

SUMMER SURVIVAL GUIDE 2023



7 COOL
COMFORTS

HOW HOT
IS IT?



EXERCISING
YOUR DOG
BEYOND THE WALK

ENTERTAINING
TOYS FOR SUMMER

TRAVEL TIPS
& PRODUCTS

7 COOL COMFORTS



These are our favorites! The products listed in this guide are products I use or would use and many of the product links are affiliate links which means if you buy something we'll receive a small commission at no addition cost to you.



<https://amzn.to/46ZNDuw>

Green Pet Cool Pet Pad

- By far **BEST COOLING PAD!**
- **Self Cooling Gel Pad**
- **Stays cool for hours**
- **No water, or refrigeration needed**
- **NOT recommended for use in direct sunlight**

<https://www.thegreenpetshop.com/>

COOL COMFORTS



<https://kuranda.com?partner=24124>

Kuranda Bed

- Outdoor Mesh (Textilene)
- Open weave air circulation helps to keep cool and dry.
- Rated up to 100 lbs.
- Indoor or outdoor use

<https://amzn.to/3rzzxQg>



RYOBI 18-Volt ONE+ Bucket Top Misting Fan Kit

- Use with a bucket or hose
- Variable Speed
- Rechargeable battery

<https://amzn.to/43S9iID>



IcyBreeze v2 Pro

- The IcyBreeze can blow cold, dry air up to 35 degrees below the outside temperature
- 38 quarts of cooler space for drinks & ice
- I've used this in the vehicle

<https://www.icybreeze.com/>

COOL COMFORTS



Umbrella Anchor

- Heavy Duty Steel
- No dig ground anchor
- Pole's opening is 2"

<https://amzn.to/43LpHll>



Kiddy Pool

- Any hard sided kiddy pool
- Inexpensive pools can usually be found at Walmart

<https://amzn.to/3rJCcXC>

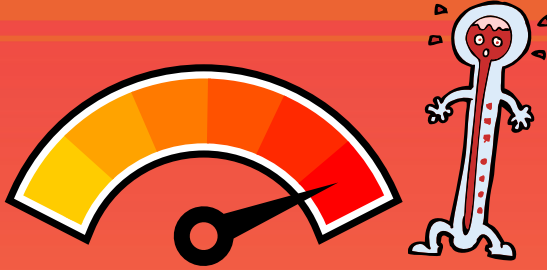


Outdoor Dog Water Fountain

- Paw Activated
- Connect to garden hose
- Place in shady location

<https://amzn.to/44zIBDf>

HOW HOT IS IT?



SUN

OUTDOOR TEMPERATURE 2PM
101° F

SHADE



GRASS
FULL SUN

106°

SIDEWALK
FULL SUN

135°

FAKE GRASS
FULL SUN

165°

ASPHALT
(FADED)

146°

GRASS
SHADE

81°

SIDEWALK
SHADE

95°

FAKE GRASS
SHADE

101°



SURFACE TEMPERATURES WILL VARY GREATLY. MUCH DEPENDS ON THE LENGTH OF TIME IN FULL SUN OR SHADE. ALTHOUGH THE FAKE GRASS TESTED IN FULL SUN REFLECTED THE HIGHEST TEMPERATURE IT WAS NOT UNBEARABLY HOT TO THE TOUCH.



EXERCISING YOUR DOG



Most dogs enjoy a daily walk and are willing to do anything we ask and often have a strong desire to participate, but we should be careful we are not asking them to do more than they should when its warm outside. Take your walk early before it heats up and come prepared and carry water to keep your dog hydrated. Teach your dog to walk on a loose leash here.

Poop Bags

- Carry at least one more bag than you think you need.
- I carry one extra in my phone case for backup

<https://amzn.to/3pTh68X>



MUST HAVES



Insulated Stainless Steel Water Bottle

- Keeps water cold
- A 22oz bottle fits nicely in the carry pouchs listed below
- I purchased a less expensive bottle at Costco

<https://amzn.to/44NfTPc>



Water Bottle Pouch

- Use a pouch to carry water comfortably
- I use two on longer walks. One for Gromit's water and another for mine
- Attaches to belt

<https://amzn.to/3O3SPEU>



Dexas Collapsible Travel Cup

- Large 2 cup
- I clip this to the side of the pouch above or on the CamelBak carrier

<https://amzn.to/3q6WUQY>

GOOD TO HAVE



<https://chillybuddy.com/>



- Chilly Buddy Cooling Jacket
- Can significantly lower coat temperature in the sun!
- Gromit wears this often when the temp is above 62 degrees
- <https://chillybuddy.com/>

https://www.cleanrun.com/product/chillybuddy_dog_cooling_jacket/index.cfm



Travel Stool

- I often carry a stool on my belt to have on hand when Gromit wants to take a break
- Light weight and strong

<https://amzn.to/3DvBRdZ>



Infrared Thermometer Gun

- Check the temperature of surfaces

<https://amzn.to/3YaZHoL>

GOOD TO HAVE



CamelBak Podium Flow 4 Hydration Belt

- I use this with the 22oz Insulated Stainless Steel Bottle
- Air Support™ Back Panel: allows for maximum ventilation
- Zippered Pockets for carrying
 - *phone, poop bags, treats, tick tool, etc...*

<https://amzn.to/46XD62V>



Outdoor Research Seattle Sun Sombrero

- Breathable Lightweight UV Protection
- I use Outdoor Research's Rain Hat when there's inclement weather

<https://amzn.to/3rBmJsJ>

EXERCISING YOUR DOG

BEYOND THE WALK



Instead of placing our dog's food in a bowl, we can scatter dry food over a portion of a grass lawn and then give them permission to forage. Dogs are natural scavengers and foraging is a natural behavior that provides mental stimulation and is a great way to provide a low arousal activity for dogs. The mental stimulation of sniffing and hunting for food has a calming influence on dogs. Scatter feeding can be a good choice for dogs that eat excessively fast since it takes longer for them to finish a meal. Start by showing your dog a small handful of food and then excitedly toss the food in a small area of the yard. Once they have found all the food repeat with another handful and spread over a slightly larger area. Slowly increase the amount of food and area were you toss it. Before you scatter your dog's food determine the location is safe and your dog won't be disturbed by other dogs so there's no competition over food.

AVOID lawns that have been treated with herbicides or pesticides since these have been linked to cancer. Also avoid lawns recently fertilized.

Scatter feeding may not be appropriate for nervous or anxious dogs. If a dog is not comfortable with their surroundings, they may be better off eating out of a bowl in a place they feel safe.

EXERCISING YOUR DOG

BEYOND THE WALK

FETCH



Fetch is a great game to play with dogs and it's a game all dogs should learn. While not all dogs are natural retrievers, fetch is a game every dog can learn. Since retrieving contains an element of chasing which most dogs love to do, we can use toys in our training put some controls on this behavior.

The key to teaching dogs to fetch is the type of toy we use and the manner in which we teach it.

Breed Specific Toys

- Sporting Dogs (Retrievers, Setters, Pointers, & Spaniels)
- Guarding Breeds
- Terriers
- Herding Breeds
- Hounds
- Toy Breeds

Be sure to play during the cool part of the day, or inside in the air conditioning. And have water available.

Do not overdo it with young dogs since they are still growing and vulnerable to injury.

EXERCISING YOUR DOG

BEYOND THE WALK

FIND IT / SEARCH



This is a game that can be played inside or outside depending on the weather.

We can start with a few pieces of food and a simple find game to start and then work up to more challenging finds for favorite toys.

Start by asking your dog to sit (stay is implied). If your dog has not been taught to “stay” that’s okay, you can place them on a leash and secure the leash to a dog hook, or take a carabiner and fasten the leash to an immovable object or secure it to a ground anchor.



EXERCISING YOUR DOG

BEYOND THE WALK

FIND IT / SEARCH



Show them about 8 pieces of food and tease them while you move away and act as though you put about 20 pieces on the ground while placing the 8 pieces out in the open making all easy to find.

Release them from the leash and send them to find the food. As they learn the game start slowly making the hides harder. Work your way up to putting your dog on a stay out of view and then hide one of their favorite toys. Then go and release them from the stay or call them to come and then send them to find their toy. Start with simple easy to find hides, and slower make the finds more difficult as your dog gets quicker finding his toy.



<https://amzn.to/456YP6J>

WWW.HOMESKOOLING4DOGS.COM

EXERCISING YOUR DOG

BEYOND THE WALK



While most dogs will instinctively make a paddling motion in water only some dogs are natural swimmers, others can be taught to swim, and still others are not built for swimming. Dogs with large chests, small hindquarters, and short legs generally don't do well in water. Even breeds known to be good swimmers and natural water dogs can have structural deficiencies that make swimming difficult so they may avoid anything to do with water. e.g. short necks, long necks, ewe necks, slipped hocks, narrow or pinched nostrils, will have challenges in the water. Older dogs and overweight dogs are at a greater risk due to the physical challenges of getting out of the water if there is not easy access to steps or a ramp clearly visible. It's a good idea to place something that is clearly visible at the exit points to help a dog locate the exit. When dogs are unsure around water, start by teaching them how to get out of the water to build their confidence and lessen the chances of panic. This needs to be done carefully so we don't overwhelm them or make them more fearful. When a dog feels in control, they will be less fearful around water. Never push or toss a dog into the water. A dog that panics is not likely to learn anything more than we cannot be trusted.

EXERCISING YOUR DOG

BEYOND THE WALK



Toy and small breed dogs can be excellent swimmers but can easily become chilled. Be careful that dogs don't swim to exhaustion. Monitor your dog for signs of fatigue, excessive water consumption, changes in facial expression, and emotional state.

These were the top rated life jackets by the Whole Dog Journal

RUFFWEAR

Float Coat™ Dog Life Jacket

- " For dogs who are novice or weak swimmers"
- Sturdy handles
- "designed to support the dog's natural swimming position"

<https://amzn.to/3OayOfV>



West Marine

Neoprene Pet Life Jacket

- "for athletic, accomplished swimmers"

<https://www.westmarine.com>



ENTERTAINMENT



Treat dispensing toys are a great way to entertain your dog and to reduce boredom, stress, and frustration. These are some of my favorites.

Generally speaking, there are two types; dry food - treat dispensing, and products that can be stuffed and/or frozen. Kong's are a longtime favorite for many dogs but some dogs' loose interest quickly because the treats inside can be difficult to get out. If a Kong is too challenging for a dog, use my favorite toy, a Tux.

- Start by using a small treat so that they come out easily when the toy is rolled or moved
- Nurture your dog's natural curiosity by providing encouragement as he explores the toy
- Slowly roll or move the toy so treats fall out, then encourage your dog to eat the treats

Although nothing is indestructible these toys are among the best.

Supervisor your dog with any new toy to be sure it is safe for your dog.

MUST HAVES



WEST PAW TUX

- One of the best chew toys
- Easy to clean
- Large holds 1/4 cup
- Freeze with food or treats

<https://amzn.to/43DT7YQ>



WEST PAW TOPPL

- Freeze food or treats in one or put two together for a puzzle toy
- Easy to clean
- Small, large, & XL

<https://amzn.to/3DpWat7>



KONG

- Freeze food or treats inside
- Several sizes available

<https://amzn.to/3Q9bmCE>

MUST HAVES



RED CUP TUMBLER

- Save a large plastic to-go cup for freezing ice treats
- Fill with water and add treats. Jerky, etc...
- Take out of freezer and let rest until ice pops out of cup or rinse under water

<https://amzn.to/3pYRB5V>



WEST PAW QWIZL

- Stuff with jerky treat
- Can also freeze stuffed toy in large tumbler like above
- Small & large sizes

<https://amzn.to/3Kbdvts>



KONG Wobbler

- Interactive slow feeder for dry food or treats
- Easy to clean
- Small & large sizes

<https://amzn.to/3q3fLML>

TRAVEL



Travel to a new park or just to the local pet store where dogs can wonder the isles and explore in the air conditioning. Take into consideration where you will park when you arrive. Is there shade? Can your dog exit the vehicle next to the sidewalk so they can avoid walking on the asphalt? I've circled parking lots many times while waiting for a parking space so dogs could avoid the asphalt and close to the doors.

Never leave your dog unattended in a vehicle. Lowering windows has little effect on the temperature inside the car. On a warm day the temperature can exceed 120 degrees in minutes. The exception to the rule would be a Tesla with "Dog Mode".

When traveling by vehicle its best to secure your dog in a crash rated crate or crash rated harness for safety.



Flea Combs

- Plastic comb
- I use these to help find ticks after an outing
<https://amzn.to/4741DDy>

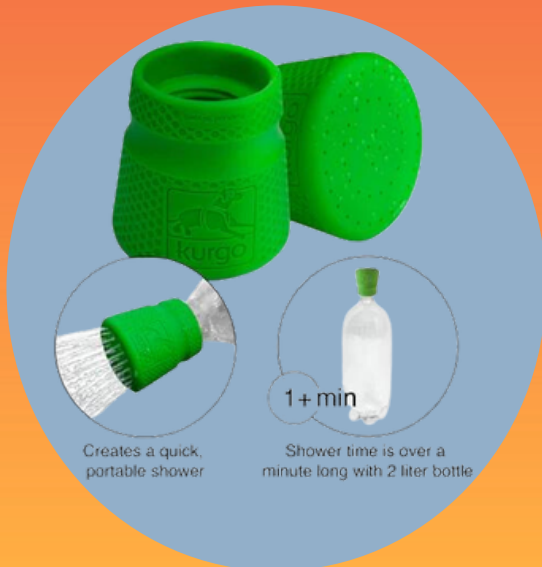
GOOD TO HAVE



Dexas Collapsible Travel Cup

- 1 or 2 cup size
- Place in cup holder in vehicle

<https://amzn.to/472zoVT>



Mud Dog Travel Shower

- Lightweight, Mesh Canopy Cover with Grommets
- Fits standard water and soda bottles from 16oz to 2 liter
- Shower lasts 1 minute or more with a 2 liter bottle

<https://amzn.to/3Qc4UL0>



Dexas MudBuster Portable Dog Paw Washer

- Add water and gentle silicone bristles will loosen dirt and mud from paws
- A must have at my house!

<https://amzn.to/3OxeVLj>

GOOD TO HAVE



- Arctic Zone Titan X Fridge**
- Cold Expandable Insulated Lunch Pack with Ice Walls
 - Great for traveling with frozen Kong's and Tux's.
- <https://amzn.to/3O8aw6e>



- Travel Outdoor Dog Bed**
- Collapsible Dog Mat
 - Portable Waterproof
 - Washable
 - Dog Bag Blanket
- <https://amzn.to/3Y5UrCS>



- Mendota Slip Lead**
- 1/2" X 6'
 - Keep an extra slip lead in the vehicle for emergencies
- <https://amzn.to/450WKcJ>

GOOD TO HAVE



Indoor Outdoor Wireless Thermometer

- 4 inches large lcd display
- Great for monitoring room and vehicle temperatures

<https://amzn.to/43HAof4>



Reflective Sun Shade Cloth

- Lightweight, Mesh Canopy Cover with Grommets
- I use the magnetics below to secure to vehicle

<https://amzn.to/3Y762BM>



Carabiner Magnetic Hooks

- I use these to secure the reflective cover on vehicle
- Attach via grommets
- Heavy Duty 50lbs

<https://amzn.to/3Q4zFlb>

JUST IN CASE

Grip Trex™ Dog Boots



- Available in 8 sizes
 - Top rated dog boots
- <https://amzn.to/3Q5k9Wb>



RUFFWEAR

- BackTrak™ Dog Evacuation Kit



Säker

- K-911™ Rescue Sling Ascension Extended Harness