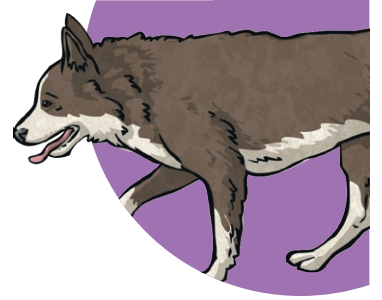


# Pet Care of a Dog



Dogs are hugely popular pets. In fact, there are eight and a half million dogs being kept as pets in the UK.

## Food and Drink

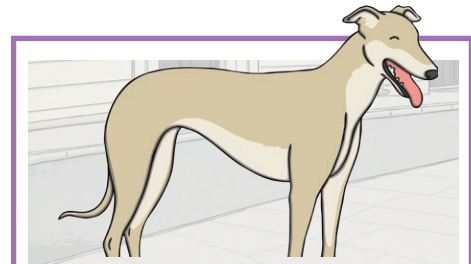
Dogs need a good diet of meat and plant-based foods. It is important that they have one meal a day. They have sharp teeth for tearing meat, and molars for grinding. It is important that they have fresh, clean water to keep them healthy.

## Environment

Dogs need a comfortable and quiet environment to sleep in peace. Dogs need a place where they can go if they are frightened. Some dogs get more scared than others and need somewhere to feel safe.

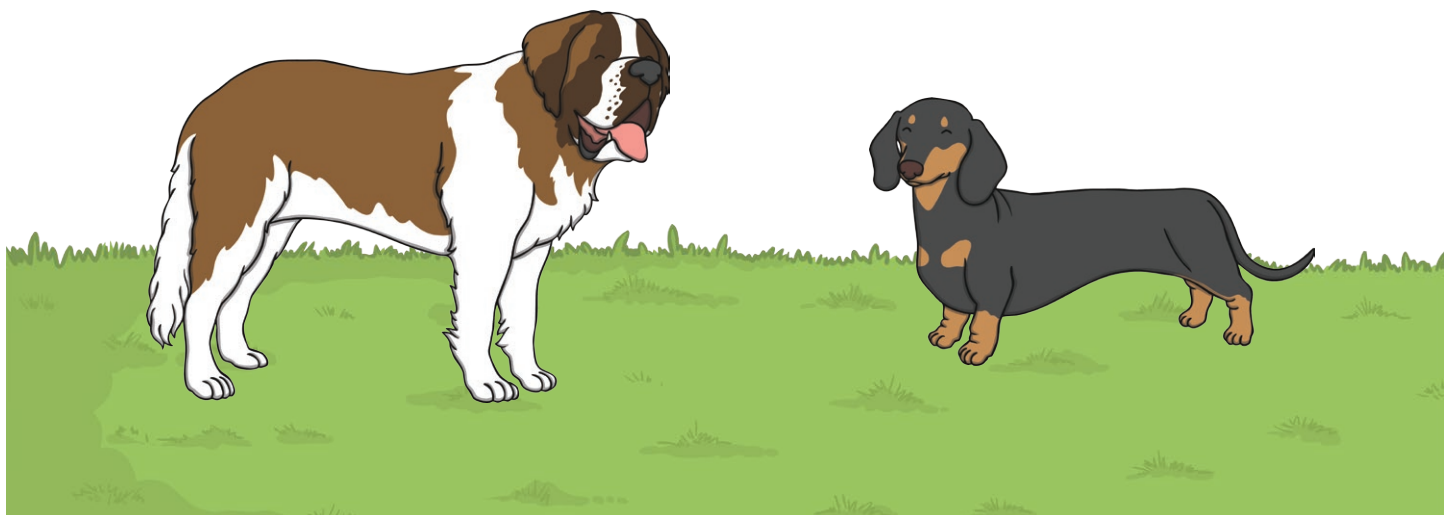
## Dog Behaviour

Dogs are clever and playful. They need to be exercised and have toys to play with. Different breeds of dog have different skills, which you need to consider when looking after them. Some will want longer walks, others will prefer more time spent playing!



### Did You Know?

The fastest recorded speed for a greyhound dog was 42 miles per hour!



### Changes in Behaviour

When a dog is licking its lips with their ears back, and not looking at the owner it might be feeling worried.

If a dog is lying down, with its ears flat, showing its teeth, with its tail between its legs then it is probably unhappy or angry.



### Dangers to Dogs

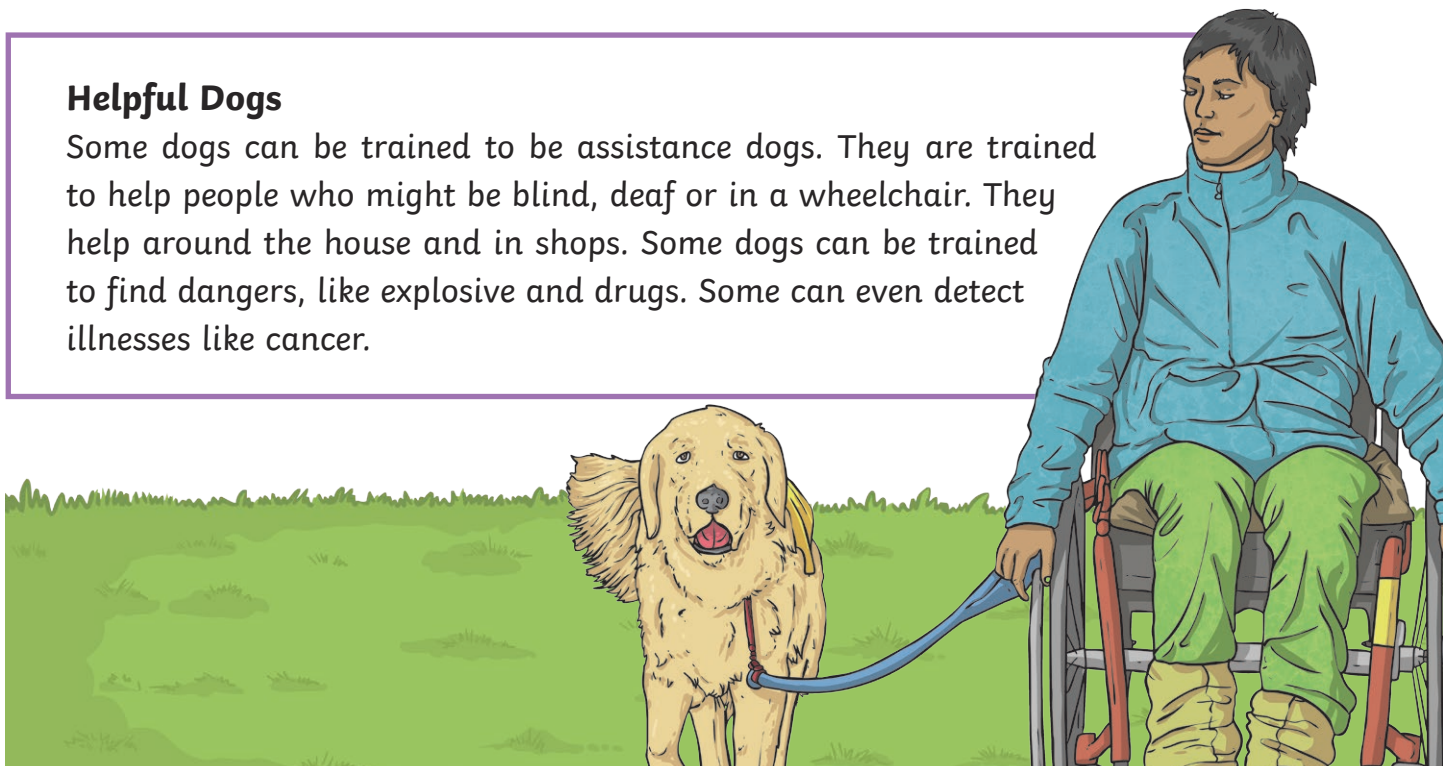
Dogs are interested in everything! They need to be watched to make sure they are safe.

These things are poisonous for a dog:

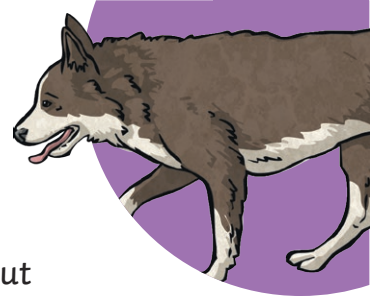
- Chocolate
- Raisins
- Grapes
- Sultanas

### Helpful Dogs

Some dogs can be trained to be assistance dogs. They are trained to help people who might be blind, deaf or in a wheelchair. They help around the house and in shops. Some dogs can be trained to find dangers, like explosive and drugs. Some can even detect illnesses like cancer.



# Pet Care of a Dog



Dogs are hugely popular pets. In fact, there are eight and a half million dogs being kept as pets in the UK alone.

Dogs are known as man's best friend, but how much do we know about them and should they be cared for?

## Food and Drink

Dogs need a well-balanced diet of meat and plant-based foods. They need one meal a day (unless a vet gives different advice for your type of dog). Their teeth are well-developed, with sharp teeth for tearing meat, and molars for grinding other foods.

They must be able to get to clean, fresh water at all times, otherwise they could become very poorly.

## Environment

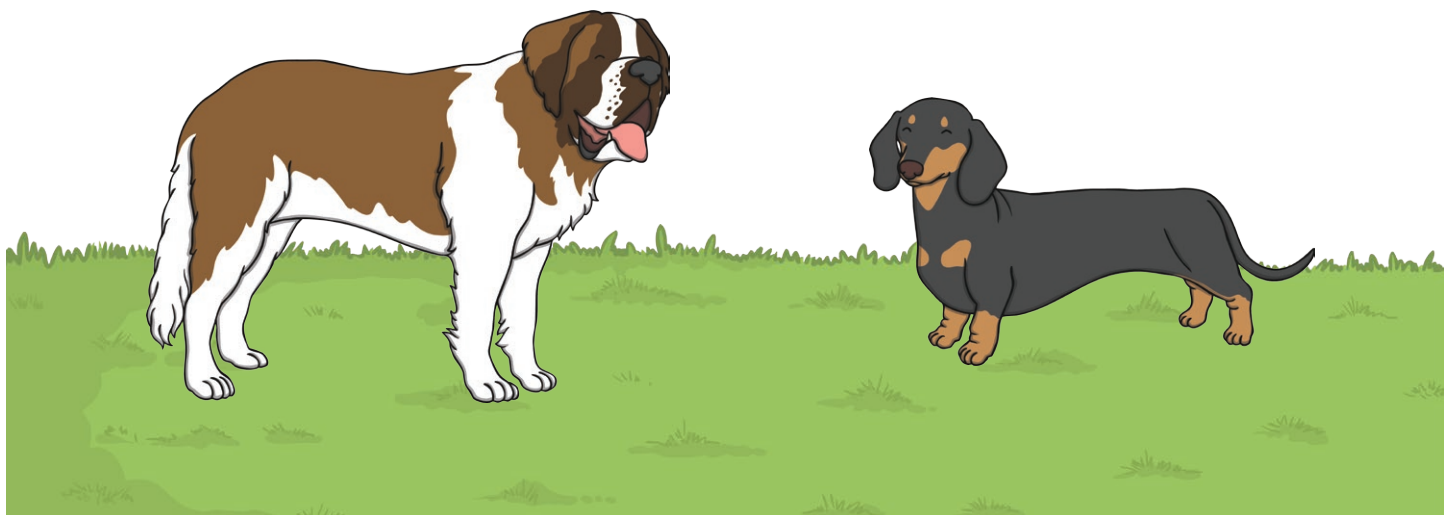
Dogs need a comfortable, clean and quiet environment to sleep, undisturbed.

They have different personalities and some dogs get scared more easily than others. Rescue dogs, for instance, might have had bad experiences that make them nervous.



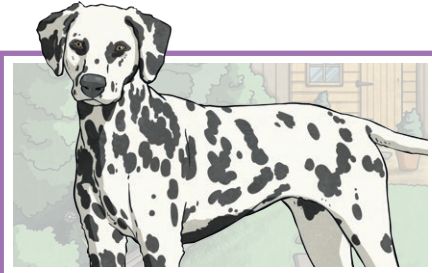
### Did You Know?

Dogs are descended from wolves.



### Dog Behaviour

Dogs are intelligent, playful animals and need to be exercised and have toys to play with. There are 400 different breeds of dog and each breed has different traits particular to its breed. Some are bred to be small and fast, to find rabbits down their burrows; others are big and strong, bred for pulling things. Dogs have instincts from their ancestors' days in the wild, herding, hunting, retrieving and tracking. This means that they play, fetch, run, jump and explore to stay happy and healthy.



#### Did You Know?

Dogs can hear sounds four times quieter than humans can hear!

### Changes in Behaviour

A dog which is licking its lips with its ears back and which is not looking at you might be feeling worried. A dog which is lying down, cowering, with its ears flat, baring its teeth and with its tail between its legs could be feeling unhappy or angry.



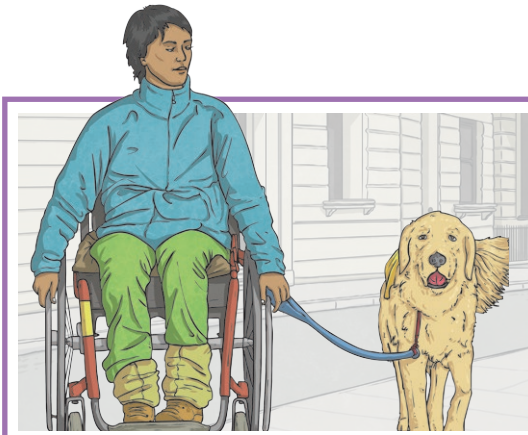
#### Training a Dog

Dogs need to be given treats when they have done something well. They should not be shouted at, as they don't understand what this means. They need regular, clear instructions.

## Dangers to Dogs

Dogs are curious and need to be watched to make sure they are safe at all times. Some items are poisonous to dogs:

- Foods like chocolate, onions, raisins, grapes and sultanas are very poisonous for dogs, causing them to become extremely ill if they eat them.
- Slug and rat poison can make dogs seriously ill and can even result in death!

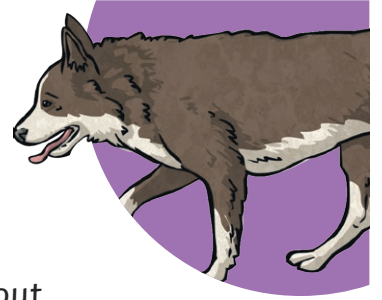


## Helpful Dogs

Some dogs can be trained to be assistance dogs. Some are trained to help disabled people around their house and with their shopping, others help to sniff out explosives, drugs and can even help to detect illnesses like cancer.



# Pet Care of a Dog



Dogs are hugely popular pets. In fact, there are eight and a half million dogs being kept as pets in the UK alone.

Dogs are known as man's best friend, but how much do we know about them and how should they be cared for?

## Diet

Dogs are omnivores, which means they need a well-balanced diet of meat and plant-based foods. They need one meal a day, unless the vet advises otherwise. Their teeth are well-developed, with sharp incisors for tearing meat, and molars for grinding plant foods.

They must have access to clean, fresh water at all times, otherwise they are at risk from becoming very poorly.

## Environment

Dogs need a comfortable, draught-free, clean and quiet environment. They need to be able to sleep, undisturbed.

There should be access for them to go outside to the toilet regularly, and have some form of exercise appropriate for their breed, every day. Compare the type of walk a St Bernard needs compared to a dachshund!

Dogs need a place where they can go if they are frightened. Dogs have very varied temperaments and some scare more easily than others. In fact, some might have been mistreated previously, which can make them suspicious and easily frightened.



### Did You Know?

The common ancestor of dogs is the wolf!



## Dog Behaviour

Dogs are intelligent, playful animals, which need to have suitable toys or objects to play with, along with regular exercise. There are 400 different breeds of dog, and each breed has different traits suited to the purpose of its breed. Dogs have instincts from their ancestors' days in the wild, herding, hunting, retrieving and tracking. Herding dogs follow quick commands and whistles; hunting, tracking and retrieving dogs are fast, have strong senses and tend to be easy to command. This means that they need play behaviour such as, fetching, running, jumping and exploring to stay happy and healthy.



### Did You Know?

Domestication of dogs began 15,000 years ago!

## Changes in Behaviour

If a dog is licking its lips with its ears back and is not looking at you, this may be a sign that it is feeling worried. If a dog is lying down, covering, with its ears flat, baring its teeth and with its tail between its legs, this is often a display of anger or unhappiness.



### Did You Know?

Dogs can hear sounds four times quieter than humans can hear!

## Training a Dog

Dogs need rewarding with treats when they have done something well. They should not be shouted at, as they won't understand the reasons for this behaviour. They need consistent, clear instructions.

## Dangers to Dogs

Dogs are naturally inquisitive, and need supervision to ensure their safety at all times - especially during walks in unfamiliar places. Some commonplace items are poisonous to dogs:

- Human foods like chocolate, onions, raisins, grapes and sultanas are very poisonous for dogs, and they can become extremely ill if they eat these things.
- Slug and rat poison can make dogs seriously ill and even be fatal for them, resulting in kidney failure, abnormal heart rhythms and sickness.



## Helpful Dogs

Some dogs can be trained to be assistance dogs. Some are trained to help disabled people around their house and with their shopping, others help to sniff out explosives, drugs and can even help to detect illnesses like cancer.



### Did You Know?

A dog has a highly sensitive sense of smell!