

Deadly Foods - are they lurking in your home

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As those big brown eyes staring up at you as your best mate sits beside the table. They sit so quietly waiting, how can you resist.....and just a small piece wont hurt will it

Its a good question..... training issues, behavioural and dominance issues aside....will it hurt?

For the majority of foods the answer is probably not, but there are a number of human foods which will kill your favourite pet quick smart. There is also a range of common household plants and cleaning agents which are not great either. What follows is a list and brief synopsis of some....

"moldy_nectarines.jpg"

Moldy Foods -

Any spoiled food can potentially harbour these fungal toxins - the generally cause seizures and death. Additionally if they don't have fungal toxins spoiled meat particularly grows Salmonella really well...Rule of thumb - if you wouldn't eat it don't expect your pet to do so."chocolate.jpg"

[[Chocolate]] - most of us already know that chocolate and dogs just doesn't mix. Chocolate is made from cocoa beans and cocoa butter. It contains caffeine and theobromin. Dogs are really sensitive to these drugs resulting in an increase in heart rate, hyperactivity, tremors and death. Additionally chocolate can cause a gastro upset leading to vomiting, diarrhea, thirst and lethargy. Baking chocolate is worse than milk chocolate. Early treatment is important. Pets need intravenous fluids in some cases, as well as anti-seizure drugs and calmatives.

Onion, Garlic, Shallots These foods belong to a class of plants called [[Allium]] sp. Other members are chives, spring onions.? All members contain a component called n-propyl disulfide.? This substance seems to cause oxidative damage to red blood cells, which leads to a life threatening destruction of red cells and severe anaemia.? Dried forms of the plants cause similar problems.? "onion.jpg" Treatments include decontamination, blood transfusions and intravenous fluids.

[[Macadamia Nuts]] These nuts can cause problems when ingested by dogs.? when ingested with shell intact they can cause an obstruction and when chewed they can cause vomiting, weakness, nausea, tremors and [[hypothermia]]. ?

Grapes, Raisins, Sultanas This is a bit of a mystery, it is unknown as to the quantity required to cause a toxicity in a dog.? However amounts as small as 30gms (a child's lunch sized amount) have been shown to cause acute failure of the kidneys.? The nature of the toxin is under studies by the veterinary community. ? If your pet eats any amount of these products call your vet!

Tobacco Nicotine in tobacco products is a potent stimulant to pets.? Cigarette butts contain up to 25% of the total nicotine in a cigarette.? An animal eating as few as 3 or 4 cigarettes or 6-8 butts may develop toxic signs such as :-? twitching, tremors, fast respiration, salivation and vomiting can occur, followed by coma and death.? It should not be attempted to induce vomiting in an affected patient, as it may cause seizures and death.? Consult your vet for treatment.

Other dangerous foods

Alcohol

Avocado

Coffee

Fatty Foods - including bone marrow

Yeast Dough (uncooked)

Other Dangerous products

Rat Baits

Antifreeze for Cars

Slug and Snail Baits

Blue Green Algae in ponds?

Other Dangerous Household

???? medications

Pain killers - aspirin, panadol, nurofen etc

Cold medicines

Anti-cancer drugs

Antidepressants

Vitamins

Diet Pills

