

## Fast Facts

### Animal Safety

<i>General</i>	<i>Pets &amp; Children</i>	<i>Special Considerations</i>	<i>Animal Attack Prevention</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Make sure you will have time to care for a pet before getting one</li> <li>-Research about type of pet, breed and disposition beforehand</li> <li>-Put away things that could harm pets</li> <li>-Keep immunizations and preventative medications current</li> <li>-Use flea and tick treatments</li> <li>-Have routine check-ups</li> <li>-Use microchip and tags with correct contact information</li> <li>-Don't leave wet food out to the point it gets dry</li> <li>-Change your pets water frequently, at least twice a day</li> <li>-Don't feed your pet human food</li> <li>-Don't keep dogs chained permanently as it makes them more aggressive</li> <li>-Obedience classes can be helpful at training pets on how to behave appropriately</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Teach children not to provoke or tease animals</li> <li>-Don't pull on the animal's ears, tail or feet</li> <li>-Teach children that animals that are in pain, afraid or feel threatened are more likely to bite or scratch</li> <li>-Don't wrestle roughly or restrain animals against their will</li> <li>-If animal is hissing or growling, that is their way of saying to leave them alone</li> <li>-Don't pet an animal when they're eating, sleeping or caring for their young</li> <li>-Explain to children that loud, high-pitched sounds or sudden movements can startle an animal</li> <li>-Spayed/neutered animals are calmer</li> <li>-Get pets prepared for a new baby by spraying things with baby powder and playing a CD or audio file that has the sounds of a baby, particularly crying.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Warm weather: prevent dehydration by having plenty of water, don't leave pet in hot cars, be careful of hot pavement on pets' paws</li> <li>-Cold weather: bring pets inside when it is cold, store antifreeze in places that pets will not find it, don't let your pet lick wet spots outside, wipe pets' paws to remove any salt or other solutions, check under your car and inside the engine compartment for animals</li> <li>-Clothes dryers: check thoroughly before using it to make sure that your cat didn't sneak in there</li> <li>-Holidays: don't leave candy out, be careful with candles, have non-restrictive costumes/clothing, put decorations out of reach, keep gift wrap supplies, especially ribbon, out of reach, be careful with holiday plants (ex. holly, mistletoe, poinsettias and tree water) as they can be</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Prevention is key</li> <li>-Teach children, and follow yourself, ask the animal's owner if it is ok to touch animal</li> <li>-Use the see and sniff method (make sure the animal can see you approaching and offer your hand for them to sniff prior to actually touching them)</li> <li>-Don't hug an unfamiliar animal, especially around the neck</li> <li>-Keep pet on a leash or in a fenced-in yard at all times is a good way to prevent them from approaching strangers without you present</li> <li>-If you are approached by a strange animal don't run</li> <li>-If an animal attacks you, try to get something other than your body in their mouth, such as a purse, wallet or jacket</li> <li>-If you are knocked to the ground, curl into a ball and cover your ears until the animal leaves.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Don't force interaction between baby and pet</li> <li>-Don't allow pet to sleep with the baby</li> <li>-Use gates to keep your pet out of the baby's room</li> <li>-Spend time with pet after the baby is born</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>poisonous, provide a quiet space for your pet to escape the noise, ask guests not to feed pets human food</li> <li>-Traveling: bring pets' vet records and any medications they might need</li> </ul>	
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