

Holiday safety tips for pets

Visit [Holiday safety tips for pets](#) and [Halloween safety tips for pets](#) on [humanesociety.org](https://www.humanesociety.org) for details and additional resources.



Anna_Hirna/iStock.com.

Pets and party guests

- Consider your guests and plan accordingly. Are any allergic to or fearful of pets? Might any want to visit your pets? Are guests permitted to bring their own dogs to your house during the party?
- Consider your pets and plan accordingly. Might any be overwhelmed by a houseful of guests?
- Will your pets be roaming freely through the house during the party? Alert guests to be careful entering and exiting the home so your pets don't slip out. Make sure your pets are wearing collars and ID tags. Be vigilant so your pets don't eat potentially harmful foods from the table.

Pets and decor

These items may be harmful to your pets:

- Christmas trees and holiday greens.
- Chemicals in your Christmas tree's water base.
- Christmas lights and tinsel.
- Candles.
- Firestarter logs.
- Plants (or parts of plants) such as holly, ivy, mistletoe and poinsettias.

Pets and travel

- Consider what's best for your pets. Most cats, for example, are more comfortable at home.
- If you do leave your pets at home when you travel, review our tips for [choosing a pet sitter](#) (a link to tips for choosing a dog boarding kennel will be added soon!).
- Review our tips for how to [travel safely with your pet](#).

Emergency information

- Identify your closest 24/7 emergency veterinary clinic *before* an emergency occurs. Store this info in your phone and post somewhere you can easily find.
- 1-888-426-4435, the number of the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center. Store in your phone; post in a visible place. Note that a fee may apply.

Foods to NOT feed pets

- Alcohol
- Bones
- Bread dough with yeast, raw
- Candies and chocolate sweetened with Xylitol
- Chives
- Citrus and pits: Avocado, cherry and peach pits; apple seeds
- Coffee grounds, coffee beans
- Eggs, raw or undercooked
- Fatty foods such as butter
- Fish, raw or undercooked
- Garlic
- Grapes and raisins
- Leaves and stems from vegetables
- Meat, raw or undercooked or covered in sauce or gravy
- Milk
- Nuts, especially macadamia
- Onions, onion flakes, onion powder and all members of the *Allium* family (leeks, scallions)
- Salt
- Sauces; may be fatty and contain harmful ingredients on this list
- Trash
- Xylitol

Foods that are generally SAFE to feed pets as treats

- Apples with no core or seeds
- Carrots
- Corn OFF the cob
- Green beans
- Peas
- Pumpkin, canned and unsweetened
- Spinach
- Sweet potatoes