

## Keeping your 4 legged pal cool in hot weather

With summer approaching and the potential for some hot weather, how can you help your furry family member stay cool and comfortable? I know air conditioning is not always an option. Here are some suggestions that won't break the bank and will help your pup stay cool as a cucumber in the heat of summer.

You should know that dogs don't sweat like people do. They sweat through their tongue (by panting) and through the pads of their feet. If they have a thick coat, it actually insulates them from the heat and keeps them cooler. Grooming them short during the summer makes them more susceptible to suffering from heat related issues.

To help keep your fur baby cool, try one or more of the following suggestions:

You can buy little fans for the crate. They clip onto the crate. Some dogs won't like to have air blowing on them directly though so a regular oscillating fan placed in front of the crate may be better.

You can also buy cooling mats for the dogs. They feel cool when the dogs lay on them (they are pressure activated). We use them here for our pregnant moms in the summer because they are always hot until they deliver. Here is the link to the type we use - [https://www.amazon.ca/Ownpets-Cooling-Suitable-Comfortable-Outdoor/dp/B08Y5LDR34/ref=sr\\_1\\_17?crid=2LJD4JJGUYPW5&keywords=cooling+mat+for+dogs&qid=1652739093&srefix=cooling+%252Caps%252C136&mp;sr=8-17&encoding=UTF8&tag=myschnauzers-20&linkCode=ur2&linkId=138919d2f291587d20a327b3074f26a0&camp=15121&creative=330641](https://www.amazon.ca/Ownpets-Cooling-Suitable-Comfortable-Outdoor/dp/B08Y5LDR34/ref=sr_1_17?crid=2LJD4JJGUYPW5&keywords=cooling+mat+for+dogs&qid=1652739093&srefix=cooling+%252Caps%252C136&mp;sr=8-17&encoding=UTF8&tag=myschnauzers-20&linkCode=ur2&linkId=138919d2f291587d20a327b3074f26a0&camp=15121&creative=330641)>Cooling Mat for dogs</a>

You can also take a bandana and roll ice cubes up in the material and then wrap it around your dog's neck. The ice will slowly melt making the bandana wet/cold which will help cool off your dog.

We also trim the hair off our dogs tummy's in the summer so they can have their skin directly on cool tile/grass/floor which also helps them feel a little cooler. Keeping hair on the bottom of the feet trimmed is also important since dogs sweat through their tongues and the pads of their feet. Neatly trimmed feet will help the pads come into contact with the cool grass and other cooler surfaces without the hair getting in the way.

Providing your pup with a small swimming pool and teaching them to wade in it will also help cool them off. As an option, you can also hose them down and then let them run around to cool off.

Lots of different ways of cooling off your dog in the heat of the summer. Find what works for you and your dog and enjoy the warmer weather.