

PET DANGERS!

BEWARE OF THE DANGERS HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT



DON'T LET YOUR DOG

OR CAT BE A VICTIM

PART OF OWNING PETS IS KNOWING HOW TO KEEP THEM SAFE

There are many items in and around the house that can be highly toxic and deadly to pets, even in very small quantities.

Many people are surprised at the items in this leaflet because they are generally day-to-day items in plain sight that you wouldn't have considered dangerous.

Please take note and make sure your pet does not get access to any of the following substances. If you think they have, then follow our advice in the section 'I think my pet has been poisoned' on the back of this leaflet.

plants

Danger list

Chocolate

Chocolate is extremely poisonous to dogs and cats. Unlike us, their bodies cannot process the theobromine and caffeine found in cocoa. If your pet eats chocolate they will need to go to the vets immediately to make them sick. The darker the chocolate the more dangerous it is due to the higher cocoa content.



Artificial sweetener (Xylitol)

Xylitol is an artificial sweetener found in products like chewing gum, dental products, confectionery and other sweet treats. It can cause severe illness and death in dogs when eaten.

and flowers

Many indoor and outdoor plants can be poisonous to dogs and cats if eaten. Visit the 'Poisoning' section on www.tvm-uk.com to find out more.

Lilies in particular are extremely toxic to cats - any part of the plant if ingested, can cause rapid and fatal kidney failure.





Grapes and their dried fruits

Did you know grapes, raisins, currants and sultanas are poisonous to dogs? The number that create toxicity varies between each dog; for some it may be a handful, for others just one. Never take the risk with your dog. Don't forget cooked foods that contain these items are just as dangerous e.g. fruit cake.



Onions and garlic

Ingestion of onions, garlic (and their relatives chives and leeks) can cause damage to red blood cells, leading to anaemia. Consumption of even small amounts repeatedly over time can also cause medical issues. Powdered onion/garlic is also problematic, and can be found in many food items such as instant gravy granules and stuffing.



Nicotine

Since the popularity of E-cigarette devices has increased, so have the cases in poisoned dogs. Chewing cigarettes or E-cig cartridge refills can cause life-threatening nicotine poisoning. Nicotine is a rapidly acting toxin that needs immediate veterinary attention.



Human Medication

One of the most common causes of accidental poisoning is dogs eating their owners' medication - or owners giving their pets human medication to try and help them. Even over the counter medications that are safe for us can kill your pet, so never take the risk and always seek advice from your vet if your pet is unwell for any reason. Always keep human medication out of the reach of prying paws.



Mould

Mouldy food found in the home or outside on the street can contain dangerous mycotoxins which, if ingested, can cause rapid and life threatening seizures and liver failure. Be careful to keep mouldy food (e.g. in food waste caddies) out of the reach of pets.



Antifreeze

How many of us use antifreeze to add to our windscreen wash or as a de-icer spray? The harmful substance in antifreeze is called ethylene glycol and is also found in other products such as radiator coolant, motor oils, hydraulic brake fluid, paints and solvents. As little as one tablespoon of antifreeze can cause kidney failure in a dog, and as little as one teaspoon can kill a cat.

Slug bait

Be careful not to put any slug bait where it can be eaten by your pet. Slug bait is commonly found as pellets, liquid or powder and contains the highly toxic ingredient 'metaldehyde'. It is often also sweetened, which makes it attractive to our pets.

**TAKE EXTRA CARE AT
CERTAIN TIMES OF THE
YEAR LIKE CHRISTMAS
AND EASTER**



Cleaners

Most cleaners and detergents (including laundry pods) can cause serious problems if eaten by your pet. Always keep them out of the reach and sight of pets (and children).



Rat poison

The most commonly used class of rat poison in the UK is what is called an 'anticoagulant' poison. It stops the blood from clotting and causes the rat to bleed to death.

Unfortunately, the same symptoms can occur in any animal that eats it. There is an antidote to rat poisoning, but your pet must be seen by a vet quickly for the best chance of recovery.



- Tinsel and baubles can cause severe internal damage
- Chewed fairy lights can cause electrocution
- Ingesting pine cones can cause obstruction
- Alcohol is often in abundance and easily accessible to pets.
- Increased amounts of chocolate and raisin containing foods (mince pies, Christmas cake/pudding, Hot Cross Buns)
- Many visitors who may not be aware of the dangers of certain items



WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I THINK MY PET HAS BEEN POISONED?

S.P.E.E.D is key, follow the acronym below and act immediately. NEVER just wait and see as there may only be a small window in which treatment can be given to help your pet - and often this may be before any symptoms have started showing.


In many cases, the sooner treatment is given the higher the chance of a successful outcome for your pet.

If your dog or cat eats poison, S.P.E.E.D. is of the essence!

- S** Stop the pet from eating any more suspected poison
- P** Phone the vets
- E** Emergency appointment
- E** Evidence - Bring labels/samples/vomit (in a safe manner)
- D** Don't delay!

FURTHER INFORMATION

 Check out our website at www.tvm-uk.com

 Follow us at [@petdangers](https://www.facebook.com/petdangers) for information updates and FAQ's

Scan the QR code to find out more



Use Medicines Responsibly (www.noah.co.uk/responsible).

For further information please contact TVM-UK Animal Health Ltd, Kirtlington Business Centre, Slade Farm, Kirtlington, Oxfordshire, UK. OX5 3JA. tvm-uk.com