

HOW TO HELP YOUR DOG COPE WITH NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATIONS

happy hounds
dog training & behaviour



CREATE A DEN

Provide your dog with a safe-haven

It's a great idea to create a den before New Year's Eve and to allow your dog to get used to settling in their den. The den should be in an area where your dog feels happy and comfortable, such as by the side of your bed, in their crate, under a table, under the stairs, or wherever your dog feels safe and will remain undisturbed..



PARTY FOOD

Keep party food well out of reach

Alcohol and party food can be particularly appealing to curious canines. However, consuming even a small amount of alcohol can lead to **intoxication** and, in some cases, **seizures & respiratory** failure for our dogs. Some foods can cause upset stomachs and emergency vet visits. So, remember to keep all nibbles & party food out of reach.



VETERINARY HELP

Speak to your vet BEFORE any celebrations

If you know that your dog is sensitive to noise and is afraid of fireworks, do speak to your vet about treatments that can help.

If your vet prescribes a medication, it is often useful to have a 'practice run' before New Year's Eve, to see how your dog responds.



AVOID PARTY PANDEMONIUM

Plan ahead for parties

If you're hosting a party, plan ahead. Make sure that your dog has somewhere safe to retreat to - away from guests and noise - and that your guests know whether or not they can interact with your dog.

Remember to make sure that your dog can't accidentally escape, and that they're wearing a collar and suitable ID tag, just in case a guest leaves a door open...



DON'T BE AFRAID TO PROVIDE REASSURANCE

If your dog needs it

Contrary to popular belief, you cannot reinforce fear by reassuring your dog - as long as they enjoy it.

Leaving your dog to go 'cold turkey' with something they're afraid of - like New Year's Eve fireworks - is more like to reinforce their fear, and increase their anxiety.