

## Hot Hound or Cool Canine?

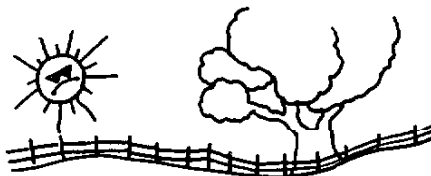
You may want sun and surf in the summer, but your dog wants shade and water. Without it, he can overheat, become ill and die in a short time. If you leave your dog in the car on a hot day or in the yard without shade or water, you are risking your animal's life.

Heatstroke, characterized by excessive panting and salivation, vomiting, an anxious or staring expression, a fast pulse rate and high body temperature, can cause brain damage and even death.

If you should notice these symptoms in your pet, act quickly by immersing the animal in cool water or pouring cool water over the animal. You can also put ice packs on the animal's head. As soon as the animal cools off, take it to the veterinarian for medical treatment.

The best treatment for heatstroke is, of course, preventative. Never take your pet with you in the car if it will be left unattended for any length of time. If it is necessary to take your pet in the car, park in the shade and periodically check on it to make sure it's okay. Even with the car windows slightly open, if the temperature outside reaches 85° F, the inside car temperature can reach 120° in just 30 minutes.

If your pet is left outside on warm days, remember to provide protection from the sun and free access to plenty of cool drinking water. Strenuous activity and excitement should be avoided on warm days. When away from home, always carry water with you on hot days and give your pet small amounts frequently.



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