



tropanion™

Medical insurance for the life of your pet.

Winter Safety Tips for Dogs & Cats

SIMPLE SAFETY TIPS TO ENJOY
A WORRY-FREE WINTER





BUNDLE UP THIS WINTER

If you have a puppy, kitten, or short-haired breed, consider purchasing a coat or sweater to cover their back and underside. As for long-haired breeds, let their fur grow out to help keep them warm and consider a coat or sweater for particularly cold outings.

**FLEECE IS A STURDY AND WARM
OPTION FOR WINTER PET CLOTHING.**

WINTER DIET

In the cold winter, your pet will burn more calories to keep warm. If your pet exercises outdoors a lot, think about increasing their food or treat intake by a little bit. But be careful — too much food can lead to potentially dangerous weight gain. You should be able to feel, but not see, your pet's ribs.

**TREATS SHOULD MAKE UP ONLY 5-10%
OF YOUR PET'S DIET. SOME HEALTHY
SNACKS INCLUDE CARROTS, ZUCCHINI,
AND BROCCOLI.**

PROTECT THOSE PAWS

The cold snow and ice can be a pain in the paw. Look out for snow and encrusted ice that can cause cracked, bleeding paws. If you notice any bleeding, call your veterinarian. Petroleum jelly is a safe way to protect those paws — you can also look into dog boots.

TROUBLESOME TOXINS

Salt and chemical deicers are commonly used during the winter, but unfortunately these substances are poisonous to pets. Try to avoid contact with deicers when outside with your pet and wipe them down with a wet towel then completely dry them off to remove any possible chemicals. Look for pet-friendly deicers and antifreeze if you need to use them.

ANTIFREEZE TOXICITY CAN COST MORE THAN \$2,000 TO TREAT.

BABY, IT'S COLD OUTSIDE

If it's not too cold out for you, your dog can get some aerobic exercise outside that will also keep them warm. Walking in wooded areas is a good way to protect them from chilly wind gusts. However, if it's too cold for exercise outside, consider some indoor options. Winter is a great time to look into obedience classes and indoor training, like agility and flyball. Other indoor exercise includes tug-of-war, fetch, or a playdate with a furry friend.

ALASKAN MALAMUTES ARE THE LARGEST AND OLDEST OF ARCTIC SLED DOGS.





HONK FOR SAFETY

During winter, outdoor cats in the area may find the engine block under the warm hood of your car to be a great spot to snooze. Before you start your car in the morning, bang on your hood a little or give a good honk to wake up any sleeping cats.

CHILLING IN THE CAR

Just like when it's hot out, don't leave your pet in your car when it's particularly cold out. Your car can act like a refrigerator as it holds in the cold. When in doubt, leave your pet at home when you know you'll have to leave them unattended in the car.

LEAVE THE FLAKES TO THE SNOW

Dogs and cats get dry, flaky skin in the winter just like humans do. Use a humidifier and provide plenty of drinking water in your home — your pet's skin will thank you. Bathe your pet less frequently and make sure to completely dry them after baths. Brushing their coat stimulates blood circulation and can help improve the overall condition of their skin.

FISH OIL CAN IMPROVE YOUR PET'S COAT AND SKIN — ASK YOUR VETERINARIAN ABOUT ADDING THIS SUPPLEMENT TO YOUR PET'S DIET.

HIBERNATION LOCATION

As it gets colder, your pet's sleeping preferences might change. They may look to different locations for more or less warmth, depending on the weather, their type of fur, and how warm you keep your home in cold months. Provide your pet with safe options for sleeping so they can adjust based on their needs.



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