

Heat stroke kills dogs

Every year our emergency vets treat hundreds of heat stroke cases and, heartbreakingly, some end in tragedy. Many are a result of owners exercising their dogs between 8am and 8pm when temperatures can be at their peak.

Heat-related illnesses are almost always preventable, but it's critical to know when dogs are at risk.

Our handy guide shows when it's safe for your dog outside.



32°C+

Heat stroke is a major risk regardless of condition, size or breed.

28-31°C

Dangerous for all, but life-threatening for larger breeds and puppies as well as dogs who are flat-faced or obese.

24-27°C

Extreme caution should be taken as most dogs, particularly those who are large, obese, flat-faced and very young, will find these temperatures very uncomfortable.

20-23°C

Even at this temperature dogs are at risk of getting heat stroke if exercised too rigorously, or suffering from an underlying condition such as obesity or breathing difficulties.

16-19°C

Generally safe to exercise dogs at all times of day, although keep a close eye on large, obese and flat-faced breeds.

12-15°C

No evidence of heat stroke risk so enjoy your walk.



