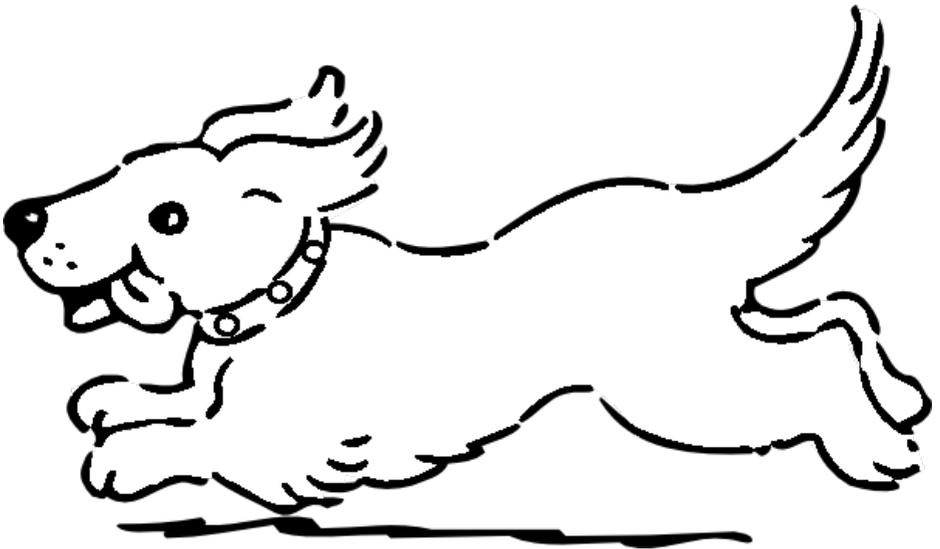
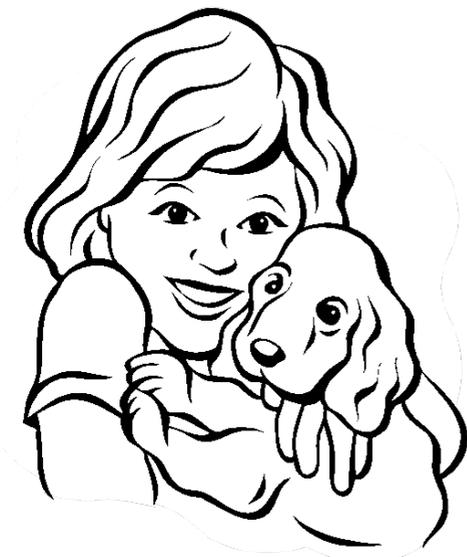


Life Hacks for Hounds and Hoo-mans!



This booklet belongs to:

Hounds at home



Coming in

Keep baby wipes handy to wipe paws before they track in dirt from the great outdoors.

Make a dog-walking station in your hallway if you have more than one dog.

Keeping things tidy

If you've got a teething

pup who loves destroying cords, spritz bitter apple spray onto a paper towel and wipe the cord with it.

Have an extra kitchen drawer? Use it as a dog food holder. Use a plastic pitcher to store and dispense dog food.

To remove pet hair from upholstery, dampen a rubber glove and run your gloved hand over it. It'll pick up the hairs.

If you have a pet-hair covered carpet, go over it in long strokes with a squeegee for cleaning windows – the rubber strip will push all the hair together so that you can collect and bin it.



Bathtime

Use a teapot to rinse your dog off in the bathtub without getting water and soap in their eyes. If you're only washing mud off their coat, put a shower cap over their ears; getting water in their ears is why most dogs hate the bath.

Little accidents

Put towelling sheets for baby beds or cradles onto your pet's bed. You can easily whip off the sheets and wash them, without struggling to take the tight cover off a dog bed.

Peeing on the carpet sometimes happens with puppies and older dogs. Pour a little baking soda over the spot, let it sit for five minutes, then vacuum or sweep it up.

Backyard

On a hot summer day, fill up an inflatable pool with water and ice.

Invest in an escape-prevention harness if you have a small dog and a fenced-in yard.



Make an ice lick by freezing toys, bones, or chicken broth into a cake mould, then let your hounds lick it to bits in the yard – it keeps them entertained for hours!

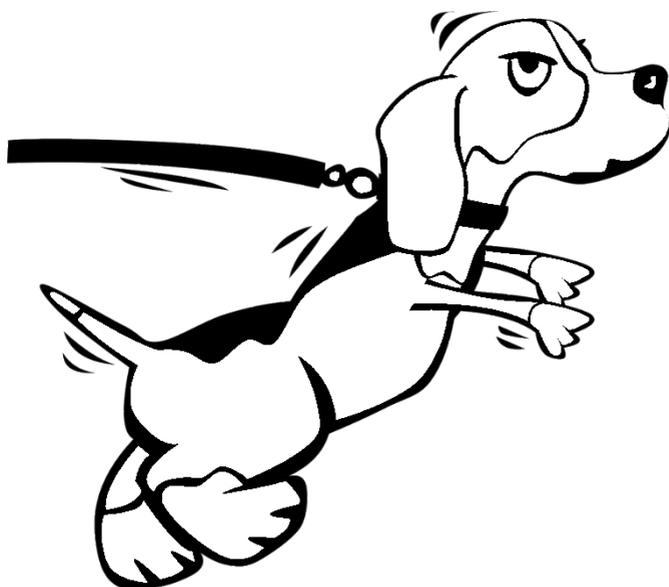
Find a pattern on the internet for turning an old pair of cargo pants into a cooling vest for your dog. Put ice-packs in the pockets and fit the vest around your dog – it'll drop their temperature slowly. The same goes for heat if you have an injured or arthritic dog.

Snuggling easy

Sprinkle parsley on your dog's food for fresher breath.

Teach your dog to file his or her own nails by attaching sandpaper to a piece of wood.

Hounds on the go



Accessories

Turn an empty pancake-syrup bottle into a portable and squirtable water bottle. Use a carabiner to attach it to a belt loop for a long hike.

A carabiner is a quick and easy way to leash your dog.

High energy hounds

High-energy dogs can carry water and waste bags on long walks. It gives them a job which challenges them mentally and physically – and you don't have to run a marathon with them to tire them out!

Beat the street heat

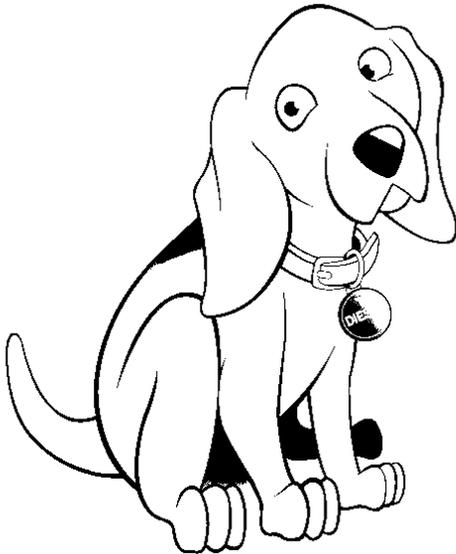
If the pavement is so hot that you can't walk comfortably then your dog's paw pads will also burn. Walking early in the morning or later in the evening will prevent burned paws. The same goes for snow and cold.

Remember, a dog's paws are just as sensitive as your hands.



Never, EVER leave pets in a hot car!

The temperature can rise to fatal levels in just ten minutes. Opening a window doesn't make much difference – **either take your dog with you or leave them at home.** Pets can suffer brain injury, severe heatstroke and death.



Getting lost

If your dog gets lost, there are a couple of things you can do before panicking.

Take an item of your clothing that you've worn at least all day – the longer the better, such as pyjamas or a singlet. Leave it at the location where you last saw your dog. You can also leave a familiar toy or blanket

(with a note asking for the things not to be moved).

Put a bowl of water there too, but don't bring food, as it could attract other animals that your dog might avoid. Come back the next day, or check intermittently if you can. If you're on a holiday and must leave, explain what you've done to a local person, and ask them to watch for the dog. Leave your number and your vet's details in case the watcher spots your dog – and be prepared to pay for them to come home!

Healthy Hounds



First Aid Kit

You'll need a zippered or sealable box or bag which is lightweight and waterproof.

- Latex-free exam gloves
- Tweezers will help in removing splinters
- Safety-tipped scissors
- Fast-read digital thermometer
- Tick removal tool or pads
- Cotton balls help to clean and apply antiseptic to small wounds and bites, and to clean ears
- Sterile gauze for bandaging or cleaning wounds, or to stop bleeding if you wad them and put pressure on the wound

First Aid Kit continued

- Instant heat packs to warm a hypothermic pet and soothe joint and muscle injuries. Cool packs help burned skin and reduce inflammation and pain
- Liquid bandage (but make sure to find one specifically formulated for pets)
- Ear wash/cleaner
- Eye rinse
- Wound wash/antiseptic rinse (or antiseptic wound wipes)
- Antibiotic skin cream or ointment
- Benadryl (or other dog-safe antihistamine) for quick treatment of dangerous bug bites and bee stings. Find the dye-free "liqui-gel" capsules and tape a safety pin to the back of the silver foil pack. In an emergency, pop the capsule and squeeze directly into your dog's mouth
- Styptic powder stops bleeding quickly
- 3% hydrogen peroxide to help induce vomiting. Dosage is one teaspoon for every 5kg of your dog's body weight, given orally. Hydrogen peroxide loses its efficacy over time. Check your bottle for an expiration date and write it in the calendar!
- A syringe for administering liquid medications, providing fluids when necessary, or flushing wounds
- Pet bandages (requires no clips or tape, but adheres to itself without sticking to or pulling on pet hair), which can also be used as a tourniquet if needed

If you're going away with your dog, make sure you have their medical records, medications, an extra collar and leash, towels and a blanket. Put the numbers of your regular vet, closest emergency vet, local animal control, and pet poison hotline into your phone.

If you and your dog go on long bushwalks, take materials for creating a splint in the event of a sprain or broken bone. Tongue depressors or short dowel rods and strips of fabric or surgical tape will work well.



Fleas

Make your own flea shampoo. 1 cup mild dish-washing liquid for sensitive skin, 1 cup vinegar, and 1 quart of warm water. Massage in and let it sit for five minutes.

Hydration

If your dog isn't feeling well, add some low-sodium chicken broth to the drinking water.

Medicine

Make your own pill pockets when you need to feed your dog some medicine. Mix together 1 tablespoon of milk with 1 tablespoon of crunchy peanut butter and 2 tablespoons of flour. Mix it together and make 12 small pockets (like Rolo lollies) that you can pop a pill into. Store them in the fridge or freezer.

Paws

Some dogs hate the feeling of regular nail clippers, as they can put pressure on the nail quick and cause discomfort. With a bit of patience, you can train many dogs to accept a Dremel. The Dremel bit does not put pressure on the nail quick like regular dog clippers. Just remember to trim back longer hair that is around the paws so that it doesn't get caught in the tool. Also, use the sanding drum and constantly put your finger on it to check it when it's not moving to make sure it's not building up too much heat.

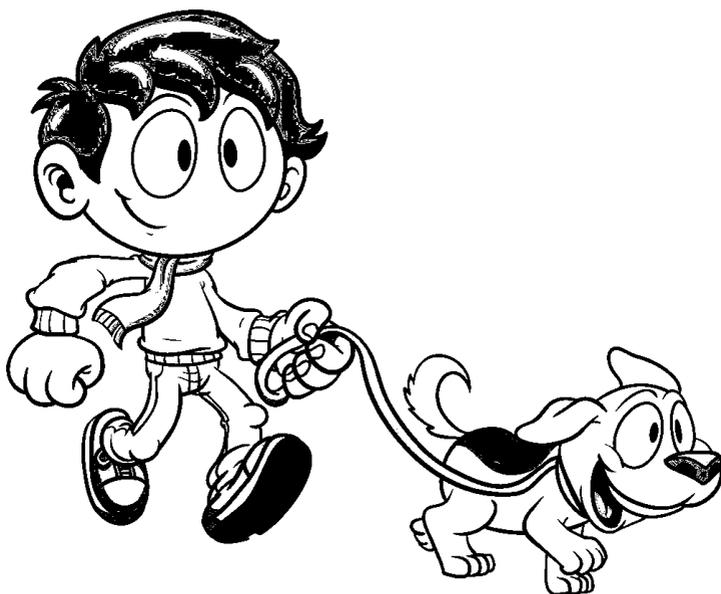


Pearly whites

If the dog is difficult about tooth-brushing, squeeze some enzymatic doggie toothpaste onto a Nylabone or rope toy and let them chew and lick it off. Never give them human toothpaste – dogs

can't spit, so they can't get rid of the foam.

If you have an older dog with tooth troubles, add a little water or chicken broth to his or her kibble and microwave for 20 to 30 seconds.



Ticks

For easy tick removal, apply a glob of liquid soap to a cotton ball and swab the tick with the cotton ball for a few seconds.

Upset tummy

If your dog has a tummy upset and there's nothing seriously wrong, a small amount of cooked rice and plain, boiled chicken can give them solids, nutrients, and an appetite to start eating again. Just don't give too much - a little bit less than they'll eat, which will make them want more.

Money

Some insurance companies will also cover your companion animals for a small amount extra. If this seems expensive, think about whether you can really afford a pet!

Happy Hounds



Storms

Run a tumble-dryer sheet over your dog's fur when there's a storm. They're probably more bothered by the static electricity which has built up in their fur than by the noise.

Toys

For a dog who loves to tear apart stuffed animals, make a durable activity ball with a Hol-ee rubber ball, scraps of fabric, and treats.

Wolfing food

For dogs who gulp their food, put a tennis ball in their bowl with the kibble. They have to chase the ball around to get the biscuits, and this slows them down. But don't put too small a ball in, or they'll swallow it!

Music

Classical music soothes many dogs and humans! The steady beat calms lots of dogs down.

If your dog runs away from you

If you chase after Fido, he's only going to keep running. Fall to the ground like you're in pain and give your best Oscar-winning performance. Your dog should run up to you and make sure you're okay. If that fails, you could try running in the opposite direction, so that your pooch starts chasing YOU.



Separation anxiety

Cut open a tennis ball and fill it with food and treats, then throw it to the dog in the morning just before you leave to give them something else to focus on.

Instead of buying special Kong stuffing, stuff a Kong with cheese cubes and place in the microwave for five seconds. The cheese will melt just enough to stick to the inside of the Kong.

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