



Household Meds that are Safe and that are Not Safe for your Dog

Congratulations on your new puppy, we hope that he or she will be a wonderful addition to your family!

As humans, we continually suffer from minor physical aches and pains, from common colds to stomach aches and headaches. Dogs are no different, and when your dog is showing visible signs of discomfort, he or she may be suffering from the same aches that we often experience.

As a responsible dog owner, it's not uncommon for you to feel bad for your dog and empathize with his or her discomfort. But is there more you can do? According to modern veterinary science, there are actually several human medications that are safe and effective for dogs and other animals.

Below are several helpful treatments you can give to your dogs to ease their pains and distress. Always exercise caution when treating dogs and be sure to only offer these treatments in suitable doses.

- ***Pepto Bismol***

Pepto Bismol is a human medication that's safe for dogs because it relieves diarrhea, upset stomach and related symptoms. The ingredients in Pepto Bismol aren't toxic to dogs and like humans; dogs can see relatively quick relief from Pepto Bismol. The standard dosage for Pepto Bismol is one teaspoon for every five pounds of your dog's weight (every six hours).

- ***Benadryl***

If your dog is suffering from allergies, itching and related signs of discomfort, Benadryl can be a safe, effective way to help your furry friend. The Benadryl dosage depends on the severity of the situation, but in general, you can give your dog ½ to 1 milligram per pound of your dog's weight (every eight hours).

- ***Buffered Aspirin***

Buffered aspirin can relieve basic pain in your dog. Aspirin is an anti-inflammatory that can help with muscle, joint and other pain. Give your dog five milligrams per pound every 12 hours.

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- ***Dramamine***
Dogs, like humans, can suffer from motion sickness and other movement-related discomforts. The dosage for Dramamine depends on the size of your dog and the severity of the situation, but you can give your dog up to 50 milligrams of Dramamine every eight hours.
- ***Hydrogen Peroxide***
Hydrogen peroxide is commonly used to induce vomiting in dogs after they've eaten something they shouldn't have. If your dog has ingested something that could be potentially hazardous, ten milliliters of hydrogen peroxide every 15 minutes can induce vomiting and allow your dog to avoid a potentially more serious health complication.
- ***Robitussin***
Tussin, as some populations refer to it, can ease your dog's coughing, wheezing, hacking and other rough throat issues. Dosage for Robitussin is minimal: one teaspoon for every 20 pounds, every 8 – 12 hours.
- ***Mineral Oil***
Dogs suffer from digestive problems that can cause constipation and other problems. Mineral oil, in small doses, can relieve the digestive system and prevent constipation. Give your dog up to four tablespoons daily depending on the size of your dog and the severity of his or her digestive problems.
- ***Imodium AD***
Imodium AD in the tablet or liquid form can be given to dogs with diarrhea. A dog's dosage for Imodium AD should be one milliliter per pound (liquid) or one milligram per 20 pounds (tablet) every eight hours.



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Medications that ARE NOT SAFE for Dogs

According to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) and various dog health organizations, these are the top medications that are most responsible for poisoning pets.

Again, these human medications should never be used for dogs. This is a short list and if you are ever faced with a questionable medication that isn't listed below, always contact your veterinarian before medicating your dog. As a general rule, if you are unsure about the effects of the drug, do not give it your pet.

These medications are extremely poisonous to dogs and other pets:

- Alcohol
- Ibuprofen and Naproxen
- Acetaminophen (Tylenol)
- Antidepressants
- Pseudoephedrine
- Baclofen
- Benzocaine
- Illegal recreational drugs
- Caffeine

Giving your dog medication can relieve pain and discomfort, but you should never put your dog in danger. Never give your dog a greater dosage than recommended, as dogs and other pets have sensitive stomachs that can be easily pained by the slightest increase in medication dosages. Remember: your dog's health and safety should be of the utmost importance!

**24/7 Animal Poison Control Center
800-213-6680**

[\\$39 per incident fee applies](#)

<http://www.petpoisonhelpline.com/veterinarians/free-resources-clinic-clients/>



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