

CPCRN

Home Safety Visit Hazard Checklist

Below is a partial list of common hazards that may jeopardize a dog's health, may cause death, or allow a dog to escape. This list is not complete since every residence is different; however, this can be used as a guideline. Walk through the home and yard with "open eyes" constantly asking yourself "Could this cause a problem with a curious Terrier?"

Until a new adoptive home has had their new dog long enough to learn its personality, they should consider the new dog to be the type that will want to try to jump, escape or generally get into everything that they possibly can. Hazardous and valuable items should be moved to a safe location until such time that they know their dog will leave items alone. Our motto is "better safe than sorry". Therefore, we try to point out as many potential hazards as we see. Please know that we do not expect an applicant to have a perfectly safe home. Applicants will be advised of potential hazards seen and will be given a chance to correct any hazards that they may have.

It is best to familiarize yourself with hazards and needed actions before such an event occurs. Here are links about [choking](#), [general poisoning](#), poisonous [garden plants](#) and [houseplants](#).

Pay attention to areas of the home that are accessible to a dog. This includes items found or stored:

- a) On the floor or ground
- b) At a low level
- c) In a trash can
- d) On a table or stand that could be reached if dog is on an adjacent chair, sofa, or bed

1) ESCAPE HAZARDS

- Screen doors or windows that are torn or not secure

If there is an exterior fence/wall/balcony-

- Wide or insecure boards/slats/wire on fence
- Bottom of fence/wall or gate not low enough
- Gate latch not secure
- Table/chair/plant that a dog can use as a springboard to get over wall/fence

2) CHOKE HAZARDS

- Items in trash cans (e.g., bones, plastic wrap, foil, sanitary products)
- Plastic bags, empty or with small items.
- Small children's socks, hair scrunchies, pantyhose
- Small items/toys
- Items with small batteries such as remotes, toys, cameras
- Hobby or craft items such as sewing kits, knitting, beading, and rubber bands
- Wicker baskets/hampers
- Dryer/Fabric softener sheets
- Rawhide
- Cat toys

3) PHYSICAL HAZARDS

a) Home interior and garage

- Dog bones or food-type toys for current dog: Many dogs will NOT share immediately with any new dog and could present a "fight" danger.
- Electrical wires
- Fireplace without a screen
- Razors on bathtub ledge
- Wide balcony or loft slats/railings
- Mouse/rat traps

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3) PHYSICAL HAZARDS (continued)

b) Exterior and yard

- Dangerous plants. If plants are in area that the dog will be in have thorns (roses) or needles (cactus), provide physical barrier until the dog is used to the surroundings
- Electrical wires (automatic sprinkler boxes) and electrical outlets at male "pee" levels
- Backyard with no protection from elements if the dog will be left outdoors
- Gardening tools left on ground
- Fence that can allow a nasty dog to bite through
- A swimming pool, pond, or water hazard without a physical barrier (e.g., cover, fence, wall) to keep where the steps are and how to swim immediately upon adoption.

4) POISONOUS/HEALTH HAZARDS

a) Home interior and garage

- Poisonous houseplants
- Detergent, bleach, miscellaneous cleaning products and chemicals
- Anti-freeze/coolant spills on garage floor
- Pesticides, herbicides, fertilizer
- Mouse/rat/ant/roach/insect bait
- Onions/garlic
- Raisins/grapes
- Chocolate
- Bread dough
- Play Dough
- Sugar-free gum or candy (Xylitol)
- Diisocyanate Glues (e.g., Gorilla Glue)
- Essential oils
- Nicotine (cigarettes/butts, cigars. E-cigarette cartridges, chewing tobacco, nicotine replacements)
- Macadamia nuts
- Prescription drugs (including inhalers), over the counter drugs, recreational drugs, supplements, and vitamins
- Cat litter box
- Lead and Zinc (Loose paint chips in older home, pennies minted after 1983)
- Coins (zinc)

b) Exterior and yard

- Poisonous plants
- Dangerous plants. If a dog will be allowed in an area that has plants with thorns (roses) or needles (cactus), provide a physical barrier until the dog is used to the surroundings.
- Snail bait/bug killers
- Birdseed
- Instant/Match Light Charcoal
- Items in the yard that collect rainwater (can be a source of Giardia).
- Chemical sprayers
- Pool chemicals
- Animal feces (parasites)