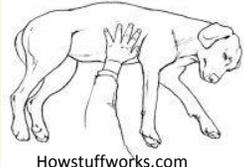


PET FIRST AID – READY REFERENCE

The use of first aid is an important tool for pet owners, and its use may help to save your pet’s life. However, remember to NEVER substitute first aid for veterinary care.

	GENERAL INFO	THINGS TO LOOK FOR	POTENTIAL CAUSES	WHAT SHOULD BE DONE
<p><u>Poisons & Toxins</u></p>  <p>bowmanvilleveterinaryclinic.com</p>	<p>Products that are harmful to people are considered harmful to animals. Many household items and medications are also harmful to pets</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Animal consumed or touched harmful substance - Irritation of the eyes/skin - Seizures - Unconsciousness - Difficulty breathing - Unusual behavior - Hyperactivity - Depression - Vomiting - Diarrhea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Antifreeze - Cleaning products - Rodent poisons - Aspirin - Ibuprofen - Tylenol - Chocolate - Coffee grounds - Onions/garlic - Grapes - Sugar alternatives - Marijuana - Pennies 	<p>In all cases, your veterinarian should be contacted as soon as possible</p> <p>More information can be found at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - avma.org - Animal Poison Control Center (888-426-4435) - Fees apply
<p><u>Seizures</u></p>  <p>Wikihow.com</p>	<p>Neurologic condition</p>	<p>Period of nervousness or anxiety followed by abnormal movements and behavior while pet is conscious or unconscious. This is followed by a period of disorientation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hereditary - Liver or kidney disease - Brain tumor or trauma - Toxins/Poisons 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Keep pet away from dangerous objects/furniture - Do not restrain pet - Seizures usually last 2-3 minutes - After seizure, keep pet warm and quiet - Immediately contact veterinarian
<p><u>External Bleeding</u></p>  <p>Thebark.com</p>	<p>Bleeding related to external forces</p>	<p>Bleeding from wounds/trauma</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hit by car - Fight with another animal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Muzzle pet - Apply direct pressure to wound with clean gauze - Pressure should be applied for a minimum of 3-4 minutes before checking for bleeding. Continue until bleeding stops. - For severe bleeding, an elastic band or gauze can be used as a tourniquet placed between the body and wound. Direct pressure should also be applied to the wound - Loosen tourniquet for 20 seconds every 15 minutes - Pet should be taken to your veterinarian immediately

	GENERAL INFO	THINGS TO LOOK FOR	POTENTIAL CAUSES	WHAT SHOULD BE DONE
Internal Bleeding 	Bleeding within the abdomen/chest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bleeding from nose, mouth, rectum - Coughing blood - Blood in urine - Pale gums - Weak, rapid pulses - Large abdomen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trauma - Cancer/tumor - Foreign body - Toxins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Keep animal warm and comfortable - Immediately transport pet to veterinarian
Fracture 	Traumatic injury to bones of the legs, head, or body of your pet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recent trauma - Limping - Crying/whining - Abnormal shape or position of legs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hit by car - Jumping from couch, bed, car - Kick by large animal - Fight with another animal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Muzzle pet - Gently place pet on flat board or towel/rug that can be used to safely transport pet to your veterinarian - Slings/bandages should only be used if owner is confident in ability to apply them
Choke 	Blockage of airways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Difficulty breathing - Pawing at mouth - Choking sounds - Coughing - Blue gums/tongue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ingestion of foreign object or large food particle - Allergic reaction - Trauma 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If pet is able to breathe, transport to veterinarian - Open pet's mouth and look for foreign object. Remove if easy to reach. - If unable to remove, apply quick firm pressure to sides of pet's rib cage. Repeat until dislodged.
No Heart Beat	Life threatening emergency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loss of consciousness - Blue gums/tongue - Slow/absent breathing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Heart disease/failure - Trauma - Low oxygen levels - Toxins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Immediately contact your veterinarian and begin transport to veterinary hospital. Your veterinarian will advise you on performing CPR
Not Breathing 	Life threatening emergency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loss of consciousness - Blue gums/tongue - Extremely slow/absent breathing - Nasal discharge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trauma - Choking - Fluid accumulation in the lungs - Low oxygen levels - Smoke/gas inhalation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pull pet's tongue forward to check for something in airway - Immediately contact your veterinarian - Begin transport to veterinary hospital - Rescue breaths can be given by holding pet's mouth closed and breathing into nose until chest expands. Repeat every 4-5 seconds.

This table is an adaptation to information obtained from AVMA.org and the Purdue Veterinary Medicine curriculum