

Toxic Substances



Toxic Foods/Additives

Alcohol: vomiting, diarrhea, difficulty breathing

Apple Core, Peach Pits, Plum Pits – Toxin Cyanide

Symptoms: Difficulty breathing, rapid breathing, panting, bright red gums and tongue, dilated pupils, seizures or convulsions, loss of consciousness, lethargy, Vomiting, Diarrhea, Increased heart rate

Avocado Skin/Pit – Toxin Persin

Symptom: vomiting and diarrhea

Blue cheese - Toxin Roquefortine c (used in the fermenting process) affects the nervous system

Symptoms: vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, seizures, disorientation, muscle weakness, lethargy, paddling, hyperesthesia (the abnormal sensitivity or heightened response to touch or other stimuli) In dogs could lead to excessive grooming, biting, or scratching of an area

Cannabis - Toxin THC - (affects the nervous system) - ingestion and **smoke inhalation** (*Dogs have a high concentration of cannabinoid receptors in their brains and other parts of their bodies, which means that they are more sensitive to the effects of THC than humans*)

Symptoms: sedation, stumbling, changes in heart rate and body temperature, lethargy, loss of coordination, vomiting, diarrhea, excessive drooling, agitation, restlessness, urinary incontinence, hypersensitivity to touch or sound, dilated pupils

Chocolate: Toxin Theobromine, particularly dark chocolate, and baker's chocolate.

Symptoms: vomiting, diarrhea, increased heart rate, seizures

Garlic: Toxin Alliums(damage red blood cells leading to anemia)

Symptoms: weakness, vomiting, breathing difficulties

Grapes & Raisins - Toxin tartaric acid (Attacks kidney cells) causing acute (sudden) kidney failure

Symptoms: Vomiting, diarrhea, loss of appetite, abdominal pain, lethargy, weakness, Increased thirst or urination, seizures, kidney failure

Hops – Toxin unknown - causes malignant hyperthermia(abnormally high body temperature and muscle contraction)

Symptoms: Restlessness, agitation ,respiratory distress, vomiting, diarrhea, Seizures

Macadamia nuts- toxin unknown

Symptoms: vomiting, ataxia, weakness, hyperthermia, and depression -Weakness and lethargy Ataxia: loss of coordination, muscle spasms Hyperthermia(an increase in body temperature), diarrhea, abdominal pain, vomiting

Onions: Toxin Alliums(damage red blood cells leading to anemia)

Symptoms: weakness, vomiting, breathing difficulties

Potatoes **Raw** - Toxin Solanine

Symptoms: vomiting, diarrhea, lethargy, weakness, and even confusion potatoes, tomatoes, and eggplants green tomatoes and raw potatoes contain solanine, which is toxic to dogs

Rhubarb **leaves** – Toxin Oxalic acid (binds with calcium in the body) causing kidney damage

Symptoms: vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, lethargy, weakness, tremors, seizures

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Xylitol/Birch Sugar: Xylitol also called birch sugar is a sweetener found in many sugar-free gums, candies, and baked goods, some peanut butters - It can cause a rapid insulin release, leading to hypoglycemia (low blood sugar)
Symptoms: vomiting, loss of coordination, seizures, liver failure.

Essential Oils - Ingested or Skin Absorption

Cinnamon Oil: **Symptoms:** skin irritation, vomiting, and diarrhea

Clove Oil: can cause liver damage and gastrointestinal

Eucalyptus Oil: **Symptoms:** vomiting, diarrhea, and lethargy

Pennyroyal Oil: extremely toxic to dogs **Symptoms:** Seizures, liver damage, death

Peppermint Oil: **Symptoms:** vomiting, diarrhea, and abdominal pain

Tea Tree Oil: **Symptoms:** Vomiting, diarrhea, weakness, lethargy, and tremors

Toxic Essential Oils- if Inhaled

Citrus Oil: **Symptoms:** Irritating to respiratory system leading to coughing and sneezing

Eucalyptus Oil: **Symptoms:** respiratory problems and even coma

Peppermint Oil: **Symptoms:** Respiratory problems if inhaled in large quantities

Pine Oil: **Symptoms:** Respiratory problems -coughing and wheezing

Tea Tree Oil: **Symptoms:** Respiratory problems and even coma

Wintergreen Oil: **Symptoms:** respiratory problems, liver damage

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Toxic Houseplants

Alocasia - Toxin Calcium Oxalates- glass like crystals

Symptoms: oral itching and irritation, excessive drooling, vomiting, difficulty swallowing. Mucous membrane irritation, intense burning, irritation of the mouth, lips, and tongue, excessive drooling, difficulty in swallowing

Aloe Vera - Toxin Calcium Oxalates- glass like crystals

Symptoms: oral itching and irritation, excessive drooling, vomiting, difficulty swallowing. Mucous membrane irritation, intense burning, irritation of the mouth, lips, and tongue, excessive drooling, difficulty in swallowing

Amaryllis (Amaryllis sp.) Toxins: Lycorine and other glycosides (Bulbs)

Symptoms: Vomiting, depression, low blood pressure, abdominal pain, drooling, appetite loss

Arrowhead Plant - Toxin Calcium Oxalates- glass like crystals

Symptoms: oral itching and irritation, excessive drooling, vomiting, difficulty swallowing. Mucous membrane irritation, intense burning, irritation of the mouth, lips, and tongue, excessive drooling, difficulty in swallowing

Begonia- Toxin Calcium Oxalates- glass like crystals

Symptoms: oral itching and irritation, excessive drooling, vomiting, difficulty swallowing. Mucous membrane irritation, intense burning, irritation of the mouth, lips, and tongue, excessive drooling, difficulty in swallowing

Bird of Paradise (Strelitzia) - Toxin: Hydrogen Cyanide (Prussic Acid)

Symptoms: nausea, vomiting, drowsiness, difficulty breathing, appetite loss

Cyclamen - Toxins: Saponins

Symptoms: Salivation, vomiting, diarrhea

Desert Rose (Adenium) - Toxins: Digoxin

Symptoms: Vomiting, diarrhea, appetite loss, depression, irregular heartbeat

Dieffenbachia: Toxin: Calcium oxalates and Proteolytic Enzyme

Symptoms: oral irritation, vomiting, difficulty swallowing, swelling of the mouth and/or throat, severe oral pain, pawing at the mouth or eyes, severe skin irritation, agitation, coughing, gagging and hypersalivation Dracaena - Toxins: Saponins

Symptoms: Vomiting, depression, appetite loss, drooling

English Ivy (Hedera helix) - Toxins: Triterpenoid saponins (hederagenin)

Symptoms: Drooling, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain

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Eucalyptus - Toxins: Eucalyptus oil

Symptoms: Salivation, vomiting, diarrhea, depression, weakness

Ferns:

Asparagus Fern – Toxin Sapogenins – AKA Lace, Emerald, Sprengeri, or Plumosa Fern

Symptoms: Vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, and loss of appetite – Skin contact sometimes can cause skin irritation

Bracken fern: variety of Toxins such as Thiaminase, Ptaquiloside, and Quercetin (known to cause thiamine deficiency in dogs)

Symptoms: leads to neurological problems: seizures, muscle tremors, paralysis, abdominal pain, diarrhea

Ficus Species - Toxins: Proteolytic enzyme (ficin), psoralen (ficusin) – Rubber Plant, Fiddle Leaf Fig, Ginseng Fig, and Banana leaf/Long Leaf Fig are the most common

Symptoms: Skin inflammation, mouth irritation

Flamingo Flower(Anthurium Scherzer Anum) - Toxin Calcium Oxalates- glass like crystals

Symptoms: oral itching and irritation, excessive drooling, vomiting, difficulty swallowing. Mucous membrane irritation, intense burning, irritation of the mouth, lips, and tongue, excessive drooling, difficulty in swallowing

Gardenia- Toxins: Geniposide, gardenoside

Symptoms: Nausea, diarrhea

Geranium - Toxins: Geraniol, Linalool

Symptoms: Vomiting, appetite loss, dermatitis

Hibiscus -Toxin: Anthocyanins

Symptoms: vomiting, diarrhea, or nausea

Kafir Lily - Toxins: Licorine

Symptoms: Vomiting, diarrhea, convulsions, low blood pressure, tremors, cardiac arrhythmia

Kalanchoe - Toxins: Bufadienolides

Symptoms: Vomiting, diarrhea

Lilies- All lilies of any type are toxic

Symptoms: Vomiting, Loss of appetite Lethargy or weakness, Dehydration, Tremors or seizures, Disorientation, or confusion, Increased or decreased urination

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Lily of the valley -Highly Toxic- Toxin: Cardenolides(interferes with the normal functioning of the heart and other vital organs)

Symptoms: vomiting, irregular heartbeat, reduced blood pressure, confusion, and disorientation

Oleander - cardiac glycosides

Symptoms: Vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, drooling, lethargy, tremors, seizures

Peace Lily - Toxin Calcium Oxalates- glass like crystals

Symptoms: oral itching and irritation, excessive drooling, vomiting, difficulty swallowing. Mucous membrane irritation, intense burning, irritation of the mouth, lips, and tongue, excessive drooling, difficulty in swallowing

Philodendron - Toxin Calcium Oxalates- glass like crystals

Symptoms: oral itching and irritation, excessive drooling, vomiting, difficulty swallowing. Mucous membrane irritation, intense burning, irritation of the mouth, lips, and tongue, excessive drooling, difficulty in swallowing

Pothos - Toxin Calcium Oxalates- glass like crystals

Symptoms: oral itching and irritation, excessive drooling, vomiting, difficulty swallowing. Mucous membrane irritation, intense burning, irritation of the mouth, lips, and tongue, excessive drooling, difficulty in swallowing

Sago Palm - Highly Toxic- Toxin Cycasin - Causes liver failure-Death can occur with ingestion of an amount as small as a single seed

Symptoms: vomiting, diarrhea, seizures

Schefflera - Toxin Calcium Oxalates- glass like crystals

Symptoms: oral itching and irritation, excessive drooling, vomiting, difficulty swallowing. Mucous membrane irritation, intense burning, irritation of the mouth, lips, and tongue, excessive drooling, difficulty in swallowing

Snake Plant: Toxin: Saponins

Symptoms: vomiting, diarrhea

ZZ Plant - Toxin Calcium Oxalates- glass like crystals

Symptoms: oral itching and irritation, excessive drooling, vomiting, difficulty swallowing. Mucous membrane irritation, intense burning, irritation of the mouth, lips, and tongue, excessive drooling, difficulty in swallowing

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Toxic Popular Outdoor Plants

Asters - Mildly Toxic

Symptoms: Gastrointestinal upset such as vomiting and diarrhea

Astilbe Mildly Toxic

Symptoms: mild gastrointestinal upset such as vomiting and diarrhea

Black Eyed Susan - Mildly Toxic

Symptoms: vomiting and diarrhea

Colorado Blue Columbine (Aquilegia Caerulea) - Mildly Toxic

Symptoms: vomiting and diarrhea, lethargy

Crocus - Moderately to Highly Toxic

Symptoms: vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, respiratory failure, liver, and kidney damage

Daffodils - Moderately Toxic

Symptoms: vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, convulsions, tremors, and heart problems

Delphiniums - Highly Toxic

Symptoms: vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, heart failure, seizures

Foxglove - Highly Toxic - contains compounds that affect the heart

Symptoms: vomiting, diarrhea, loss of appetite, lethargy, abnormal heart rhythms, heart failure

Heliotrope - Mildly to Moderately Toxic

Symptoms: vomiting, diarrhea, depression, lethargy can lead to liver damage or failure

Hemlock - Highly Toxic

Symptoms: dilated pupils, excessive drooling, tremors, seizures, respiratory failure, coma

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Hibiscus - Mildly Toxic

Symptoms: vomiting, diarrhea, loss of appetite

Hollyhock - Mildly Toxic

Symptoms: vomiting, diarrhea

Hosta - Mildly Toxic

Symptoms: vomiting, diarrhea, and lethargy

Hyacinths - Moderately Toxic

Symptoms: vomiting, diarrhea, drooling, and lethargy **bulb Ingestion:** Severe symptoms, respiratory and cardiac problems

Hydrangea - Mildly Toxic

Symptoms: vomiting, diarrhea

Irises - Moderately toxic

Symptoms: vomiting, diarrhea, drooling, abdominal pain, loss of appetite, depression

Jimsonweed - Highly Toxic

Symptoms: dilated pupils, rapid heartbeat, agitation, confusion, hallucinations, seizures, coma respiratory failure

Lantanas – Moderately Toxic

Symptoms: vomiting, diarrhea, liver failure if ingested in large amounts, weakness, tremors, seizures

Larkspur - Highly Toxic

Symptoms: Affects the nervous system muscle tremors, seizures, and respiratory failure

Lilies(All) – Moderately Toxic

Symptoms: vomiting and diarrhea, drooling, lethargy, loss of appetite, and tremors

Lupine – Toxicity depends on part and amount ingested - **The seeds and pods of the plant are especially toxic**

Symptoms: Vomiting, diarrhea, loss of appetite, lethargy, depression, and even seizures

Peonies - Mildly Toxic

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Symptoms: vomiting, diarrhea, loss of appetite

Phlox -Mildly Toxic

Symptoms: vomiting, diarrhea, and loss of appetite

Poppy (level of toxicity depends on the type and amount ingested)

Symptoms: lethargy, vomiting, diarrhea, difficulty breathing, seizures

Rhododendron - **Highly Toxic**

Symptoms: vomiting, diarrhea, drooling, loss of appetite, weakness, depression, abnormal heart rhythms, seizures, coma

Stonecrop(Sedum) - Mildly Toxic

Symptoms: vomiting and diarrhea

Tulips – Mildly Toxic

Symptoms: drooling, vomiting, diarrhea, loss of appetite, depression

Wisteria – **Moderately Toxic**

Symptoms: vomiting, diarrhea, dehydration, lethargy, kidney and liver failure

Yarrow - Mildly Toxic

Symptoms: vomiting and diarrhea, lethargy, loss of appetite