

FIRST AID for your PET

TOP TIPS

1 Stay calm

- pets pick up on anxiety

2 Do NOT give pain relief

- it could interfere with the vet's treatment

3 Keep a well-stocked first aid kit

4 Phone ahead

- the vet will prepare for your pet's arrival

Cuts and Wounds

Non-bleeding wounds – flush well with sterile saline or clean water

Bleeding cuts – Apply pressure for 2 – 5 minutes

- If bleeding continues apply a pressure bandage
- If blood strikes through the bandage apply another, firmer layer
- Only apply a tourniquet only as a last resort and loosen every 10 minutes

Burns

- Hold under cold running water for 10 minutes then get to the vet
- Do NOT apply butter

Choking

- Open the pet's mouth and remove any obvious obstruction
- If the blockage is too far back, hold the pet with his head down
- If the pet's lips are blue (not pink) and he is drooling heavily then:
- Deliver 5 sharp blows between the shoulder blades

Electric Shock

- Turn off the mains or power to the appliance
- Remove the pet from the cables and take to the vet
- If the pet is unconscious administer CPR (see separate box)

Fits

- Do NOT try to pull the pet's tongue out (you will get bitten)
- Make the animal safe by putting padding between him and sharp objects
- Turn off lights and make the room quiet (Turn off radio / TV)
- Call the vet

Heatstroke

- Move pet to cool place
- Have a fan blow air over the pet
- Wet his tongue and allow the pet to drink
- Soak his fur in cool water
- Apply an ice pack or bag of frozen peas to his head

Insect Sting

- Identify the insect if possible.
- Remove the stinger
- If a wasp – dab vinegar on the stung area
- If a bee – dab a solution of bicarbonate of soda on the stung area

Poisoning

- Do NOT make your dog vomit without speaking to a vet first
- (Some substances cause harm on the way back up)
- Make a note of what the dog ate
- Get to a vet asap (speed is of the essence)

Pet CPR

Is your pet breathing?



Does he have a heartbeat?



Artificial Respiration

Wrap a hand around the pet's muzzle to seal his lips
Place your mouth over his nose. Blow firmly enough to make the chest rise and fall once.
Repeat every 5 seconds

Cardiac massage

Lie the pet on his side. One hand under the chest and one on top, just behind the elbow. Press inwards to squash the chest by 25% to 33%. Do this rapidly (2 compressions per second).

Both artificial respiration and cardiac massage

- 10 cardiac compressions over 5 secs
- 1 breath for 1 second
- Repeat

