

# ADVICE BEHAVIOUR

## 1 Mind the hot asphalt!

On hot days, be mindful that your pet's paws are sensitive and that some surfaces such as asphalt or the beach can get scorchingly hot under the sun. On hot days, taking care to exercise a dog in the morning or evening will help avoid heat stroke and the risk of injury to sensitive feet

## 2 Special needs for special pets

Short nosed dogs like boxers or bulldogs, as well as elderly or sick pets, have a harder time cooling down. For these pets, it is even more important to ensure they are kept indoors during the hottest hours of the day<sup>1,2,3</sup>. Don't trim your pets' fur too short as it acts as an insulator and protects them from the sun. Hairless breeds might need to wear pet-friendly sunscreen to protect their skin.

## 3 Tips for the heat

Cool down your pet, using wet towels or cool mats. Contact our team if you see signs that indicate they may be unwell or in distress. Clues may include marked inactivity, grumpiness, drooling, panting, or even reduced appetite<sup>2,3</sup>. Your pet also needs regular exercise to help prevent anxiety and obesity, so schedule your walks for cooler hours or plan indoor activities to keep them entertained and active<sup>2,3</sup>.

## 4 Loud noises and extreme weather

Thunderstorms can elicit strong fear reactions in pets called 'storm phobias'<sup>4</sup>. If you spot these reactions, stay calm to avoid reinforcing unwanted behaviour. Pets can also become irritable during extreme weather events, so be mindful of interactions with strangers and children<sup>5,6,7</sup>.

Pet behaviour can be complex.

**Ask our team if in doubt!**



## REFERENCES

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