

Keeping Cool Pets Cool

The phrase "Dog Days" refers to the hottest, most muggy days of summer. Here are some tips and tricks to help your pet stay cool.

Get Up Early

Exercise during the coolest parts of the day: early in the morning and/or after the sun has gone down. This way, pets won't be sedentary and won't suffer from the heat.



Protect the Pads

Asphalt and other hot surfaces can burn the sensitive pads of animals' paws. Use booties or paw balm to protect their feet.

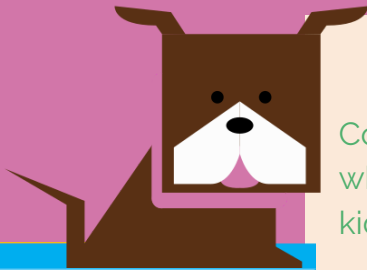
Frozen Treats

Make ice cubes out of broth (mixed with water). It is not only delicious, it is cooling and helps keep your dog hydrated. In addition, make sure water is always available.



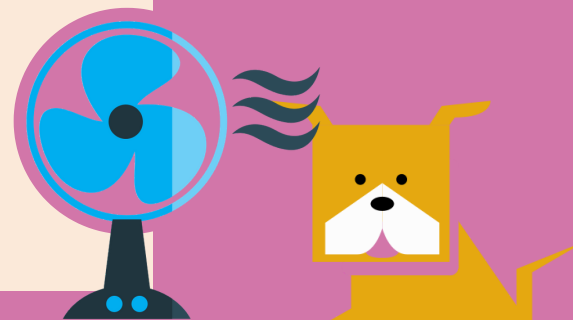
Cool Down

Cooling pads can provide a comfortable surface to spend time on when your pet is feeling too warm. Some pets love to play in a kiddie pool or with sprinklers too (make sure to place it in the shade).



Chill Room

Pick at least one room in the house where you keep the blinds closed and run a fan or the AC. Your pet may gravitate toward this cool room. When you use a standing fan, putting a bowl of ice in front of it is a super old-school air conditioning technique.



Sunscreen

It's best to avoid direct sunlight, especially during the peak sun hours (10am - 2pm). However, if your pet will be exposed to sun, know that animals with light-colored ears or noses may require sunscreen, just like humans. Not all sunscreens are safe for pets, so always check with your veterinarian.

