you have any of these plants in or around your home? If so, make sure they are in places where your pets can't reach them, or consider getting rid of them altogether.

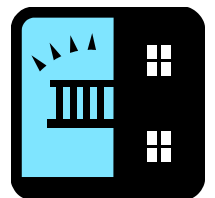
59. Common Plants

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Aloe | Easter Lily | Mountain Laurel |
| Amaryllis | Elephant Ears | Narcissus |
| Andromeda Japonica | Emerald Fern | Needlepoint Ivy |
| Asian Lily | English Ivy | Nephtysis |
| Asparagus Fern | Eucalyptus | Nightshade |
| Australian Nut | Ferns | Oleander |
| Autumn Crocus | Fiddle-leaf Philodendron | Panda |
| Azalea | Gold Dust Dracaena | Peace Lily |
| Belladonna | Florida Beauty | Philodendron |
| Bird of Paradise | Foxglove | Poison hemlock |
| Bittersweet (American & European) | Glacier Ivy | Precatory Bean (rosary pea) |
| Black Locust | Gladiolas | Privet |
| Branching Ivy | Golden Pothos | Red Emerald |
| Buckeye | Heavenly Bamboo | Rhododendron |
| Buddhist Pine | Honeysuckle | Ribbon Plant |
| Caladium | Hurricane Plant | Sago Palm |
| Calla Lily | Hyacinth | Satin Pathos |
| Castor Bean | Hydrangea | Schefflera |
| Ceriman | Iris | Striped Dracaena |
| Clematis | Jerusalem Cherry | Sweetheart Ivy |
| Cordatum | Jimson Weed | Tulip |
| Corn Plant | Kalanchoe | Water Hemlock |
| Cycads | Lantana | Wisteria |
| Cyclamen | Lilies (all Liliium species) | Yew |
| Daffodil | Lily of the Valley | Yucca |
| Daylily | Lupine | |
| Devil's Ivy | Marble Queen | |
| Dieffenbachia | Morning Glory | |
| Dumbcane | Mother-in-Law | |

Trouble Areas

Dogs and cats are more likely to be injured in these areas of your home. Keep your pets away from these places or watch them closely when they're near them if you can.

60. Balconies – Tall balconies without safety railings, or railings spaced too far apart, can lead to a dangerous fall.
61. Bath tubs or sinks – Small pets can drown in full bathtubs or sinks.
62. Doors and windows – Dogs and cats can run away if they find an open door or window. They can also get seriously injured if they run across a busy road. Windows should have screens to prevent cats or other pets from falling out.
63. Electrical cords – Your pets can be electrocuted if they bite or chew on electrical cords that are plugged in.
64. Fireplace – Your pets can be burned by the flames or get sick if they eat the ashes.
65. Toilets – Toilet water is not healthy for pets to drink; always remember to close the lid. Make sure you leave plenty of clean, fresh water for your pets if you must leave them home alone.
66. Washer and Dryer – Your pets can crawl into a washer or dryer without your knowledge; close the doors to these appliances when you're not using them.



Outside the Home



Make sure your pets are safe as they enjoy the outdoors by keeping them away from these potential dangers.

67. Algae* – can be found in ponds or other bodies of water; certain forms can be toxic.
68. Antifreeze/Coolant* – some types of antifreeze or coolant products contain ethylene glycol, which is highly toxic to dogs and cats, even in small amounts.
69. Fire pit/Grill – Flames can result in serious burns and ashes can cause illness if ingested.
70. Fences or gates – Your pets can run away if they find openings in damaged fences or gates. They can also get hurt or strangled if they get stuck.
71. Deck lattice – Your dogs or cats can get stuck in the openings under your deck and possibly be strangled.
72. De-icing salts – Some formulations may contain chemicals that are hazardous to pets if ingested in large amounts. Look for “pet-friendly” de-icing salts.
73. Compost (particularly if moldy)
74. Gasoline*
75. Oil*
76. Pesticides*
77. Cocoa bean shell mulch fertilizer*
78. Swimming pools and hot tubs – Never leave your pet unattended near uncovered pools, even if they can swim.

*All contain chemicals that may cause serious illness depending on the circumstances of exposure.

Holiday Hazards

Help your pets enjoy the holidays safely by keeping them away from potential problems on these special days.

79. Alcohol – alcoholic beverages are toxic to pets and should NEVER be given to them during the holidays or at any other time.

Valentine's Day

80. Flowers and Candy – Many types of flowers and plants found in bouquets are harmful to dogs and cats if they are ingested (see our list of hazardous plants).



Easter



81. Fake grass – This colorful “grass” may look appetizing to your pets, but it could cause them to choke or obstruct their intestines if ingested.
82. Small toys and other plastic items – If swallowed, small toys and plastic Easter eggs can cause your pet to choke or even damage their intestinal tracts.

4th of July

83. Fireworks – Fireworks can scare your pets making them run off, or cause serious injuries if detonated near them. Many formulations are also toxic if ingested.



Halloween



84. Repeatedly opening doors to greet trick-or-treaters can increase the chances of your pets running out. Keep an eye on their whereabouts at all times. If feasible, keep cats in a secure area or closed room when opening doors.

85. Candles – Pets are naturally curious, and may be attracted to the bright lights of the flame in dark areas. Dogs and cats could either burn themselves by the flame or knock the candle over, starting a fire.

86. Xylitol – Candy or gum sweetened with xylitol is toxic and should be kept away from your pet.

87. All forms of chocolate can be harmful to your pet, potentially resulting in poisoning or even pancreatic inflammation from the high fat content.

Thanksgiving

88. Bones – Turkey, chicken, and other small animal bones are very different from the large bones you find at the pet store. These small bones splinter easily and can cause serious internal damage if swallowed, so NEVER give them to your pet.

89. Hot containers – Your dog or cat will most likely become curious when they smell something cooking. Keep an eye on hot containers so that your pet does not tip them over and get burned.



Christmas



90. Holiday plants – Christmas Rose, Holly, Lilies and Mistletoe are all toxic to dogs and cats.

91. Ribbons – It may look adorable, but placing a ribbon around your pet's neck may cause them to choke.

92. Bubbling lights – Older forms of this attractive decoration may contain methylene chloride, which is a highly toxic chemical.

93. Fire salts – Contain chemicals that could be harmful to pets.

94. Angel hair (spun glass) – Can be irritating to the eyes and skin, and could cause intestinal obstruction if eaten in large amounts.

95. Christmas tree water – Stagnant tree water or water containing preservatives could result in stomach upset if ingested.

96. Decoration hooks – Can cause blockage and/or trauma to gastrointestinal tract if swallowed.

97. Styrofoam – Can cause your pets to choke if swallowed.

98. Ornaments – These can look like toys to cats and dogs, but they can cause serious injury, especially if your pets break or swallow them.

99. Tinsel – Can cause choking or internal trauma if swallowed.



New Year's Eve

100. Balloons and Confetti – These fun New Year's party decorations can cause your pets to choke or obstruct their intestines if ingested. Keep an eye on your pets when they're around these items or move them to an area that is not decorated.

101. Loud noises – New Year's is typically a noisy holiday. Unfortunately, loud noises frighten pets and can cause them to run off. Keep your pets in a separate room, away from noisemakers, music, and other loud sounds that may startle them.