

Prevention

It's easy to prevent sunburn:

Limit sunlight exposure

- Don't allow your pet to sunbathe for long periods of time in direct sunlight.
- Make sure they always have access to plenty of shade.
- Avoid walking your dog in the middle of very hot days, instead, stick to the cooler mornings and evenings.

Apply sunscreen

- Apply sunscreen to any unprotected skin (such as bare skin, and areas of thin or light coloured fur) on sunny days. Dogs often need it on the ends of their nose and tummy, and cats tend to need it on their ears/end of their nose.
- Use a high factor (SPF 30 or higher), waterproof, sunscreen that is pet or child safe. Apply two layers at least 15 minutes before your pet goes outside.
- Don't allow your pet to lick their sun tan lotion off.

Watch our video: How to apply sunscreen to dogs

When to contact your vet

Very mild sunburn (slightly red skin), usually heals within a few days with treatment at home. However, if your pet has severe sunburn, or appears to be in pain, they will need to be seen by your vet straight away.

You know your pet best, always contact your vet if you are concerned.

Am I eligible for PDSA veterinary treatment?

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