



Wags and Purrs Comfort Corner

The Importance of Pet First Aid and CPR



April is Pet First Aid Awareness Month! This month is the perfect time to refresh basic pet first aid techniques that could save a pet's life! Pet parents can't just call 911 in case their pet has a life-threatening emergency! For this reason, pet parents should always know how to assess a pet's basic vitals. If you are interested in learning more or becoming certified in Pet First Aid and CPR, Jen is a Certified PetTech Pet First Aid and CPR instructor! For more information on the PetTech classes, to view upcoming classes and locations, or sign up for a class please visit the [Pet First Aid Classes](#) link on our website!

Many Veterinarians and emergency hospitals are currently short staffed or working with shorter business hours than normal. Learning basic pet first aid can help a pet parent check for vitals, and sustain life in an emergency, or even on the way to the veterinarian or emergency hospital.

When assessing a pet's vitals, check for heart rate, breathing and gum color.

Checking Heart Rate: The easiest and least invasive place to check a heart rate on a pet is the femoral artery, which is located on the inside of the thigh of the back legs. Move around fingers inside the upper thigh, feeling

Health Tip for the Season

When an emergency happens, every second counts! Always keep a list of emergency pet hospitals and poison control numbers in a safe place that is easily accessible at all times. In addition, speak with your pet's health care provider about an after-hours phone number where they can be reached should an emergency happen. Below are the phone numbers for local emergency pet hospitals and poison control numbers.

Poison Control

- ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center 1-888-426-4435
- Pet Poison Helpline 1-800-213-6680

Emergency Vets

- Pittsburgh Veterinary Specialty & Emergency Center (PVSEC) 412-366-3400
- VCA Castle Shannon Animal Hospital 412-265-4264
- Allegheny Veterinary Emergency Trauma & Specialty (AVETS) 412-373-4200
- Northview Animal Hospital 412-364-5353
- Med Vet 724-717-2273

for a slight depression. Once you've located the femoral artery, use a watch to count the number of beats for six seconds, then add a zero to that number OR count the beats for 15 seconds and multiply by 4. The resting heart rate for adult dogs is between 60-140 beats per minute. The resting heart rate for cats can vary from 140-250 beats per minute.

Check breathing: You can visually or manually check your pet's breathing. Place your hand on the side of the chest or watch for the rise and fall of the chest; count the rises or the falls for 30 seconds and double to get breaths per minute. Your pet's breathing should be even, smooth and rhythmic while at rest. The resting breath rate for dogs is 10-30 breaths per minute. Cats can breathe at 20-30 breaths per minute.

Gum color: Gum color can assist you in determining the immediate underlying health issue of your pet. As a general rule: pale/white can mean anemia; yellow can indicate jaundice and a blue/gray color can indicate lack of oxygen in the cells. If your pet's gums are pale in color and the mouth and saliva is tacky, seek care IMMEDIATELY.

For more information on pet first aid, including CPR, rescue breathing, what every pet parent should have in their emergency first aid kit, and what items are poisonous to pets, please visit our blog article [Pet First Aid and Emergency Techniques](#) or consider signing up for [Jen's PetTech Pet First Aid and CPR class](#).

[Training Tip for the Season](#)

All pets can bite! Even well trained and normally docile pets can react very differently when they are scared or in pain. For this reason, it's crucial for a pet to be muzzle trained before an emergency happens. Muzzling an injured pet can help keep the pet, pet parent and emergency personnel safe while providing care for your pet. [Visit the Muzzle up project](#) for more information on education and training with muzzles.

[Pet Sitter Tip for the Season](#)

Regularly check your account profile to ensure all information is current and up-to-date, especially all emergency contact information. All pet parents should make it a point to check their profile before leaving for vacation or going out of town for any reason. If a pet emergency happens when a pet parent is away, the pet's profile can be used to reach someone or the pet's healthcare provider.

Featured Product of the Month





Muzzles

There are many times a muzzle will benefit a pet parent, pet, groomer or their health care provider. Injured and sick pets can react out of pain and bite their caretakers. A frightened or anxious pet is also more apt to bite. Training a pet to wear a muzzle before they need it will help them feel more confident if the need should arise. For more information on the importance of muzzle training, and how to properly muzzle a pet, please visit [The Muzzle Up Project](#).

Shown above:

Baskerville Dog Muzzle

Mesh Muzzle for Brachycephalic Dogs

Mesh Cat Muzzle

April Birthdays



April Pet Birthdays

Ozzy Kamikazi Crow
Yoshi Tarbett
Nala Pittsonberger
Mazzie Tomko
Rose Stefanos
Bunny Stefanos
Roscoe Landry
Molly Landry
Buttons Sciarrino

Rosy Labrasca
Jackson Probst
Pugsley Probst
Kali Berard
Logan Bradley
Charlie Adams
Murphy Madalinsky
Jax Luffy
Bruno Borrasso
Clyde Davis
Quill Botts
Jax Michelle
Mac Silvio
Buffett Karelitz
Lud Corbalan
Harvey Falk
Topanga Miller
Grace Flynn
Lucy Labrasca
Petty Coleman
Molly Soxman
Sadie Cunningham
Bella Noll
Echo Kowalski
Bobbie Hommel
Brooklyn Hommel
Layla Mancuso

Happy Birthday, all! Paw-ty hard!

Healthy Homemade Treats for the Season

Peanut Butter Carrot Cake

Ingredients

- 1 cup flour
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1/4 cup peanut butter
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil
- 1 cup shredded carrots
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1/3 cup honey
- 1 egg



Directions

Preheat oven to 350

In large bowl mix all ingredients together.

Spread into a greased 8x8 baking pan.

Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes.

Cool in fridge, cut and serve.

Carrot and Sweet Potato Kitty Treats

Ingredients

- 1/2 large carrot, peeled and diced
- 1/2 sweet potato, peeled and diced
- 1 tsp. vegetable oil
- 1 tsp. brown sugar
- 1/2 tsp. whole wheat flour
- 1 tsp. ground cinnamon



Directions

Preheat oven to 500F

Mix carrots and sweet potatoes in small bowl with vegetable oil

Add brown sugar, whole wheat flour and mix until veggies are lightly coated

Spread out in one single layer on a lightly greased foil wrapped baking pan and sprinkle with cinnamon

Bake for 25-30 minutes or until crispy

Remove from oven and let cool

Barking Truth

Clients, followers and friends have voiced their appreciation of our educational blogs and monthly newsletters and have urged us to release a pet care podcast. We are excited to announce that we have answered the call with The Barking Truth, a podcast exposing the truth in the pet industry to keep all pets safe, healthy and well.

We will be releasing a new podcast every Wednesday and hope you can tune in and support pets everywhere by uncovering the truth of pet care.

Be sure to follow us on Anchor, Spotify or your favorite podcast service.



Barking Truth

By Comfort at Home Pet Services

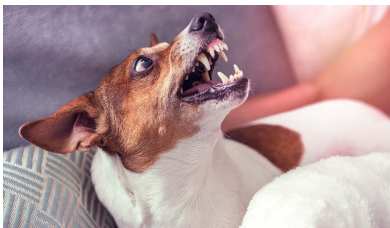


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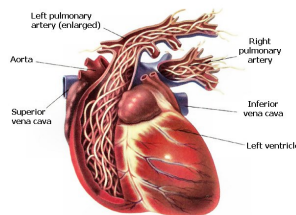
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