

# ALONE AT HOME PET SERVICES

“Humans would be better off if they tried to be more like dogs!”

June 2026

## This Summer, Don't Forget the Paws!



Courtesy: Pixabay.com/Donald Clark

The balmy, even hot, weather is here! And that means you need to remember and protect your dog's sensitive paws!

Due to their higher solar reflectance, sidewalks, driveways, pavement, dark asphalt, concrete, sand, tennis courts, and even artificial turf can absorb and retain more heat and pose **pain** and **physical harm**, including **burns and blisters**, to your pooch's tender paw pads!

We often forget our dogs after we put on our own protective footwear, but they are **counting on us to protect them** from the summer heat.

### The Facts

Even temperatures we tend to consider “mild” can pose unwanted risks to the dog's paws pressed on surfaces that are retaining heat from the sun, surrounding air **and humidity**.

Don't believe it? Take off one of your shoes and see how long you can keep your foot against the pavement. **That's what your dog's paws feel!**

#### Be aware that:

- Even a mild 75° F air temperature can heat asphalt to 125° F!
- At just 87° F, asphalt can heat to a whopping 143° F!
- Temperatures up to 68° F are considered safe by experts, but anything over 77° F is considered very risky.
- Also, humidity can **intensity** trapped heat.

### How to Protect those Paws!

Remember, dogs don't always let us know when they are uncomfortable or even in pain. Remember the tips below to protect their paws from getting hurt or burned. **Your furry best friend is counting on you.**

- Walk them in the early morning (before or around sunrise) or late evening, after 6pm.
- Only walk on grass and shaded paths.
- Use breathable booties to protect sensitive paws.

Consider your dog's paws the next time you put on that leash and make sure your dog's sensitive paws are protected first!



*Disclaimer: This information does not constitute professional veterinary advice. Always work with your regular licensed vet for your dog, their medical history, overall condition, age and breed.*

[Click Here to Visit AloneAtHomePetServices.com](http://AloneAtHomePetServices.com)

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Certified Veterinary Technician & Certified Professional Pet Sitter

## Your Dog's Behavior and Beyond



Courtesy: CanineZen.com

### The Ripple Effect of Everyday Choices

Did you know that your dog's behavior modification begins **long before** the challenges appear?

Dog behavior modification becomes more effective when dogs know **what to expect**, in other words, **predictability**.

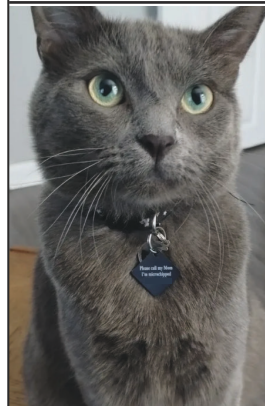
But **predictability is not about control!** Instead, it's all about helping your dog build their **emotional safety and security**.

[Learn how your dog's behavior modification is built in the “quiet moments” from Canine Zen!](#)

## Alone at Home Pet Services

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**>>> PLEASE NOTE <<<**

An Interview / Meet & Greet is **REQUIRED** and this coupon must be presented at that time.

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# What's Inside Matters— Even After You Open It. 🐾

## How Dog Shampoo Can Deteriorate Once Opened

Dog shampoo is more than just soap and scent. It's a carefully formulated blend of cleansers, moisturizers, conditioners, essential oils, and preservatives that work together to keep your dog clean, healthy, and comfortable.

But once the bottle is opened and exposed to air, the clock starts ticking.



- AIR**  
Introduces oxygen that can break down ingredients.
- MOISTURE**  
Can enter the bottle and promote contamination.
- MICROBES**  
From hands, water, or the environment can multiply over time.

### 🐾 WHAT CHANGES OVER TIME? 🐾

Once exposed to air and potential contaminants, the quality and effectiveness of your dog shampoo can gradually decline.

- |   |   |  |  |   |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| <p><b>1. INGREDIENT BREAKDOWN</b></p> <p>Active ingredients like essential oils, vitamins, and botanical extracts can oxidize and lose their effectiveness.</p> | <p><b>2. PRESERVATIVE WEAKENING</b></p> <p>Preservatives help prevent harmful bacteria, yeast, and mold. Over time, they become less effective.</p> | <p><b>3. BACTERIAL GROWTH</b></p> <p>Contamination can lead to the growth of microbes, which may irritate your dog's skin.</p> | <p><b>4. SCENT &amp; COLOR CHANGES</b></p> <p>Oxidation can alter the smell and color, often a sign the ingredients are breaking down.</p> | <p><b>5. REDUCED PERFORMANCE</b></p> <p>The shampoo may not lather as well, clean as effectively, or provide the same skin and coat benefits.</p> |
|---|---|--|--|---|

### 🛡️ HOW TO PROTECT YOUR DOG SHAMPOO

- |   |   |  |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| <p><b>CLOSE IT TIGHT</b></p> <p>Always close the cap firmly after each use.</p> | <p><b>KEEP IT DRY</b></p> <p>Keep water out of the bottle. Don't store in the shower or damp areas.</p> | <p><b>STORE IT RIGHT</b></p> <p>Keep in a cool, dark place away from direct sunlight and heat.</p> | <p><b>USE CLEAN HANDS</b></p> <p>Avoid putting dirty or wet hands inside the bottle.</p> | <p><b>CHECK &amp; REPLACE</b></p> <p>Note the date you opened it and replace as recommended.</p> |
|---|---|--|--|--|

🤍 A LITTLE CARE GOES A LONG WAY

Using fresh, well-preserved shampoo helps ensure your dog gets the safest, most effective care—every bath, every time.

Clean bottle. Happy pup. 🐾



Created by ChatGPT, May 19, 2026

## K9 Body Language 101: Do Dogs Smile?

When a dog “smiles,” it's usually with a relaxed face, soft eyes, and a slightly open mouth with a drooping tongue signaling an overall positive interaction marked with calmness and happiness.

### But are they truly “smiling?”

Dogs are masters at reading human behavior, and many have learned that “smiling” translates into attention and treats!

Also, submissive dogs will engage in “smiling” as a gesture of appeasement, depending on the situation.

Again, as with all canine behavior, look for other cues such as a relaxed body, wagging tail and soft eyes to **know it's a real “smile!”**



Fixabay.com/lncygnela



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## Why Your Dog Needs Dog Shampoo!

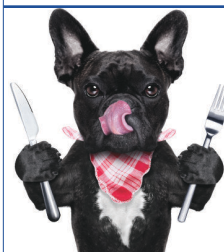
If you're tempted to use your own shampoo on your dog, **stop and read this article!**

### Why Your Dog Needs Dog Shampoo

- Your dog's skin is more neutral than acidic human skin.
- Human shampoo has a more acidic pH level and will disrupt the natural balance of a dog's skin, making them vulnerable and susceptible to **bacteria, infections, parasites, and even viruses.**
- Human shampoos can also strip a K9's **natural and protective oils** from their coat and create unwanted issues.
- The harshness of human shampoo will cause **dryness, irritation, rashes, flakiness, itching and redness/inflammation** to your pup's skin!
- Also, human shampoos typically contain **fragrances, chemical preservatives, colorants** and other **additives** that are **not dog-friendly** to their skin or if ingested from licking.

For your dog's next bath, use **only dog-specific shampoo** specifically formulated to match their skin's natural pH and free of fragrances, chemicals and additives.

Use a groomer? On the left, learn more about dog shampoo and what to ask your groomer before your dog's next bath!



## A Natural, Gut-Soothing Dog Treat

### Does Your Dog Suffer from Gut Issues?

Here's a simple, but effective recipe for a natural gut-soothing frozen treat your dog will **love** with just **3 simple ingredients!**



- ~ Half a cup of cooked sweet potato
- ~ 1 tablespoon peanut butter (xylitol-free!)
- ~ One egg

Mix thoroughly.

Spoon into an ice cube tray or your favorite dog-themed mold and freeze for 3 hours.

Feed 1-2 cubes a day.