**THINGS YOUR PUPPY SHOULD AVOID**

**This list is not comprehensive but should cover common mistakes pet owners make, sometimes fatally for their puppy.**

**ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center Phone Number: (888) 426-4435**

Our Animal Poison Control Center experts have put together a handy list of the top toxic people foods to avoid feeding your pet. As always, if you suspect your pet has eaten any of the following foods, please note the amount ingested and contact your veterinarian or the [ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center](http://www.aspca.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control) at (888) 426-4435.

**Alcohol**
Alcoholic beverages and food products containing alcohol can cause vomiting, diarrhea, decreased coordination, central nervous system depression, difficulty breathing, tremors, abnormal blood acidity, coma and even death. Under no circumstances should your pet be given any alcohol. If you suspect that your pet has ingested alcohol, contact your veterinarian or the [ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center](http://www.aspca.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control) immediately.

**Avocado**
Avocado is primarily a problem for birds, rabbits, donkeys, horses, and ruminants including sheep and goats. The biggest concern is for cardiovascular damage and death in birds.  Horses, donkeys and ruminants frequently get swollen, edematous head and neck.

**Chocolate, Coffee and Caffeine**
These products all contain substances called methylxanthines, which are found in cacao seeds, the fruit of the plant used to make coffee, and in the nuts of an extract used in some sodas. When ingested by pets, methylxanthines can cause vomiting and diarrhea, panting, excessive thirst and urination, hyperactivity, abnormal heart rhythm, tremors, seizures and even death. Note that darker chocolate is more dangerous than milk chocolate. White chocolate has the lowest level of methylxanthines, while baking chocolate contains the highest.

**Citrus**
The stems, leaves, peels, fruit and seeds of citrus plants contain varying amounts of citric acid, essential oils that can cause irritation and possibly even central nervous system depression if ingested in significant amounts. Small doses, such as eating the fruit, are not likely to present problems beyond minor stomach upset.

**Coconut and Coconut Oil**
When ingested in small amounts, coconut and coconut-based products are not likely to cause serious harm to your pet. The flesh and milk of fresh coconuts do contain oils that may cause stomach upset, loose stools or diarrhea. Because of this, we encourage you to use caution when offering your pets these foods. Coconut water is high in potassium and should not be given to your pet.

**Grapes and Raisins**
Although the toxic substance within grapes and raisins is unknown, these fruits can cause kidney failure. Until more information is known about the toxic substance, it is best to avoid feeding grapes and raisins to dogs.

**Macadamia Nuts**
Macadamia nuts can cause weakness, depression, vomiting, tremors and hyperthermia in dogs. Signs usually appear within 12 hours of ingestion and can last approximately 12 to 48 hours.

**Milk and Dairy**
Because pets do not possess significant amounts of lactase (the enzyme that breaks down lactose in milk), milk and other dairy-based products cause them diarrhea or other digestive upset.

**Nuts**
Nuts, including almonds, pecans, and walnuts, contain high amounts of oils and fats. The fats can cause vomiting and diarrhea, and potentially pancreatitis in pets.

**Onions, Garlic, Chives**
These vegetables and herbs can cause gastrointestinal irritation and could lead to red blood cell damage. Although cats are more susceptible, dogs are also at risk if a large enough amount is consumed. Toxicity is normally diagnosed through history, clinical signs and microscopic confirmation of Heinz bodies.

**Raw/Undercooked Meat, Eggs and Bones**
Raw meat and raw eggs can contain bacteria such as Salmonella and E. coli that can be harmful to pets and humans. Raw eggs contain an enzyme called avidin that decreases the absorption of biotin (a B vitamin), which can lead to skin and coat problems. Feeding your pet raw bones may seem like a natural and healthy option that might occur if your pet lived in the wild. However, this can be very dangerous for a domestic pet, who might choke on bones, or sustain a grave injury should the bone splinter and become lodged in or puncture your pet’s digestive tract.

**Salt and Salty Snack Foods**
Large amounts of salt can produce excessive thirst and urination, or even sodium ion poisoning in pets. Signs that your pet may have eaten too many salty foods include vomiting, diarrhea, depression, tremors, elevated body temperature, seizures and even death. As such, we encourage you to avoid feeding salt-heavy snacks like potato chips, pretzels, and salted popcorn to your pets.

**Xylitol**
Xylitol is used as a sweetener in many products, including gum, candy, baked goods and toothpaste. It can cause insulin release in most species, which can lead to liver failure. The increase in insulin leads to hypoglycemia (lowered sugar levels). Initial signs of toxicosis include vomiting, lethargy and loss of coordination. Signs can progress to seizures. Elevated liver enzymes and liver failure can be seen within a few days.

**Yeast Dough**
Yeast dough can rise and cause gas to accumulate in your pet’s digestive system. This can be painful and can cause the stomach to bloat, and potentially twist, becoming a life threatening emergency. The yeast produce ethanol as a by-product and a dog ingesting raw bread dough can become drunk. Source: <https://www.aspca.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control/people-foods-avoid-feeding-your-pets>

* **Acetaminophen**, which is [found in Tylenoland other medications](http://www.vetstreet.com/care/acetaminophen-toxicity-in-cats-and-dogs), can cause liver damage in dogs. Cats are even more sensitive: Ingestion of a single 325 mg tablet by a 10-pound cat can cause anemia and even be fatal. *Toxicity Ranking:* moderate to severe.
* **Batteries**can be toxic to both dogs and cats, leading to ulcers in the mouth, esophagus and stomach. *Toxicity Ranking:* moderate to severe.
* **Chocolate**can cause [seizures and death in dogs and cats](http://www.vetstreet.com/care/chocolate-toxicosis). Darker chocolate, such as unsweetened baker’s chocolate, is more toxic than milk or white chocolate. Even cocoa bean mulch, when eaten in large quantities, can be a problem. *Toxicity Ranking:* moderate to severe.
* **Detergents** and fabric softener sheets can cause ulcers in the mouth, esophagus and stomach in dogs and cats. *Toxicity Ranking:* mild to moderate.
* **Ethylene glycol**is found in [antifreeze](http://www.vetstreet.com/care/antifreeze-poisoning), windshield de-icing agents and motor oils. Dogs and cats are attracted to its sweet taste, but as little as a teaspoon in cats or a tablespoon in dogs can cause kidney failure. Recently, antifreeze and engine coolant manufacturers have agreed to [voluntarily add bittering agents](http://www.vetstreet.com/our-pet-experts/antifreeze-manufacturers-write-a-bitter-end-to-a-not-so-sweet-story) to reduce the products’ appeal to pets and children. *Toxicity Ranking*: severe to fatal.
* **Fertilizers** can contain poisonous amounts of nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, iron, zinc, herbicides and pesticides. Keep dogs and cats away from treated lawns until they are dry. Check the product packaging, though, since some products must be rinsed into the lawn before it is safe to walk on. *Toxicity Ranking:* mild to moderate.
* **Grapes**, [raisins](http://www.vetstreet.com/care/human-foods-that-are-dangerous-for-dogs-and-cats) and currants — even grape juice — in small amounts can cause kidney failure in dogs. *Toxicity Ranking:* moderate to severe.
* **Household cleaners**, such as bleach, drain cleaners, ammonia and toilet bowl cleaners, can cause gastrointestinal ulcers and other problems in dogs and cats. *Toxicity Ranking:* varies.
* **Insecticides** in [flea and tick products](http://www.vetstreet.com/dogs/flea-and-tick-prevention) can cause problems if not used according to labels. Insecticides that are meant for dogs can cause severe toxicity in cats, leading to signs such as [vomiting](http://www.vetstreet.com/vomiting), seizures and difficulty breathing. Products intended for treating the yard or house should not be used on pets. *Toxicity Ranking:* mild to severe.
* **Jimson weed**, also known as devil’s trumpet, can cause restlessness, drunken walking and respiratory failure in dogs and cats. *Toxicity Ranking:* moderate.
* **Kerosene**, gasoline and tiki torch fluids can cause drooling, drunken walking and difficulty breathing in dogs and cats. If these products contain antifreeze, they are even more problematic. *Toxicity Ranking:* moderate to severe (potentially life threatening).
* **Lilies**— Easter, day, tiger, Japanese and Asiatic varieties — can cause kidney failure in cats. Lilies of the valley can cause heart rhythm problems and death in dogs and cats. *Toxicity Ranking:* moderate to severe.
* **Mothballs**, especially if they contain naphthalene, can be toxic to dogs and cats, resulting in [vomiting](http://www.vetstreet.com/care/vomiting-in-cats-and-dogs), [diarrhea](http://www.vetstreet.com/care/diarrhea), increased drinking and urination, and seizures. *Toxicity Ranking:* moderate to severe (potentially life threatening).
* **Nonprescription medications**, such as ibuprofen, can lead to severe ulcers and [anemia](http://www.vetstreet.com/care/anemia-in-dogs), as well as liver and kidney failure in pets. *Toxicity Ranking:* moderate to severe (potentially life threatening).
* **Onions**, [garlic](http://www.vetstreet.com/care/human-foods-that-are-dangerous-for-dogs-and-cats), leeks and chives can be toxic in dogs and cats. When chewed or swallowed, these ingredients can cause anemia and gastrointestinal upset. *Toxicity Ranking:* mild to moderate.
* **Prescription medications**, such as antidepressants and ADHD and cardiac drugs, are commonly ingested by pets when pills are dropped on the floor or left on counters. Even a small dose can cause problems. *Toxicity Ranking:* varies.
* **Queensland nuts**, also known as [macadamia nuts](http://www.vetstreet.com/dr-marty-becker/five-foods-you-should-never-share-with-your-dog-and-a-few-you-can), can cause lethargy, [vomiting](http://www.vetstreet.com/care/vomiting-in-cats-and-dogs) and difficulty walking in dogs. *Toxicity Ranking:* mild to moderate.
* **Rodenticides**, such as mouse and rat poisons, can contain a number of different toxins, which have different effects on dogs and cats. Several common ingredients, like warfarin and coumarin, can cause blood clotting problems and hemorrhaging. *Toxicity Ranking:* mild to severe.
* **Sago palms**are one of a number of toxic plants for dogs and cats. Ingestion can lead to vomiting, diarrhea and seizures, as well as liver failure in dogs. *Toxicity Ranking:* severe.
* **Tobacco** can be toxic to both dogs and cats. Ingestion of nicotine in the tobacco plant or in cigarettes or patches can lead to vomiting, tremors, collapse and death. *Toxicity Ranking:*moderate to severe
* **Unbaked bread dough** can expand in the stomach. If the stomach twists, cutting off the blood supply, emergency surgery is needed. The yeast in the dough can also produce alcohol, leading to seizures and respiratory failure. *Toxicity Ranking:*mild to severe.
* **Veterinary prescriptions**, such as arthritis medications, are often meat-flavored, which can be enticing to dogs. Ingestion of large quantities can result in stomach ulcers, liver failure or kidney failure. *Toxicity Ranking:*moderate to severe.
* **Windshield wiper fluid**can contain methanol or ethylene glycol. Ingestion of methanol can cause low blood sugar and drunken walking in dogs and cats. *Toxicity Ranking:* mild to moderate.
* **Xylitol** is a [sugar-free sweetener](http://www.vetstreet.com/dogs/xylitol-toxicity-in-dogs) commonly found in chewing gum, breath mints and toothpaste. In dogs, it can lead to dangerous drops in blood sugar and liver failure. *Toxicity Ranking:* mild to severe.
* **Yard products**, including snail and slug bait, herbicides and fertilizers, are never good for pets. Signs will vary by the ingredient. *Toxicity Ranking:* varies.
* **Zinc** toxicity can happen when dogs and cats eat metal or coins. Ingestion of even a single zinc penny can be fatal. Zinc can cause anemia, as well as liver, kidney or heart failure. *Toxicity Ranking:* moderate to severe.

Source: <http://www.vetstreet.com/our-pet-experts/pet-poisons-from-a-to-z-26-common-items-that-are-dangerous-to-cats-and-dogs?page=3>

## Top 10 poisonous plants:

## 1. Autumn Crocus 2. Azalea

## 3. Daffodil 4. Dieffenbachia

## 5. Tulip 6. Kalanchoe

## 7. Sago Palm 8. Oleander

## 9. Cyclamen 10. Amaryllis

## source: <https://www.petmd.com/dog/slideshows/emergency/poisonous-plants-to-dogs>