



Dear friends,

Welcome to our very special bumper Christmas Newsletter from www.bestdoggietips.com. In this newsletter, we have some Christmas Tales, some Christmas Recipes, and, of course, some Christmas Tips.

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We'll be taking a break over the holiday season, so our next Newsletter won't be until February.

We hope that you and your pooches have a safe and Happy Christmas. Best wishes from all of us here at www.bestdoggietips.com (including, of course, our four legged friends). Woof! Woof!

Recipe Section

Christmas Treats

Ingredients

1 cup wholemeal flour
1/2 cup grated cheese
1/2 cup cooked frozen vegetables (such as peas, carrots, or corn)
1/2 cup margarine or butter, melted
small amount of water

Directions to Make

Mix together the flour, cooked vegetables, cheese and melted butter (or marg). If it is too stiff, add a little water until you have a dough like consistency.

Pop this in the fridge to chill for an hour or two. Then remove from the fridge and place on a floured work surface.

Roll out to about half an inch thick. Use seasonal cookie cutters to cut out Christmas shapes. Place these on a greased baking tray. Cook at 185C / 375F for 15 to 20 minutes, or until golden brown.

Cool completely before placing in an airtight container.

Note: you can make more biscuits by doubling the ingredients, however these biscuits do not keep for as long as traditional dog biscuits (due to the cooked vegetables).

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A Very Doggie Christmas (Bruno's Tale)



T'was the night before Christmas, and though it was hot
Remus was dozing, the cats had dropped off
The stockings were dangling from hooks here and there
We just hoped that Santa could figure out where.

Di and Yvonne were stretched out on their beds
The humidity high, not a breeze stirred their heads
And though I was on guard, the heat was quite tiring
I started to nod off, not very inspiring.



When from outside there was such a clatter
I leaped to my feet to see what was the matter
Was it frogs on the window, or possums on the roof
I barked out for Remus, I knew I'd need proof
We ran to the window and scanned far and near
The cats flew upstairs, cowering in fear.

Then I spotted a strange car, with 8 ugly dogs
They were bigger than me, and wore odd looking clogs
And then down stepped a man – very large and red
Was this Santa? Out here? Quick, get the girls out of bed!
So we barked and we barked, then we heard the man shout
He was calling his dogs, Gosh, I hope they can't get out!



"Now Dutchy! now Bruiser! Now Bluey and Rex!
On Lily! On Hamish! On Ebony and Tex!
To the top of the patio, to the top of the wall
Now dash away! Dash away! Dash away all!"

With that they took off, straight up in the air
We were shocked, me and Remus, we didn't think it was fair
We couldn't fly – Lord knows we had tried
When we chased that bush turkey right round the side
They thumped onto the roof, made a heck of a noise
It was louder than one of my squeaky toys
We ran to the stairs ready to defend hearth and home
When down walked Santa looking like a big garden gnome.



He was dressed all in fur from his head to his foot
A bit hot for Australia, he even had boots!
A sack full of presents he had on his back
He looked like a swaggie opening his pack
And though he was an intruder – and we were the guards
He was obviously a dog man – we didn't try very hard
He smiled and called us, he tickled our ears
Asked if we'd been good doggies for all of the year.

He smelt so delicious like a very good dog treat
Our tails started wagging, we could barely stay on our feet
He had a big happy face and a big round belly
That shook when he laughed like a bowl full of jelly
He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf
And I grinned when I saw him in spite of myself.



He gave us a wink, and from out of his pocket
Came two Christmas bones, I was on mine like a rocket
With such a good man we had nothing to fear
We chewed on our bones while he filled our stockings with cheer
Then when he was done he gave us a wave
And went back up the stairs, not a sound he made.

He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle
And away they all flew like the down of a thistle
But I heard him shout out before he flew out of sight
“Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good night!”.



By Di Ellis from www.bestdoggietips.com

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Perfect Dog Gift Ideas for this Christmas

By: Carol Stack

The selection of dog gifts available today is anything but dull. There are dog gifts available in almost any shape, form and kind, so you will have no problem in finding a wide variety to choose from.

No pet parent can resist coming home with a gift for their pet any time of the year, especially at Christmas. Dog gifts at Christmas time are a multi-billion dollar industry. Among pet parents some of the most popular dog gifts are chew toys, dog collars and treats.

Do you have someone on your gift-giving list that is hard to shop for? Do they have a dog that is part of the family? Pet parents are some of the easiest people to shop for. Get a gift for their dog or a gift that centres on their dog's breed.

There are all kinds of dog breed products available, including ceramic mugs, doormats, throw blankets, paintings, door stops and stuffed animals. Many pet parents enjoy collecting items that focus on the breed of their own dog.

What do you get a dog for Christmas? Collars are among the favorite gifts. A collar and matching leash make a great gift to give your own dog or for you to give a dog owner.

A fancy dog collar and matching leash are just what you need to say "I love my pampered my pooch". Fancy dog collars make wonderful dog gifts. Many designer dog collars offer matching dog leashes to complete the outfit.

Durable designer dog collars come in several materials including leather, nylon, and fabric - in colors and designs for the finickiest of tastes. Reflective dog collars make a great gift, especially for the dog that is taken for walks after dark.

Another great Christmas gift item for your own dog or for a friend's dog is gourmet dog treats. They are made with whole ingredients and no artificial preservatives.

There are gourmet dog treats made with all natural high quality human grade ingredients. The result is healthy, tasty dog treats for every special dog.

Dog gift baskets are another popular gift idea. Filled with tasty treats and a toy or two, gift baskets are a great choice for the dog owner on your Christmas gift list, or for your own dog. From dainty delights to hearty munchies, you can find dog gift baskets filled with easily digestible, preservative-free, wholesome and delicious treats.

A handy and practical gift for the owner of a small dog is a dog tote bag. There are dog tote bags with wheels and tote bags that look like purses. These are very nice to have for trips to the vet, to take on walks in case little legs get tired, or to take on trips.

Perhaps your dog would enjoy a throw blanket or throw pillow. You can personalize it with the dog's name if you choose, and could get a blanket with a picture of the dog's breed.

Today's selection of dog toys and dog gifts is impressive. With the huge selection of dog toys, treats, dog totes and beds, there is no shortage of possible gifts to give your pet or your dog-owning friend. These gifts are all available at many local pet shops or you can search for them on the internet.

Carol Stack enjoys writing articles, especially about dogs. She lives with her husband, children, four dogs and seven cats in the United States. Carol and her daughter Christy are working on a web site, <http://www.christysdogportal.com> where you can get more information about dogs.

(Article Source: <http://www.ArticleBiz.com>)

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Top 10 Signs You are a Dog Lover

By: Emma Snow

There's something different about you. People sense it the moment you walk in the door. Is it in your smile, or the way wear your hair? Truly, there are countless manifestations of your canine obsession.

Here are the top ten:

#10: Stray hairs on your clothes.

White hairs make a mess of your black wool skirt, while black fur collects in tufts on your white fleece pullover. You've spent a small fortune on lint removers, but have finally given up. Shedding isn't just for the dogs anymore.

#9: Pockets full of old bread bags (or mutt mitts).

Dog owners live by the Boy Scouts' motto: Be prepared. After all accidents do happen, even on Mr. Smith's meticulously manicured lawn. You'll be ready when they do.

#8: You whistle to call your dog...and your kid.

In fact, you find it hard to distinguish between the two. Your wallet, desk, and the wallpaper on your Windows XP Desktop are packed with photos of Caesar.

#7: You've been caught on more than one occasion talking to your dog as if he were a person.

You pause patiently while the dog "answers" you. And you insist that he does answer!

#6: You like people your dog likes, and hate those she hates.

Instead of your parent's approval, your dates must win Muffy's favor. This has made dating almost impossible for you, since Muffy tends to be jealous of anyone who takes your attention away from her.

#5: You give out gifts that your dog "bought," and sign cards from you and your dog.

Having given up on teaching Buford how to hold a pencil, you now ink up his paw to leave his print. Unfortunately he got away before you could wash it off, and now there's a line of permanent black paw prints across the linoleum in the kitchen.

#4: You greet dogs by their names, but can't remember the names of their owners.

"Dude" and "Ma'am" seem to work well in a pinch.

#3: You sleep huddled in the far corner of your bed while your dog sprawls out in the middle.

You don't even mind when she snores, drools on your pillow, and steals the blankets.

#2: Your phone is programmed to speed dial the vet, groomer, dog trainer, pet store, and kennel.

What's more, the clerks can identify you by your voice.

#1: On Christmas, instead of cookies, you bake doggie biscuits.

You have a recipe file of Princess's favorite kinds, and make plates to deliver to all her doggy friends. Incidentally, she gets more presents than you do, and the ones you do get seem conspicuously related to dogs.

*Emma Snow is a prolific writer and writes for Dog Pound <http://www.dog-pound.net> and Wildlife Animals <http://www.wildlife-animals.com>
(Article Source: <http://www.ArticleBiz.com>)*

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Keep Your Dog Safe Over The Holidays

By Lee Dobbins

Your dog is part of the family and deserves to be right in the midst of the holiday festivities with everyone else. Unfortunately, the holidays pose certain dangers to pets that we as humans may not be aware of. Here's some things to think about to keep your dog safe this holiday season.

One thing you want to do is be sure that you know what your veterinarian's hours are over the holidays and where to go should your dog have an emergency. Hopefully this won't happen, but if you're prepared you can react quickly and minimize the damage to your pet.

When it comes to the holidays, eating is one of the most predominant activities. Whether it be a big family dinner, a party with drinks and snacks, or Halloween with bowls of candy, food is at the

forefront of most holiday festivities. While we all tend to overeat, which doesn't pose us too much harm save a few extra pounds, the same type of the overeating can be very hazardous to your dog. There are many foods that cause no problems for humans but can actually be lethal to animals. Chocolate is one of these so be sure your dog does not get any chocolate from well-meaning guests or family members over the holidays.

Also, you and your guests need to be aware that your dog weighs a lot less than you do especially if he is a little toy dog like a Poodle, Pug or Pomeranian. This means that a constant flow of table scraps and snacks will really pack the pounds on your dog and just like humans, being overweight and eating fatty and sugary foods can cause health problems in pets. Be vigilant about what your dog eats, especially at meal time, as everyone wants to feed a cute little dog from their plate, but when your pet gets a little handout from the plates of 12 people! Since dogs really don't care much about this svelte figure, there's little chance your dog will be refusing the food on his own so it's up to you to watch out for him.

When decorating your home for the holidays take care to think about your dog. Some coastal plants used around the holidays like poinsettias and mistletoe can make a dog sick if ingested. Also be careful with your Christmas tree especially if it is a live tree - you want to be sure that your dog cannot drink the water out of the well in the stand. In addition you want to be careful of Christmas bulbs, garland and tinsel that is hanging at dog height. You don't want your dog thinking they are play toys and biting into a glass ball or ingesting tinsel.

The stress of the holidays can rub off on your dog, especially if you are very stressed out or there are a lot of different things going on around your home. Different dogs react differently to stress - some may become agitated and hyperactive while others may want to run and hide. During this time you should pay careful attention to your pet to make sure he's not getting stressed out. Watch his behavior and try to reassure them that everything that's going on is okay. In particular, if there will be a big party or fireworks with loud noises make sure that your dog does not have to be subjected to anything that will scare him.

The holidays are a great time for the whole family, including your dog, to be together. Be sure to make this a special time for your dog by being mindful of his particular needs and everyone will be sure to have the happiest of holidays!

About the Author

Lee Dobbins writes for <http://www.pomeranian-pages.com> where you can learn about the wonderful Pomeranian dog breed and find out how to make the holidays safe for your Pomeranian.

(Articles Source - Free Articles)

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CHRISTMAS DOG
By Shel Silverstein

Tonight's my first night as a watchdog,
And here it is Christmas Eve.
The children are sleeping all cozy upstairs,
While I'm guardin' the stockin's and tree.



What's that now---footsteps on the rooftop?
Could it be a cat or a mouse?
Who's this down the chimney?
A thief with a beard---
And a big sack for robbin' the house?



I'm barkin' , I'm growlin' , I'm bitin' his butt.
He howls and jumps back in his sleigh.

I scare his strange horses, they leap in the air.
I've frightened the whole bunch away.



Now the house is all peaceful and quiet again.
The stockin's are safe as can be.
Won't the kiddies be glad when they wake up tomorrow
And see how I've guarded the tree.



[from GranGran's Little Bit of Christmas](#)

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