

Winter Pet Care Tips

Protecting Your Pet Outdoors

- Wipe your pet's paws after every walk to remove ice, salt, and chemicals.
 - Use pet-safe ice melt on your driveways and walkways.
 - Apply paw balm before walks to protect paw pads from cracking.
 - Limit outdoor time in extremely cold weather.
 - Dress small or short-haired pets in sweaters or jackets for warmth.
 - Check for frostbite signs (pale or gray skin, swelling, or pain).
 - Provide insulated, dry outdoor shelter for pets if needed.
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Keeping Your Pet Warm Indoors

- Create a cozy space with blankets or a heated pet bed.
 - Ensure their resting area is free from drafts or cold floors.
 - Keep indoor temperatures comfortable (68°F–72°F).
 - Use a humidifier to prevent dry skin and irritation.
 - Safeguard heaters and fireplaces with pet-proof barriers.
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How to Use This Checklist

- Print this out and keep it visible, such as on your fridge or pet supplies cabinet.
- Check off each item as part of your regular winter pet care routine.

Keeping Your Pet Active

- Rotate toys weekly to keep them fresh and exciting.
 - Set up a DIY obstacle course for physical activity.
 - Use puzzle feeders or treat-dispensing toys for mental stimulation.
 - Plan short, safe outdoor walks during the warmest part of the day.
 - Engage in games like hide-and-seek, tug-of-war, or fetch.
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Ensuring Proper Nutrition

- Adjust food portions based on activity level (increase for outdoor pets).
 - Provide plenty of fresh, unfrozen water daily.
 - Offer pet-safe broths or wet food to encourage hydration.
 - Include omega-3 supplements for healthy skin and coat.
 - Treat your pet with homemade or winter-themed snacks.
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Winter Safety Tips

- Store antifreeze and other chemicals out of your pet's reach.
 - Avoid toxic plants and holiday decorations (e.g., poinsettias, mistletoe).
 - Regularly inspect and maintain outdoor shelters.
 - Monitor your pet's behavior for signs of cold stress or discomfort.
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