



	Happy Tails	Welcome to Our New Dogs
	Piper	Arrow
	Shadow	Daisy
	Huston (nka Dallas)	Tiger (nka Tye)
	Dolly	Black Majestic (nka Moji)
	Diamond	Princess

Interesting websites:

Is Grain-Free Dog Food Causing Heart Disease?

<https://www.petmd.com/dog/nutrition/grain-free-dog-food-causing-heart-disease>

Brain scans reveal what dogs really think of us

<https://www.mic.com/articles/104474/brain-scans-reveal-what-dogs-really-think-of-us>

Seven things I wish I'd known before I got a greyhound (a fun read from across the pond)

<https://medium.com/writing-in-the-media/what-i-wish-id-known-before-i-got-a-greyhound-5b571dd3662e>

Ten facts you may not know about dogs

<https://www.cesarsway.com/10-facts-you-may-not-know-about-dogs/>

Using CBD oil for your greyhounds

I have been using CBD oil (cannabidiol) for the past few months for my greyhound, Gabby. The oil we use is from hemp plants where most CBD oil comes from. It does not include THC (delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol) that gives marijuana its psychoactive properties.

The product we use is called Hemp4Paws, natural healing and care for your pets (www.hemp4paws.ca). I purchase it at a local pet store in Victoria, Rascal's. The store carefully has the batches tested in a local lab to ensure it is not contaminated with pesticides, fungicides or solvents. I will say – it's not cheap. But you need to make sure you use a good, quality product. And the better the quality, the higher the price. We use the 600 mg bottle that is for dogs 60-100 lbs. It needs to be given directly onto the dog's tongue to absorb. While Gabby likes the taste, she hates things squeezed into her mouth, so giving it is a bit of a challenge!

Gabby has had years of digestive problems from pancreatitis to haemorrhagic gastroenteritis – both diseases that can be fatal. She is unable to take most regular medications by mouth or injection. And she is now 11 and has arthritis in her hips. It's hard for her to get up and down, hard for her to do stairs, hard for her to poop. I had to find something to ease that pain. Fentanyl patches do work but at \$50 for 5 days worth, to say nothing of trying to get that patch off her, I really didn't want to use those (see following article if you need to get a fentanyl patch off your dog).

I tried Arnica, a homeopathic product but saw no improvement. So I decided to give CBD oil a shot. The woman at Rascal's suggested trying ½ syringe to start. I decided to try two drops. The next day I gave her two drops twice. The next day 4 drops twice, until we were close to a full dose (which is a full syringe twice a day). It's best to purchase the oil as a liquid so you can adjust the dosage easily.

You do have to monitor the amount. I found that Gabby does best on ½ syringe twice a day. Any more and she becomes anxious (which is weird, because a lot of people give CBD oil to solve anxiety). There are many anecdotal claims for CBD oil for pain, seizures, appetite stimulation, anti-nausea effects, even separation anxiety.

Possible side effects include dry mouth, increased thirst, anxiety, and lower blood pressure and drowsiness if used in high doses. And because there are no studies, there could be effects that you won't know for some time.

If Gabby had required a full dose twice a day, the cost would have been \$160/month. Fortunately ½ syringe twice a day seems to work, so that is cut in half. And I have noticed she is definitely not as sore, she gets up easier, she can poop properly, and the stairs aren't a problem. If you have a dog that isn't doing well on its current medication, you may want to consider CBD oil. Talk to your vet about it.

Getting sap off your dog

Most sap from trees is not poisonous but check trees in your area to ensure there aren't any deadly ones because you don't want your dog to try to lick off poisonous sap.

I find using cooking oil, butter or peanut butter is easiest. Massage the oil into the sap to loosen it, then gently comb it out. If your dog gets sap between its toes, caught in the hair, you can use this as well, but get some paper towels to (gently) pull the clumps of sap off. You can trim off any sap near the ends of the hair if it isn't too close to the skin. I find it is better to work it out with the oil (which can be warmed if you want) and then following that, you should ideally wash the dog. If the sap was only in its feet or on one or two spots, just use a warm washcloth to get most of the oil off the dog. Make sure you use cooking oil, butter or peanut butter because you know your dog is going to get some of that into its mouth.

If the sap has been there for a while, you may need to use a hair dryer on a low setting to warm it up a bit before using the oil to loosen it and comb it out.

Another way to remove ticks

If you have a tick problem in your neighbourhood, here is a great way to get them off you or your dogs.

This is from a pediatrician. It's great, because it works in those places where it's sometimes difficult to get to with tweezers: between toes, in the middle of a head full of dark hair, etc.

Apply a glob of liquid soap to a cotton ball. Cover the tick with the soap-soaked cotton ball and let it stay on the repulsive insect for a few seconds (15-20), after which the tick will come out on its own and be stuck to the cotton ball when you lift it away. This is much less traumatic for the patient and easier for person doing the removal.

Cold Weather Tips from the ASPCA

Never let your dog off the leash on snow or ice, especially during a snowstorm—dogs can lose their scent and easily become lost. More dogs are lost during the winter than during any other season, so make sure yours always wears ID tags.

Thoroughly wipe off your dog's legs and stomach when he comes in out of the sleet, snow or ice. He can ingest salt, antifreeze or other potentially dangerous chemicals while licking his paws, and his paw pads may also bleed from snow or encrusted ice.

When you bathe your dog in the colder months, be sure to completely dry him before taking him out for a walk. Get your dog a coat, sweater with a high collar or turtleneck or joggers with coverage from the base of the tail to the belly and covering all the large muscles. For many dogs, this is regulation winter wear.

Never leave your dog alone in a car during cold weather. A car can act as a refrigerator in the winter, holding in the cold and causing the animal to freeze to death.

When I got My New Dog

I asked for strength that I might rear her perfectly;
I was given weakness that I might feed her more treats.

I asked for good health that I might rest easy;
I was given a "special needs" dog that I might know nurturing.

I asked for an obedient dog that I might feel proud;

I was given stubbornness that I might feel humble.

I asked for compliance that I might feel masterful;

I was given a clown that I might laugh.

I asked for a companion that I might not feel lonely;

I was given a best friend that I would feel loved.

I got nothing I asked for,
But everything that I needed.

Breakfast bars

So easy - you just throw everything into the bowl, mix & pat onto two, greased cookie sheets, no rolling or cookie cutters. Cut the recipe in half if you want fewer biscuits.

- * 12 c. oatmeal
- * 8 eggs
- * 2/3 c. honey
- * 2 c. milk
- * 3 to 4 mashed bananas (optional)
- * 4 c. whole-wheat flour
- * 3/4 c. oil
- * 1/2 c. molasses
- * 1 large can solid pack pumpkin (optional)

Preheat oven to 325 F. Grease 2 cookie sheets.

Dump everything into a very large bowl. Mix this whole mess together (use your hands if you prefer), pat onto greased cookie sheets & bake at 325 F for 1 hour. After one hour turn the oven off, crack the oven door & allow bars to cool in oven. Break into whatever sizes you want. These freeze well.

Is your dog bored?

As winter comes closer and the days get shorter, there are fewer hours in which to walk your greyhound. Then of course, there's that awful weather – wind, rain, sleet, snow – and we all know how much greyhounds LOVE cold weather! ☺

If the weather isn't great, take your dog for a drive. Visit a nearby pet store where the dog is welcome. Take him inside and let him pick out a new toy or a treat. Visit with the other people and dogs in the store.

There are also games you can play indoors. Playing with your dog in the house will keep your pet from becoming bored as well as strengthening your relationship with your dog. Playing can also become a way to train a dog and to reward a dog.

Greyhounds love it when you drag something along the floor. Tie an old stuffed toy or a white sock onto the end of a rope or heavy twine, and drag it down the hall. Play with the dog the same way you would play with a cat and a piece of string. Let him catch it and toss it, then pull it away again.

You can also toss a stuffed toy. Get them to grab it, kill it, then take it away and throw it again. You can train fetch with this as well. You can also play tug of war but make sure you win at the end. (This game is not recommended for people with babies or small children.)

Another great game is hide and seek. This is somewhat more difficult if you have multiple dogs but can still be done. I start out by hiding in a pretty obvious place, like beside the bed. Then call the dog. Be very excited and tell the dog how smart he is when he finds you. Once he knows what he is meant to do, start making it harder for him to find you. Hide behind doors, in closets, behind the couch. If the dog doesn't find you, keep calling. Some dogs use their nose, others just look. This is a good way to train your dog to come.

Hunting for treats is another good game. Place a treat somewhere the dog can see you, and then tell them to take it. Once they understand the game, make it a little harder for them to get the treat, i.e. put it under a towel but let them see it going there. You can vary this by making it more and more difficult to find the treat, under the corner of a rug, under a table, behind a door, or you can hide multiple treats and tell them to take it. A variation on this is take some old plastic cups and chopped up treats. Start by placing the cups face down and putting a treat under each one, making sure your greyhound is watching you do this. Tell the dog to take it and see if they will tip over the cup to get the treat. If they don't, try placing the cups face up with the treats, once they get them, face the cups down again. Once they figure this out, put a treat under only one of the cups and tell them to take it. Whenever your dog gets something right, remember to be very excited and tell them how wonderfully smart they are.

Another fun game is follow the leader. Have a pocket full of treats and call the dog and once it is coming, walk around different obstacles in your house, like the dining room table (give a treat), if you can do it, walk over top of your bed and off the other side (give a treat), go up or down stairs (give a treat). If this is a game your dog enjoys, maybe put some obstacles out that you can weave through like some large pots or buy some pylons. When the dog follows (or heels) make sure to give treats.

The opposite to this game is keep away. Choose a cue like "keep away" or "Got your tail". Using exaggerated body language like stalking or reaching, chase your dog (slowly) saying your cue words. When the dog moves away, tell him how smart he is, and walk the other way, calling him to you. Praise him again when he comes. You can do this with or without a toy. Repeat as often as you want. I combine this game with peek a boo. I hide, call the dog, jump out and say Boo and then turn around, I say I'm gonna get your tail, and chase them a few steps, then turn back, call them and give them a treat.

If you don't mind getting things a little wet, you can play bobbing for biscuits or wieners. Put a bunch of towels on the kitchen floor and place a bucket of water in the middle. I find dogs do not want to get their eyes wet so a few inches is enough. Place cut up wieners or biscuits in the tub, showing them first to your dog, then let him bob for them.

Another thing you can do to keep your greyhound occupied is supply him with a food dispensing toy such as a Buster Cube (avoid the cheaper knockoffs, they can break). The Buster Cube has two settings, quick and slow. You fill it with small treats or kibble (remembering to cut back your dog's regular food by the amount in the Cube) and set it so when he rolls it with his nose, out comes a treat. Once the dog has figured this out and has it empty in ten minutes, set it so it has to be rolled a few times before a treat comes out. Premier makes a number of treat dispensing toys: Twist'n Treat, Kibble Nibble, and Tug-a-jug. You may need to order these online. Then there's the Yuppy Puppy Food and Treat Dispenser. This is an old-fashioned looking gumball machine. You fill the top with treats and your dog pushes a bone shaped lever with his paw or nose and out comes a treat! There are similar ones made by different companies. One woman I know purchased one and her male greyhound quickly learned how to push the lever with his nose, then race to the other side to scoop up the treat. Unfortunately her female greyhound never figured out how to work the machine, however, she did recognize the sound of the treat coming down the chute and soon would be standing waiting. Male greyhound pushed lever, zipped around to find female greyhound had already eaten the treat. Eventually he stopped pushing the lever. 😊

You may also want to read Patricia Gail Burnham's book, Play Training Your Dog. Gail is a greyhound owner and breeder and has written several good books. And she has trained her own greyhounds so it CAN be done.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are always needed.

Why not join in the fun and lend a hand?

QUESTION: What Goes Here ?	ANSWER: Anything You Want To Contribute	Articles or Photos of Your Hound (We need models!)	Please Send To quailrunfarm@shaw.ca
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