



For dogs weighing fewer than 20 pounds (as well as cats) one hand — wide enough to pretty much wrap around the animal's chest — will work, with the person's fingers wrapped around the sternum (breastbone) at the level of the heart. Compressions done from this position are called circumferential compressions because they involve the hand going around much of the dog's circumference. But it is also okay to use the same compression method recommended for most larger dogs (see first illustration); the person doing the compressions might become fatigued using only one hand.