



Pet Tales

with Charis



Summer is Coming !

As the weather starts to brighten and the heat of the day begins to rise it's always pertinent to discuss ways to ensure your dog is happy and safe during the summer months so we can all be prepared. Here's a few of our top tips.

1. Avoid walking in the midday high heat on those hotter days. Schedule your walks for before 11am and after 3pm so as to avoid your dogs over exerting during the days high heat. If you use a dog walker make sure you discuss timings with them for those hot days so you can be sure your pooch isn't going to over heat.
2. Seek out the woods and the streams. Organise your walks around wooded areas and those with fresh streams so that your dog is able to keep cool on your longer walks (and so can you!).
3. Shorten your walks where necessary. If avoiding the midday heat or walking in shaded areas isn't available to you then shorten your walk and play scenting games and training games with your dog for the remaining time in shaded areas of your garden or cool areas of your house.
4. Monitor the sun worshippers. If you have a pooch that loves a good sunbathing session make sure you monitor how long they sunbathe for and encourage them to take regular breaks if they don't self regulate their heat.
5. Sun cream. Get yourself some animal friendly sun cream (aloe Vera based ones are the best) to use on your pooch (especially white dogs) to ensure they are protected from those harmful rays. Make sure you cover them on their nose, ears and underbelly where they will catch the sun the most.
6. Cooling doggy treats. Use ice cubes in water, part-frozen stuffed Kongs, carrots stored in the fridge or doggy ice-cream or frozen yoghurt amongst other yummy cooking dog treats to help them to regulate temperature.
7. If on a day out with your pooch make sure you find the shelter from the powerful sun whenever possible, take plenty of drinking water alongside a receptacle your dog is familiar with and NEVER leave your dog in a hot car. Plan ahead so you know where you need to stop off for a cool down.

Enjoy those summer months and stay safe !

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"A well behaved pet will make your life easier and your pet happier"
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