

Creating a Pet First Aid Kit

Whether you are heading into the back country with your pup or just want to be prepared for an emergency at home, here is a list of recommended items to keep in a pet first aid kit.

Ideally, these items should be kept in a dry-sack or waterproof pouch!

1: Medical Records and a Contact Sheet

You should always include an updated copy of your pet's medical records and the name and phone number of your primary vet. Including an emergency contact, such as a friend or family member, is also a good idea!

2: Antibiotic Ointment, Hydrogen Peroxide

Antibiotic Ointment will help prevent infection and act as a barrier from bacteria or germs. Not only does Hydrogen Peroxide help clean wounds, it can induce vomiting if your pet ingests

3: Gauze, Scissors, Rubber Gloves and Tape

These items will help you safely and cleanly control bleeding and protect wounds. The scissors can be used to cut the gauze (or your t-shirt) to create a bandage or wrap. Gauze will protect the area while your tape holds everything in place.

4: Saline Eye Solution

This item is vital if your pet has debris or smoke in his/her eye! The saline solution will allow you to safely flush the eyes until all debris is removed.

5: Benadryl

You never know when your pet may have an allergic reaction to something – especially in the back country. Benadryl can help keep them comfortable and manage symptoms until you reach a vet. *Always check the proper dosage for your pet.

6: Tweezers

Tweezers are a key item for any first aid kit – pet or human! They can be used to remove debris, splinters or stingers left behind by bees.

7: Styptic Powder

This is a safe, quick and effective aid to stop bleeding. This is more often used when clipping dogs' nails, but can also work for minor cuts or scratches.

8: Dish Soap

Dish soap, such as Dawn, is a safe and effective way to remove toxins from the skin or fur.

9: Treats

Treats can be an easy way to distract a pup and keep them a little calmer while you attempt to treat a wound or other ailment.

10: Other Misc. Items

Also consider a magnifying glass, a thermometer, a towel, and extra water. Extra water can be used to flush wounds, soothe burns, or cool an overheated pet.

