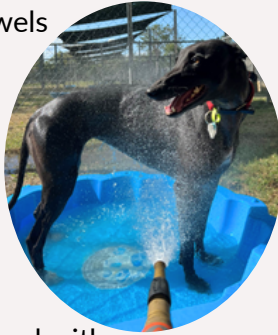


HOW TO PREVENT HEAT STRESS

- Avoid exercising your greyhound during hot days (if you can't keep your hand on the pavement, it's likely too hot for your dog)
- Never leave your greyhound in the car
- Keep paddle pools in a shady area
- Provide frozen treats/meals or adding ice to their water during the day
- Allow access to air-conditioning on hot days. If they will be outside, ensure they have access to a shaded area with good airflow, and access to fresh cool water
- Use cooling mats/wet towels



WHAT TO DO IF YOUR DOG SHOWS SIGNS OF HEAT STRESS

- Move to a shady or air-conditioned area
- Gently wipe your greyhound with a cool, wet towel (do not drape it over them)
- Hose your greyhound with cool water, focusing on feet, chest, back, and groin until body temperature decreases
- Avoid using iced water on the greyhound's body, this will constrict the skin's blood vessels and slow down the cooling process. Iced water can be used on the dog's feet and covered ice-packs can be placed between the dog's thighs and armpits
- If your greyhound's body temperature is not being reduced, they begin to vomit/have diarrhoea or are showing signs of heat stroke – **SEEK VETERINARY ATTENTION IMMEDIATELY**

Importance of tick prevention



There is **NO IMMUNITY TO PARALYSIS TICKS** (whether your dog lives in and/or outdoors). Even if your pet is treated with tick anti-serum, they can still die. A pet treated for tick paralysis may spend 1-7 days in hospital recovering depending on the severity.

YOU CAN PREVENT THIS with an appropriate parasite prevention protocol. There are many options available – if you aren't sure, consult your local vet about what is best for your pet and lifestyle.

TICK PARALYSIS - THE SIGNS

Early stages can be vague but include lethargy, reduced appetite and/or occasional vomiting.

Later stages of tick paralysis can include change in their bark sound, unable to blink, difficulty or rapid breathing (may progress into grunting/coughing), reluctant to move, stand or jump, change in heart rate or rhythm, excessive drooling, wobbly gait and/or complete paralysis.

IF YOU FIND A TICK



Remove it immediately with a tick removal tool and complete a full body tick search. Start from the head and work your way back (look inside ears, mouth, between toes, etc.). Keep any ticks removed to show your vet.

If you find a tick or your greyhound is showing symptoms, seek veterinary attention. Don't provide food or water, as paralysis may prevent them from protecting their airway while swallowing.

Snake bites



Dogs are at an increased risk of a snake bite due to their natural hunting instincts. Snake bites are often difficult to identify; your dog may not be in pain and the bite wound may not be visible.

POSSIBLE SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

- Collapse followed by apparent recovery
- Lethargy
- Muscle tremors, shaking, reduced eye blinking
- Dilated pupils
- Sudden onset of weakness/wobbliness
- Complete paralysis
- Inability to control bladder and bowels
- Bleeding from the nose, bite site, mouth
- Discoloured, dark urine (often bloody)

If you see your dog with or near a snake or they are showing symptoms, **SEEK VETERINARY ATTENTION IMMEDIATELY** and take a photo of the snake if safe to do so. **CALL AHEAD**, not all clinics will carry anti-venom.



Cane toad toxicity



Cane toad poisoning usually occurs via a dog's mucous membranes - most commonly the gums but also the eyes, nose and tongue. The poison is absorbed via the mucous membranes into the bloodstream. It then targets the heart, GI tract and nervous system. Toads release a fast-acting toxin when threatened, remaining poisonous at all life stages, even after death, until fully decomposed*.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

If you suspect your greyhound has encountered a toad, the first priority is to remove the toxin from their gums, and follow the below steps:

1. Use a damp cloth/towel to wipe the gums, tongue and roof of mouth
2. Wash the cloth thoroughly between wipes
3. Continue this process for 10-20 minutes until the slimy coating is removed
4. In mild cases, the above first aid steps will be all that is needed, however the survival rate for toad toxicity decreases the longer you wait so veterinary attention is always recommended after the toxin is removed.

NEVER USE A HOSE TO FLUSH THE TOXIN FROM THEIR MOUTH



* Current as of May 2025

Christmas time hazards for your greyhound

Christmas is a time for sharing but many holiday foods can be harmful to pets. Pets can't digest human treats. So, here are some Christmas foods and festive items to keep away from your dog:

- Christmas ham and fatty offcuts
- Chocolate
- Grapes, sultanas and raisins
- Christmas trees and decorations/lights
- Macadamia nuts
- Cooked bones
- Alcohol
- Onions/garlic
- Batteries
- Xylitol
- Lillies/house plants



What should be in my greyhound first aid kit?

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Cohesive bandage | Thermal blanket |
| Soffban | Chux/hand towel |
| Adhesive tape | Emergency Vet contact details |
| Non-adherent dressing | Handheld pet clippers |
| Gauze swabs | Thermometer |
| Saline | Betadine |
| Sterile lube | Scissors |
| Gloves | |
| Tick tweezers | |



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GAP SUMMER SAFETY

Heat stress

WHAT IS IT?

Heat stress can be potentially life threatening. It's caused by an extreme increase in the dog's body temperature. Dogs release heat by panting and also by sweating through their paw pads and nose. If they can't cool themselves enough - through panting - their internal body temperature begins to rise. If a dog's temperature reaches 41°C, serious organ damage, stress or even death may occur.



WHAT ARE THE SIGNS?

- Excessive or heavy panting
- Increased heart rate
- Weakness/Lethargy
- Hyperventilation (deep breathing)
- Increased salivation and drooling, followed by drying of the gums/mucous membranes (tongue/gums may also appear bright red)
- Signs of stress/anxiety (i.e. agitation, barking)
- Vomiting or diarrhoea that may be bloody

If heat stress is not managed, it can progress into heat stroke where the dog can become listless, lethargic, may collapse or have seizures.