

Holiday Safety Guide



From spooky celebrations to New Year's Eve festivities, the holiday season brings plenty of fun for humans, and plenty of new sights, sounds, foods, and hazards for pets. Use this guide to help keep your pet safe, comfortable, and happy all season long.



Before festivities get underway, be sure to reference this food safety guide to protect your pets.



Safe (in moderation)

Cranberries
Blueberries
Sweet potato

Peas
Corn
Celery

Canned pumpkin
Seeded apples
Skinless white meat

Foods to avoid

Gravy
Stuffing
Garlic & onions

Pie
Bones
Ham

Grapes & raisins
Chocolate
Xylitol (artificial sweetener)



If you suspect your pet has ingested something toxic, don't wait.

You can call the Pet Poison Helpline's 24/7 line at 1-855-764-7661 (fees apply).

Always have the package of the suspected poison ready.

Pet friendly pumpkin treats.

This fun and festive recipe is a safe way to let your pet share in the holiday flavors.

Ingredients

- 1 cup plain pumpkin purée (not pumpkin pie filling)
- 2 eggs
- 2½ cups old-fashioned oats, blended into a flour
- 1-2 tbsp water, if needed

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 350°F.
2. Mix the pumpkin and eggs.
3. Stir in the oat flour until you have a thick dough. Add a little water if it's too dry.
4. Roll into small balls and flatten them, or roll out and cut into shapes.
5. Bake for 20-25 minutes, until firm.
6. Let them cool completely.

Storage: Keep refrigerated for about 5-7 days, or freeze them for longer.





Travel is a big part of the holidays. Keep your pets safe and comfortable on a trip, as a house guest, or as a host.



In the car

- Desensitize your pet to car travel gradually with frequent short car rides.
- Keep pets secure with travel-rated harnesses or carriers.
- If you're traveling long distances, have your pet's health records on-hand (such as vaccine status and prescribed medications).



In the home

- Ask guests (or hosts if you are traveling) to keep their medications secured.
- Be sure to have a separate area set up to keep your pets and the visiting pets separated unless the interaction is carefully supervised to prevent potential conflict and additional stress.



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Consider these holiday dos and don'ts as you plan your festivities.

Do

- ✓ Make homemade treats with pet-friendly ingredients (see our recipe on page 1).
- ✓ Keep decorations out of reach, and don't forget to secure holiday light wires.
- ✓ Use pheromone calming aids in your pet's area, like Feliway for cats or Adaptil for dogs.
- ✓ Keep your pet in a designated, comfortable area with their favorite toys and a cozy blanket while the door is frequently opening and closing.



Don't

- ✗ Give your pet a bite of foods made with "pumpkin spice" or cinnamon.
- ✗ Place enticing holiday decorations that might look like a toy within your pet's reach.
- ✗ Put out strong holiday potpourri, fragrance plug-ins, or essential oils your pet might ingest.
- ✗ Let your pet roam freely near the front door while guests or trick-or-treaters are coming and going.



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