



by
Juan
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VET'S CORNER



When your dog is ill

Do you really know you when your dog is sick? Many times, our pets may show behavioural changes indicative of suffering. The owner is the only one that can detect the symptoms and will be of vital importance when it comes to communicating these to the vet.

When you get home and do not get the usual greeting or your dog does not respond in the normal manner when invited for his daily walk, he may be suffering or incubating an illness.

If his appetite is not normal it can often be caused by gastritis. This can happen quite regularly (every 1 or 2 weeks) especially if fed leftovers. This type of feeding can cause a sudden change in pH or a drastic increase of gastric acids. In these cases, simply fasting the dog for 24 hours will often bring him back to normal.

Nausea can manifest itself by excessive licking or salivation, the ingestion of grass or weeds. Excessive thirst is also indicative of a gastro-intestinal or sometimes urinary problems.

Excessive scratching of the anal area may indicate an alteration in anal glands or a parasitic intestinal worms.

Frequent shaking of the head could indicate an outer ear infection.

Excessive scratching of the skin may indicate the presence of fleas, especially if the scratching happens in the posterior third.

In addition to behavioural changes you should take note of the frequency and colour of the stools and urine. In neutered bitches the regularity and strength of periods can also be of importance.

Respiratory symptoms such as coughing should be monitored and noted if it occurs during exertion or rest, at night or during the day... the vet will probably ask these questions.

Certain breeds are more prone than others to particular diseases, common (but not exhaustive) are:

Setters and Greyhounds - Distemper virus.

Rottweilers - Parvovirus.
West Highland Terrier -

obstruction of the cardia.

Shar-Pei - Entropion
Dachshunds - spinal problems.

Golden Retrievers - intestinal disease.

Chow-Chow - moist dermatitis.

Boxers - skin tumours.
Pekinese - ocular prolapse.

Yorkshire Terrier - liver disease and dental problems.

German Shepherd - hip dysplasia.

Doberman - cervical spine problems.

Dogue de Bordeaux - demodectic mange.

Poodle - heart disease.
Collie - eye problems.

Bulldog - respiratory problems.

Age is another factor to take into account when it comes to certain illnesses. From one year of age it is almost impossible for a dog to have parvovirus, from 7 years onwards it is more common to encounter heart disease, osteoarthritis, cataracts, etc, and from age 10 a fairly frequent occurrence are mammary tumours, skin tumours, spleen tumours, etc.

Because our dogs cannot speak, it is up to the owner, or the person who best knows the dogs habits and spends most time with them to act as a spokesperson when visiting the veterinarian. The more detailed your information is the more accurate the diagnosis by the veterinarian will be. It can make a big difference.

Here is a list of the data that the animal owner should provide to the vet when your pet gets sick (which constitute the so-called medical history).

Origin

Where did you get your pet: shop, breeder, rescue home, found?

Habitat and care

Where do you reside: city or countryside?

Which family member is most familiar with the pet?

What is the regular food?

How often do you bathe your pet? Which shampoo do you use?

Do you have other animals? What kind? Have they been sick?

Where do you walk normally? Who walks the dog? How many times a day?

Health status

Are the vaccinations complete and up to date? Against which diseases?

Is the treatment against internal and external parasites up to date? Which products are being used?

When was the last time you visited a vet? Which tests were performed?

What was the last date of a blood test?

Has the animal had any surgery?

Has the animal been sick before? What medications do you give?

Present illness

What's wrong?

Since when?

What do you attribute it to?

If you are able to answer all of these questions when your pet becomes ill, it would be a great aid to a vet's diagnosis.

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GABRIEL, MALE, SHELTER

since 16.05.2010- 39 cm Gabriel was simply dumped out of a driving car in front of our shelter. Thankfully he was not hurt during this terrible action. Gabriel is a very nice little dog. He likes all other dogs, loves to play and is very sociable Gabriel is a true buddy who can be taken everywhere. Since he likes jumping and running about we would suggest that he should not be kept together with children aged less than 3 years. He could very well be kept with another dog. He walks well on the lead and he is house trained. Overall a super dog. APASA JAVEA Maggie 965 744 449 or Mandy 630 603 880

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FAMOSA, SETTER MIX, DOB 15.05.2009 - 58 cm This very friendly female was found in a park. She wore a collar and she looked very well looked after but unfortunately nobody seems to miss her. This is a pity because she does everything the right way. Therefore we gave her this name. She walks well on the lead and she likes to ride in a car. She likes all other dogs. We think that also small children would not worry her. Since she is very active it would be a good thing if her new owners had a garden. APASA JAVEA Maggie 965 744 449 or Mandy 639 603 880

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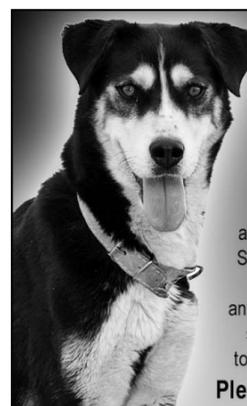
MAGDALENA, RATONERO

MIX approx 1 yr 30cm Magdalena was found by a Spaniard in his chicken house where she pitched into the eggs. The man brought her to us and he was furious and we believe that she had a lot of luck that he did not harm her. Magdalena behaves like a little princess she would like to keep everything for herself. Therefore she would need a nice family without another dog. Although she sometimes keeps playing she loves to be carried along. Due to her size she would be well off in a flat. APASA JAVEA Maggie 965 744 449 or Mandy 639 603 880

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APASA CHARITY SHOP JAVEA need volunteers, hours to suit. If you have any spare time and would like to help us out please ring Iris on 609 631 251 or 965 744 509 or pop into the shop on the Cap de Nau road near the Farmacia and Quicksave.



BEAUTIFUL LAIKA A HUSKY CROSS

She is 3 years old, and came to us when her owner called, because they had not sufficient space for her, but when we went to see her we were shocked, she was on a small balcony only 2m², completely filthy with no shelter only her fleas for company! She had never been taken out for a walk, she was undernourished and being eaten alive by ticks and other insects!!! She had never been to a vet, though miraculously she is in fine form. She is such a lovely animal, anyone who likes Husky type dogs should contact us, she is a big girl and would love to have a garden to run in, someone to love and take her for walks!!

Please, Please call Concha: 666 202 270

JACK 6 YEAR OLD pointer was dumped by his owners and is now at a fosterhome. Sadly for health reasons they cannot keep him. He is castrated and a very very good healthy boy who behaves himself. He does need nice walks and in return will give you lots of love. Please give him a chance, he is such a nice dog. Maggie 96 574 44 49

PEDIGREE LABS one black one golden, 3 and 4 yrs old currently being fostered. Kennel club papers. Owner has had to return to the UK with sick wife. They do not necessarily need to stay together. Ring 965 748 592

DO YOU WANT your dog walked? I am fit and healthy and love animals. Benidorm, La Nucia, Altea and Albir area. Tel. 671 622 129

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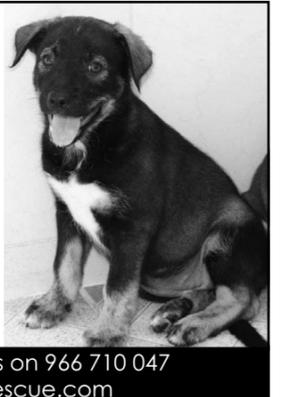
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NATURAL HORSEMANSHIP DEMONSTRATION (sometimes referred to as Horse Whispering) and information evening is being held at Epona Horse Sanctuary, Muria on Saturday 31st July at 7.00pm. Demonstration is by Dhyana Prece of Epona Horse Sanctuary. Entry is free but donations are welcome. Please book you place now. Bar and Refreshments will be available afterwards. Call us on the above number or email info@epona-horsesanctuary.com

NEW CHARITY SHOP in Benitachell (50 MTRS FROM THE Post Office) offers cheap furniture at give away prices, thousands of bric a brac and clothing items and so much to rummage through, on behalf of the Society for the Protection of Animals In Need. We buy, sell and exchange goods, so if you have anything to donate we will gladly collect from you, deliver and house clear anything. Please give us a call on 665 653 998 or 966 493 210.

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OLIVIA is an 8 week old puppy who came to the kennels with six litter mates. They were found with their mother near Murcia. They are cute puppies who enjoy playing with each other and also the attention they get from the staff. When fully grown they will be about a small Labrador size, they have started their course of vaccinations and would love to find a new home.



Please call the kennels on 966 710 047
www.satanimalrescue.com