

Make Your Own Dog First-Aid Kit

How to assemble a kit for your dog.

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Traveling with your dog? Find an easy-to-carry, durable box, and start assembling a canine first-aid kit to take along. Include these items, and you'll be ready to help your dog in an emergency: Gauze rolls and pads Adhesive or first-aid tape Roll bandages that stretch and cling Hydrogen peroxide for cleaning wounds and for inducing vomiting Antiseptic cream Tweezers Magnifying glass Scissors Saline solution or eye lubricant Plastic syringe for administering liquid medications Ice pack Compact thermal blanket or a regular blanket Benedryl — if approved by your veterinarian Anti-diarrhea medication for dogs — if approved by your veterinarian Written prescriptions for medications your dog takes regularly Pet first-aid booklet Telephone numbers for your vet, a vet in the city you're visiting, an after-hours emergency vet hospital, and the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center: (888) 426-4435

No time to put together a first-aid kit? Order one already stocked with many of the items listed above. Several companies and nonprofit organizations sell canine first-aid kits.

If your dog is prone to motion sickness, pack some additional items: Ginger snaps. These cookies sometimes help alleviate upset stomachs. Comfort Zone spray. Spray it in your dog's crate or on the car seat where he'll ride. Benadryl. Some vets suggest this over-the-counter medication. Prescription drugs if your vet recommends them.