

# Keeping Your Dog Cool in the Summer



## Did you know?

In summer, dogs need extra care to avoid health issues like sunburn, paw burns, and heat stroke. Here are some tips to keep your dog safe and comfortable:

## 8 Facts About Dogs in the Summer:



**Dogs sweat through their paws and pant to cool down,** but this isn't very effective in extreme heat.



**Breeds with flat faces,** like Pugs and French Bulldogs, **are more prone to heat issues** due to breathing difficulties.



**Overweight, elderly, very young, and dark-coated dogs are more sensitive** to the heat.



**Some dog breeds can get sunburned,** so consider a sun shirt or sunscreen specifically made for dogs.



**Not all dogs are good swimmers.** Avoid leaving them alone near water. Dogs need life jackets, too, for water activities.



**Cars can become deadly hot quickly.** Never leave a dog in a car.



**Shaving a dog's coat exposes it to sunburn and bug bites.** Regular brushing is better. If you have questions, talk to your vet or a professional groomer.



**Pavement is much hotter than the air.** When the air temperature is 25°C the pavement can be up to 52°C! Check temperatures before walking your dog.



## On hot days - DO

- Keep your dog indoors with plenty of water.
- Exercise dogs in the early morning or late evening.
- Use fans or cooling beds if you don't have air conditioning.
- Check pavement temperature with your hand before walking.
- Use protective boots or walk on grass.
- Wipe paws after walks to remove chemicals.
- Bring water and take breaks in the shade.
- Use cooling jackets and bring cool treats when outside.
- Keep a car kit with water, a bowl, dry food, a fan, and a towel that can be wet to cool your dog.
- Know the signs of heat stroke (panting, drooling, weakness).

## On hot days - DO NOT

- Leave your dog in the car.
- Walk on hot sidewalks or roads.
- Leave your dog outside in the heat.
- Exercise them for long periods.
- Let them walk on chemically-treated grass.
- Leave them outside during fireworks.
- Drive with your dog loose in the car. Ensure your dog is in a secure harness with a seat belt or a safe car dog crate.

**Stay vigilant and keep your furry friend cool and safe this summer!**

**Know the sign of Heatstroke**

**First Aid**

- Call your vet immediately
- Move to a cool, shaded area
- Offer them a drink of cold water
- Create a breeze
- Slowly pour cold water over their body
- Go to the vets

https://www.skillstg.co.uk/category/first-aid-training-courses/

The infographic features a central illustration of a dog with various signs of heatstroke labeled with lines pointing to it: Confusion, Seizures, Shaking, Weakness and collapse, Diarrhoea, Vomiting, Drooling, Foaming at the mouth, and Bright red or pale gums. The 'First Aid' section is enclosed in a rounded rectangle on the right side of the infographic.