

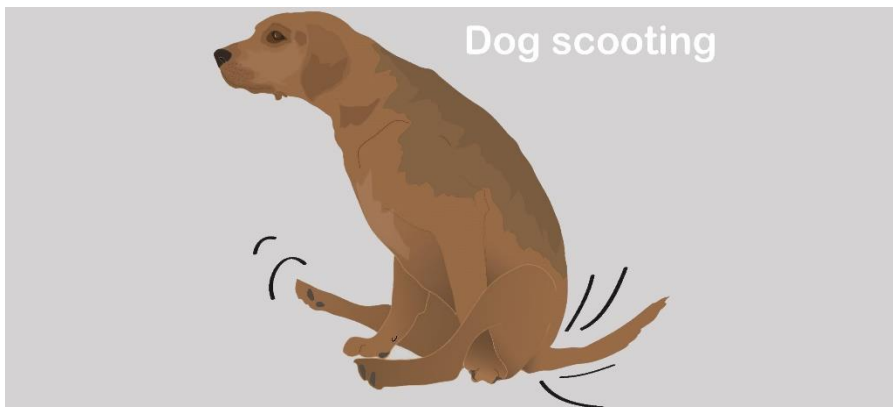
Scooting in dogs

Overview

Scooting is when a dog sits down and drags their anus (bottom) along the ground. It's usually because of an itch or pain caused by:

- Something stuck on their bottom
- Anal glands
- Worms
- Skin problems

It's likely your dog needs to see a vet if they are scooting.



Why does my dog drag their bottom?

Something stuck on their anus (bottom)

- Check your dog's bottom for pieces of poo or anything else that could cause irritation.

Anal gland disease

- Anal glands are two little sacs that sit inside the anus. They can cause discomfort if they become blocked or infected.

Worms

- Tapeworms (found in the guts) can crawl out of your dog's bottom and cause itching. Remember to treat your dog for worms regularly to prevent this from happening.

Skin allergies (atopy)

- Skin allergies can cause your dog's bottom to become very itchy.

How can I stop my dog dragging their bottom along the floor?

If your dog is dragging his / her bottom along the floor it's usually a sign that something is wrong. There isn't anything you can do to break the behaviour other than treat the problem that's causing the irritation.

- Check under their tail and around their bottom for anything obviously wrong, if something is stuck – remove it or seek veterinary advice.
- Treat your dog for worms if they are due.
- Take your dog to the vet if they continue to scoot.

When to contact your vet

Unless it's something simple to fix at home (for example a piece of poo or matted hair stuck around their bottom), if you notice your dog scooting, always book an appointment with your vet.

You know your dog best. If they don't have the symptoms listed above but you are still concerned it's always best to contact your vet.

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