

# General Care for Vomiting

\*\*\*These are general guidelines for caring for your dog/cat with vomiting. This is not a replacement for seeking consult from a veterinarian. We always recommend speaking to a veterinarian about treating your pet.

## Causes

There are many causes of vomiting in dogs/cats including, but not limited to:

- Ate too fast
- Has an upset stomach
- Ate too much
- Ate something that irritated their stomach (garbage)
- Viral infection
- Reaction to a medication
- Diet change
- Bacterial infection
- Stress

**Your dog is most likely fine if he vomits once without any other symptoms.** Just like humans, dogs/cats can get upset stomachs and vomiting once may not be a sign of a larger illness. If your dog/cat vomits once and then resumes his normal activities and eats and poops normally, chances are it was a minor incident. Whenever vomiting happens, it is important to provide your pet with access to water to prevent dehydration.

## When to be Concerned

The seriousness of vomiting usually depends on how often your pet has vomited and how many other symptoms your pet has. If your pet does any of the following, you should seek veterinary care for your pet as soon as possible:

- Continuous vomiting (vomiting that doesn't stop)
- Chronic vomiting (vomiting that happens a lot)
- Vomiting with other symptoms, like fever, weight loss, lethargy (really tired), etc.
- Vomiting blood



- Vomiting with nothing coming up
- Bloody diarrhea
- Pain in belly
- Suspected they ate a foreign body (for example: an entire tennis ball, large amount of clothing, etc.)
- Seizures
- Lack of appetite

It is important to note that vomiting in cats is a serious concern. If they throw up mostly cat food once, that is likely ok. But more than that should be a reason to see a vet.