

12 Winter Care Tips for our Pets



When winter is upon us spare a thought our pets through the cold times. Here are 12 things to be mindful of for your pet to have a safe and comfortable Winter.

1. **Indoors**

Watch your pets when lying or playing near fire sources. Make sure tails, paws and whiskers don't come into contact with the fire or knock heaters over.

2. **Bedding**

provide a thick, soft bed in a warm room on a chilly night.

3. **Poisonings**

Keep poisons in a safe place away from where your pet may be able to get access. Two common causes of pet poisoning are:

- Anti-freeze: animal first appears drunk. The poison then destroys the kidneys and can lead to death.
- Rat bait: anticoagulant, causes bleeding externally and internally.

4. **Hypothermia** is a low body temperature.

Mild cases cause shivering then depression. This then leads to lethargy and weakness. Severe cases cause numbness and stiffness, heart rate and breathing slows which then leads to loss of consciousness.

5. **Housing**

Keep pets indoors as much as possible or ensure off the ground in an adequate warm



shelter, (warm, dry and draught free).

6. **Food and drink**

Feed more protein rich food. Ensure the drinking water is not frozen.

7. **Health**

Very old, very young, and ill animals are especially vulnerable to cold, especially those with joint diseases.

8. **Safety**

Ensure animals are safe when around frozen ponds.

9. **Car danger!**

Check under your car hood to ensure the lost cat is not curled up keeping warm on or near the engine.

10. **Clothing**

Maybe buy your dog a coat/jacket. Your dog will look great and feel warm when out and about! Calf's, Lambs and kids will benefit from covers. You can get these from your vet.

11. **Grooming**

If you need to wash your pets, or after being wet outside, ensure you properly dry them. Have a longer hair do. Less hair is shed in winter but don't forget to brush and comb.

12. **Flea's**

Flea's love living in warm homes so keep up excellent flea control.

