

Help Your Dog Cope with Veterinary Anxiety

Vet staff are prepared to help your dog through his anxiety.

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When visiting the veterinarian, bear in mind that your dog is being overwhelmed by the smell of medications, disinfectants, blood, sickness and even death. You may think the waiting room smells pleasant or odor free, but your dog's sense of smell is keener than yours.

Veterinary hospital staffs are usually prepared to help nervous patients if you explain the problem. Some hand out small treats or will step outside for a friendly greeting if time allows. Veterinarians who make house calls are another solution for pets with fear of the doctor's office, as well as the answer to latchkey pets in need of medical care. (Some bosses just don't understand why an employee asks for time off to take Rufus to the veterinarian.)