



When the Weather Outside is Frightful, Keep Pets Safe & Feeling Delightful

Pet care tips from Celebrity Pet Expert,

Harrison Forbes



Old Man Winter has a split personality...cool, calm and collected some days and downright frosty others. Keep your pet out of harm's way by following these tips.

Check outside water bowls

If Fido's bowl is frozen solid, he may try to find his own source of refreshment, like a puddle or gutter. These could be contaminated with oil, antifreeze or other harmful substances.

Wipe off paws

Your dog might squirm, wiggle and writhe, but wiping his feet when he comes in from outside will remove rocks, ice and other substances that can cause discomfort. One such substance is rock salt. When licked, it can inflame the digestive tract. Signs of discomfort include continuous whining or shivering. Contact your vet immediately in such an instance.

Get a check-up

Heart disease, diabetes and hormonal imbalances can affect your pet's ability to regulate heat, so have a wellness check when the weather starts getting chilly. Your veterinarian can recommend just how long your furry companion can be outside.

Take special care with senior dogs

Older pets or those who suffer from arthritis can be particularly sore and stiff during cold weather. Stay behind them when going up stairs in case they slip, and take extra caution or avoid walking on ice to prevent falls and further injury.

Watch your heat sources

Cats often curl up next to warm objects, like car engines, so check under your hood and on top of your tires before starting your car. Space heaters and fireplaces also pose dangers. Supervise Fido to ensure his overactive tail stays far away.

Take Old Man Winter's fickleness in stride and enjoy the crisp zippiness of the season with your best friend simply by taking a few precautions.

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