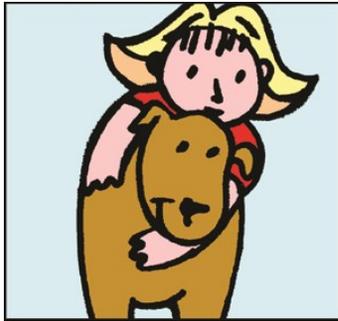
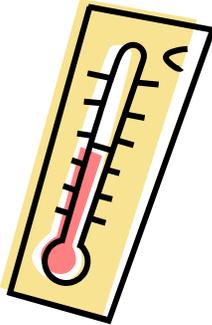


With white dogs and dogs with little or no hair, you have to be careful not to expose them to the sun for too long. Like humans, dogs can develop skin cancer.

You will want to apply pet safe sunscreen to any exposed skin before heading outdoors.

If your dog wears a muzzle outdoors—you must use a basket type muzzle that will allow your dog to drink and pant. Nylon muzzles should only be worn for very short periods of time or your dog will overheat.



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Signs of Heat Stroke:

- Heavy panting and difficulty breathing.
- Bright red tongue and mucous membrane.
- The saliva is thick and the dog often vomits.
- The rectal temperature rises to 104° to 110°F (normal body temperature is 101).
- The dog becomes progressively unsteady and passes bloody diarrhea.

Treatment:

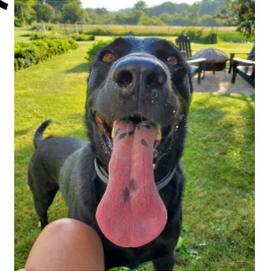
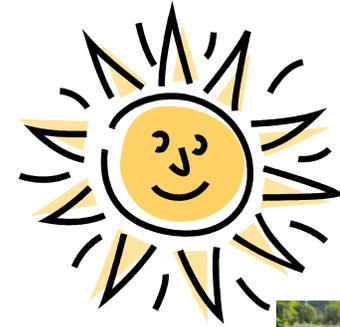
Move the dog out of the source of heat, preferably into an air-conditioned building. If the rectal temperature is above 104°F, begin rapid cooling by spraying the dog with a garden hose or immersing him in a tub of cool water (not ice water) for up to two minutes. Place the wet dog in front of an electric fan. Cool packs applied to the groin area may be helpful, as well as wiping his paws off with cool water. Monitor his rectal temperature and continue the cooling process until the rectal temperature falls below 103°F (39°C). At this point, stop the cooling process and dry the dog. Further cooling may induce hypothermia and shock.

Following an episode of heat stroke, take your dog to a veterinarian as soon as possible.

Excerpted from WebMD.

Is Your Dog Too Hot To Trot?

Keeping Your Dog Cool In Warm Weather



It's summer and naturally you will want to spend as much time outdoors with your four-legged companion as possible. But before you head out with your pooch into that bright, sunny, day—there are some things that you need to know.

No Sweat!!

Humans bodies have a terrific way of dealing with the heat. We sweat. Perspiration helps us to regulate our internal body temperature. Heat squeezes out the pores of our skin in beads of sweat and is whisked away when the sweat evaporates.



Since dogs are covered with hair, they are terribly inefficient at regulating their body temperatures. They sweat through the pads of their feet and they pant. When a dog pants, he is releasing heat through his saliva.

Because dogs are limited as to how they can regulate their body temperature on warm days, they can easily overheat. Even though a beautiful summer day may seem like the perfect opportunity to have some human-dog bonding time. It is important that you exercise with caution.

Run Forest, Run

Since the hottest time of the day is typically between 10-3, consider exercising your dog early in the morning or late in the afternoon. Retiring to the woods where there will most likely will be shade and even better—a place to wade, would be a good choice on a hot day. Remember to bring plenty of water.

Dog As Co-Pilot

Leaving your dog in a car on a warm day can be dangerous. On an 85 degree day, the temperature inside a car with the windows slightly open can reach 102 degrees within 10 minutes. Don't do it. You could do serious harm to your pup

Estimated Vehicle Interior Air Temperature v. Elapsed Time

Elapsed time	Outside Air Temperature (F)					
	70	75	80	85	90	95
0 minutes	70	75	80	85	90	95
10 minutes	89	94	99	104	109	114
20 minutes	99	104	109	114	119	124
30 minutes	104	109	114	119	124	129
40 minutes	108	113	118	123	128	133
50 minutes	111	116	121	126	131	136
60 minutes	113	118	123	128	133	138
> 1 hour	115	120	125	130	135	140

Courtesy Jan Null, CCM, Department of Geosciences, San Francisco State University

Tender Tootsies

We don't often think about how our dogs feet may fare when we're walking on hot surfaces like hot sand, asphalt or metal surfaces like a floating dock. Generally speaking, if it's



too hot to go barefoot, it's too hot for your dog's feet too. Here's a tip: Touch the palm of your hand to the ground. Can you hold it there without it burning? If you can't, it's probably too hot for your dog's feet too.

Flat Noses? Take Care

Boxers, Pugs, Bulldogs and Boston Terriers—the flat nose breeds, have a particularly hard time with the heat. These dogs suffer from BAS—brachycephalic airflow syndrome which causes insufficient breathing and therefore insufficient cooling. These dogs can easily suffer from heat stroke so take care when you expose these dogs to the elements.



A Few Extra Things to Remember

The color and age and weight of your dog may have an influence on how well he or she may be able to do in warm weather. Very young dogs, senior dogs, or dogs with excess weight will not be able to tolerate heat as well.

The color and thickness of your dog's fur can also impact their comfort on warm days. You may choose to have a "puppy cut" done on a dog with longer fur. This is where the coat is cut back to between one and two inches in length all over the body.