

## Did You Know?

1. Every year 4 to 5 million animals entering US shelters are euthanized because there are not enough homes for them. 25% are purebred.
2. For every 10,000 humans born in the US, 70,000 dogs and cats are born.
3. In six years, one female dog and her offspring can give birth to 67,000 puppies. In seven years, one cat and her young can produce 420,000 kittens.
4. When animals get lost very few are returned to their owners when they are not wearing ID tags.
5. A dog riding in the back of a truck going forty miles an hour in 20-degree weather experiences a wind-chill of -22 degrees below zero. At zero degrees it's -54 degrees!
6. Dogs are highly social, pack animals, and are unhappy when living an isolated life, sometimes developing bad habits like barking and digging.
7. Keeping your cat's nails trimmed can eliminate the need for the harsh surgery of declawing. Provide them with a good scratching post and sprinkle it with catnip. Cats that go outdoors need their claws to protect themselves and escape danger.
8. Basic dog obedience training can start at four months. Animals respond best to positive reinforcement and gentle training methods.
9. If you move and have cats that go outdoors be sure to keep them inside for several weeks until they get used to the new surroundings and accept the new location as home. Cats are very territorial and often run away looking for their former home.
10. Dogs may chew when isolated and bored. They may also chew when they are anxious and under stress.
11. You should not feed your dog chocolate because dogs are allergic to the caffeine in chocolate, not the other ingredients.
12. Feeding your pet a good quality pet food often eliminates itchy skin problems and keeps their immune system healthy. Even though it's more expensive they eat less because it's highly digestible and more nutritious.
13. Spaying female dogs and cats eliminates the possibility of uterine or ovarian cancer and greatly reduces breast cancer. Neutering males reduces the incidence of prostate cancer.

14. Many over-the-counter “people” medications can kill cats. Use only veterinary-prescribed medications.
15. Using positive reinforcement to train your dog is a powerful tool for shaping or changing their behavior.
16. When cats stop using their litter box and have “accidents,” this often means they have a medical problem – urinary tract infections are a common cause. Another cause is a dirty litter box.
17. Dogs and cats always need access to fresh water. Dehydration causes health problems and suppresses their immune system.
18. Male cats and dogs are less likely to stray from home and fight when neutered. Neutering does not affect a dog’s guarding behavior, and decreases a cat’s spraying to mark his territory.
19. More animals run away from home around the 4<sup>th</sup> of July than any other time. The noise terrifies most animals. Provide a secure, safe place for your pet. For extreme fear problems your veterinarian can prescribe a tranquilizer.
20. Early age sterilization for puppies and kittens is endorsed by the American Veterinary Medical Association.
21. Please remember that you have your work, entertainment and friends. Your dog has only you. A lonely dog is a very sad dog.