

FOR YOUR DOG'S SAFETY

You should never give your dog a chicken bone or small bone. These bones can splinter and hurt his throat and intestines. You can obtain a larger shank bone at the grocery store instead.

Every effort should be made to avoid chaining your dog. But if you must chain your dog, be sure that you don't chain him near a fence or anything else that he can get caught on. If he is near a fence, he might try to jump it and accidentally hang himself on the chain. Never use the choke chain collar to chain him.

Never leave your dog in the car during the summer while you shop, etc. Your dog will suffer in the heat even in the shade with the windows rolled down, possibly resulting in death. The inside temperature of a car parked in the shade on a day when the air temperature is 75 degrees can reach 98 degrees within one hour's time, even with all the car windows open one-half inch. It can quickly reach 130 degrees when the car is parked in the sun with all the windows rolled down one to two inches, when the outside temperature is 85 degrees. A car parked in the sun can achieve an internal temperature of 200 degrees. A dog can sustain permanent brain damage at 115 degrees.

Make sure he always has fresh water available during the day. And it is a good idea to feed him in the mornings if he sleeps in the house at night. This helps him avoid soiling the carpet. He rarely needs a bath, but he should be brushed often.

Dogs need yearly shots and a physical examination to keep them healthy. It is a good idea to have your dog spayed or neutered. The idea that a female should have a litter of puppies before she is spayed is nonsense. A female can be spayed at 6 months; a male neutered before he is a year old.

Be sure to take the choke chain collar off when you are not with your dog.

If you let your dog run loose he could be lost or stolen. He might be teased or hurt, attacked by another animal, or hit by a car. The dog warden can pick him up and take him to the pound even if he stays in your own yard. There is a fine to pay when you pick him up. If he is not picked up soon, he may be put to sleep or given to a new home.

Please don't allow your dog to ride in the back of a truck or with his head out the car window.

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