

## Household hazards

**Cleaning products** that contain bleach, ammonia, chlorine or formaldehyde. Even the vapours left behind after use can be harmful so keep pets out of the room for a few hours after cleaning.

**Flea treatment**, if applied incorrectly. Always read the label and never exceed the recommended dose. Never apply a dog treatment to a cat.

**Sewing equipment** (especially needles and thread) should be kept away from feline friends since they can cause damage in the guts if consumed.

**Rubbish bins** can be tempting to scavenging paws but rotting foods can cause upset stomachs and bones create obstructions.

Watch out for the following foods that are harmful for pets:



Chocolate



Avocado



Caffeine and alcohol



Walnuts and macadamias



Grapes and raisins



Cooked bones and fatty/salty foods



Onions, garlic and chives



Yeast dough



Sorbitol and xylitol (sweetener)



Mushrooms



Raw eggs and meat



Human medication

Keep cupboards closed from a sniffing nose

# HIDDEN HAZARDS



What can kill and make us ill

There are many potential hazards hidden around your house and garden that could harm your pet. This is a guide to alert you to some of them.



## Foreign bodies

A foreign body is anything in your pet's body that shouldn't naturally be there and has become stuck. Most foreign bodies are swallowed and get trapped in the stomach or guts. Some foreign bodies become lodged under the skin, in the ear or eye, or are breathed in. Any object has the potential to become a foreign body but here are some of the common ones:

**If you're worried your pet has picked up any of these hazards, please contact your vet for advice immediately**

FOREIGN BODY	MOST LIKELY TO GET STUCK IN ...
Grass seed	Eye, ear and under the skin
Grit	Ear / eye
Stick	Throat
Bones	Roof of mouth, throat and intestines
Corn on the cob	Stomach / intestines
Peach stone	Stomach / intestines
Needle and thread	Throat / intestines
Teat of dummy	Stomach / intestines
Balls	Stomach / intestines
Toys	Stomach / intestines
Socks	Stomach / intestines
Stones/pebbles	Stomach / intestines
Coins	Stomach / intestines
Fish hooks	Tongue, throat and stomach
Thorns	Toes / under the skin

## Garden hazards

It's important to reduce the risk of injury by keeping your garden secure, to prevent your pets gaining access to roads and other hazards outside your garden. Check your garden regularly for broken glass, splintered wood and even grass seeds as these can become lodged in ears, eyes and toes.

But there are also less obvious hazards which may appeal to a curious pet and can cause issues if swallowed:

### Pesticides

These chemicals, including slug pellets and rat poison, might be great for keeping unwanted creatures out of the garden but can be fatal to your furry friends.

### Weedkillers

Even if a pet just brushes past a treated plant it can cause skin irritation and worse, if swallowed, so keep pets away from these areas.

### Cold weather chemicals

Antifreeze can be deadly to both cats and dogs, so make sure any spills are cleaned immediately and it's stored safely away from pets reach. Even rock salt, which is used to de-ice paths and driveways, can cause irritation to dog's paws or if licked off the feet. Always wash paws after winter walks or use dog boots to protect their feet. Liquids such as white spirit and lighter fluids can also cause serious poisoning if swallowed, licked off fur, absorbed through the skin or inhaled.

### Toads

Watch out for toads! When threatened, toads release an irritant poison that will hurt a curious pet's tongue or skin. If this happens, rinse the affected area with plenty of water and phone the vet as soon as possible.

### Plants

Here are a few of the more common plants that are poisonous to our pets:

- Lilies
- Azalea
- Daffodils
- Yew
- Cherry laurel
- Laburnum
- Lily of the valley
- Philodendron

**Your local nursery should be able to help you steer clear of the poisonous plants**

