



# Perfect Pets News



Tips, advice and some fun facts about our best friends!

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

Can you believe that Christmas time is here already? Isn't this just the best time of year for little children? Seeing the delight on their faces as they open their presents from Santa is just wonderful. For me, having all the visitors, turkey dinners and the hustle and bustle of it all brings lots of warmth and happiness. I really hope it's a lovely time of year for you too.

Of course it's a pretty exciting time for our pets, too, as they get to spend a lot more time with us during the holidays. Some will especially enjoy all the mischief they can get into with the gifts and decorations.

While it's great to relax and enjoy Christmas, it's also worth taking a little extra care with our pets over this period. A change in routine and all the new strange objects in our homes can provide extra risks for our pets. So, here are a few pointers to make sure your little buddy has an enjoyable and safe Christmas too.

First of all keep an eye on your Christmas tree, especially if you see that your pet loves it as much as you do. It's not hard to imagine a large dog running towards it and knocking it right over, or a cat climbing the branches to get to the sparkling lights and tinsel!

The holiday season brings a temporary change in routine for many pets, so it's not surprising that some get anxious over the new and noisy kids' toys or over all the family gatherings. If you'll have lots of excited little children in your home this season, maybe remind them to play gently near pets and to slowly introduce them to their new toys. While a remote control car whizzing along the floor can be hilarious for children, it can be absolutely terrifying for pets!

It's likely your dog will beg for a bite of that delicious turkey dinner or your cat will lick it's lips in anticipation of a feast. While the occasional scrap of pet-friendly food won't hurt them a bit, if you want to give them a special treat—just be very careful with turkey leftovers, because dogs and cats tend to get right to the bones and can get them lodged in their throats. It's best to give them a little piece of the meat that has no bones in it if you want to give them something tasty to enjoy with the family. Remind the kids, too, that chocolate agrees with them much more than it does with dogs!

Anyway, the most important thing this holiday is that you really enjoy it and that you, your family and your pets stay safe and well. I really do hope you get plenty of time to relax and spend precious time with your family because, before you know it, we'll be starting a New Year once again. Have fun and have a lovely holiday season!

Kathy

## Pets of Perfection Pet Spa

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Your Perfect Pet Deserves the Best!

### A Wonderful World of Dogs!

! Alfie, a flat-coated retriever, is now "Alfie the Arsonist" to his owners, the Gregson family. Ananova.com notes that Alfie caused nearly \$10,000 worth of damage when he jumped up on the Gregsons' stove in search of a bite to eat and accidentally flipped a switch that lit up the fryer. The Gregsons awoke to smoke detectors late that night and were able to escape the fire unharmed. The fire brigade responded quickly and took care of Alfie's accidental arson.



Happy  
Holidays  
Everyone!



### Did You Know?

\*The Basenji breed does not bark, and the Newfoundland is a great swimmer because it has webbed feet.

\*Dogs are not actually colorblind—they see in color but the colors aren't as bright as they are for humans.

\* A cat's heart beats twice as fast as a human heart, at 110 to 140 beats per minute.



"Our best little friends is what we say, so let's treat them well on Christmas Day"

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## Re-Cap of 2009!

As 2009 comes to a close, I would like to wish all of our loyal patrons and friends a joyful holiday season and re-cap some of my travels throughout the year.

As most of the Pets of Perfection regulars know, I travel extensively as a professional pet grooming consultant, judging at dog grooming contests and providing instructional seminars for pet grooming tradeshows worldwide. My travels are exciting and educational and I always manage to bring back great multicultural pet information, the most up to date pet styling designs and of course the latest in canine couture.

As always my first trip of the year was judging at the fabulous Groom and Kennel Expo in Pasadena, California in February. Following GKE, I went to Intergroom in New Jersey. This show is host to the Cardinal Crystal Achievement Awards, where I was nominated for Grooming Judge of the Year! I didn't capture the prize this year...maybe next year! However, I did manage to break my foot dancing at the awards banquet! Then, on to Chicago for the All American Grooming Show, where I served as a judge for the grooming contest. This is the longest running grooming show in the US and was established 35 years ago! Next stop was the Big Apple for Pet Fashion Week. This show is the Pet version of New York City's famous Fashion Week, complete with runway doggie couture and the latest in trendy outfits for our four legged friends! I was asked to participate in grooming for charity and the media loved my "Flamenco" dog. September brings Groom Expo in Hershey, PA. This is one of the largest grooming industry tradeshows with hundreds of vendors and of course lots of chocolate! Just in time for the Halloween festivities, I attended the National Dog Groomers show in Orlando. This is the only Florida show and a great chance for me to pick up new equipment to pamper your perfect pets! Finally, I finished up the year with a week in South Korea. Yes, South Korea! The Korean Kennel Club brought me all the way to South Korea to judge their grooming show and provide seminars for their grooming students at the university! This was a cultural experience I will never forget and it looks like I will be heading east again next spring.



Already my assignments are coming in and it looks like I will be heading to California, New York City, NJ, Atlanta, Hershey, and on the International front: Brazil, S. Korea, China and Australia! I will be adding a monthly column to tell you all about my travels...and don't worry, my very talented staff and I will have plenty of time to pamper your precious babies!

So until next year...best wishes for a holiday season filled with joy, good health and prosperity, and please... don't let your babies get into the chocolate or the turkey!

Kathy

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### Does Your Dog Have Tear Stains?

Eye tear stains are quite common in some dog breeds and are caused by a variety of factors, such as allergies or genetics. The dark staining can come from bacteria or yeast that grows in the moisture, but there are things you can do reduce and remove these stains.

The first step is to cut back or eliminate foods and treats that contain artificial colors. A quality dog food will reduce the tear staining and also keep stains from forming around their mouths! Provide your dog with bottled or filtered water, too, as a concentration of minerals in the water will contribute to the stains.

Use a wet cloth to wipe the tears away each day, and talk with your veterinarian about tetracycline or calcium carbonate used for reduction of tear stains. You may also want to have the dog's eyes examined for any possible infection or underlying problems.

***Add Angels Eyes to your pet's food to eliminate the stain completely within three months. Contact Pets of Perfection for more information!***

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### Pets of Perfection Perfect Pet of The Month!



**"Brodie"**  
who owns Bill and  
Lois Brutzman of  
Boynton Beach.

**Contact us to see how your pet can become a  
"Perfect Pet" of the month too!  
Perfect Pets receive a free gift!**

## Don't Forget Your Pet at Christmas!

While some people may decide not to include their pet on Santa's list, more and more of you aren't forgetting about your four-legged member of the family. Christmas gifts for pets can range from a necessary item to an over-the-top extravagant gift. But however you choose to celebrate Christmas with your pets, you're sure to find something special for them that's within your budget—because some of the best gifts are free!

Some extra play time with your cat or a walk through a new area with your dog is one gift that they're sure to love, as they'll adore the time spent with you and will feel good from the exercise. A new area delights dogs with new smells and a sense of adventurous travel so, if Christmas gifts for doggies is not your style, you can still make it a special occasion for them, too.

Go for something practical if your pet's belongings are wearing thin. A new collar and leash or a doggie backpack is something useful that you both can enjoy during walks. Or, pick up some nice dishes for their food or a comfortable new bed.

There are plenty of edible and non-edible treats to fill a gift basket for pets if you'd rather go that route. Gourmet cookies, a few bones, some new chew toys, a pet blanket and spa-quality brushes or conditioners will give your pets lots of enjoyment throughout the holiday season!

But if you really want to go all out with your Christmas gifts, you can find fun and interesting presents for your canine and feline companions. There's actually a dog-friendly non-alcoholic wine for dogs now, so you can sip your own wine and offer your dogs a beef or chicken-flavored beverage to share at your side. How about a canopy bed or a plush convertible automobile bed? Anything you can imagine for your pet is probably out there, so take a look at pet gifts online or shop around your local pet stores for that perfect find.

A pet's real happiness comes from his loving owners and from having all of his needs met, so whatever you choose to do with your pets for the holidays is sure to please them!

### Dog Quiz

*Dogs were bred for specific jobs and activities. Can you match each breed to its historical use?*

- |               |                                |
|---------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Poodle     | A. hunt wolves and bear        |
| 2. Rottweiler | B. house pet for Ming dynasty  |
| 3. Pug        | C. retriever of game           |
| 4. Labrador   | D. herding and guarding        |
| 5. Weimaraner | E. game retriever from water   |
| 6. Shih-Tzu   | F. pet of Buddhist monasteries |
| 7. Pomeranian | G. sheep herder                |

## Pet Humor & Wisdom!

"There is no snooze button on a cat who wants breakfast." - Anonymous

\* \* \*

*Woman to dog trainer:* "My dog goes into the corner whenever he hears a bell ring."

*Dog trainer:* "Well this is normal—he's a boxer!"

\* \* \*

"Dogs come when they're called; cats take a message and get back to you later." - Mary Bly

\* \* \*

"Never try to out-stubborn a cat." - Lazarus Long,

## 8 Signs Your Dog is Happy and Healthy

The little differences in a dog's behavior and appearance can tell you a lot about whether they're feeling their best or if they could use a visit to the vet. Is your best little friend showing the signs of health and happiness?

1. Plenty of tail wagging and normal behavior: Dogs can show a change in character when they're not feeling their best. There's no cause for concern here if your dogs are interested in all of their favorite activities and if they maintain their normal levels of energy. Check behavior changes with your vet and then a dog trainer if your dogs don't seem their usual selves.
2. Bright and shiny eyes: Redness, cloudiness, discoloration, sensitivity or colored discharge can signal eye health problems, such as injury, infection or disease.
3. Soft and shiny coat: A clean and silky coat comes from proper grooming and overall dog health. Watch for mats, ticks and fleas to keep a gorgeous coat, and check their diet and skin if you notice any problems.
4. Smooth and healthy skin: Skin that's free from sores, itching, redness and parasites is skin your dog loves to be in!
5. Clean ears: Odor, itching, redness or waxy buildup can indicate a problem with a dog's ears, which may require medical treatment.
6. A Healthy Mouth: Pink gums, clean teeth and non-offensive breath are all signs of good health in dogs. Foul breath can come from a variety of internal issues, so please contact your vet if your dogs have bad breath or if you see any sores in their mouths.
7. Clean Anal Glands: If your dog scoots their butt on the floor or has soreness around the rear, it's time to have their anal glands checked for buildup or infection.
8. Wet and Cool Nose: Dog's noses are so very important to them! It should be slightly moist and cool to the touch without discharge or cracks in the skin.

## Why Dogs Bark!

Some dogs bark inside the house and others do it outside, but why? A social bark is used to greet you and to bark along with other dogs outside, while an alarming bark is used to warn dogs away or to warn you of an intruder. Other barking can come from anxiety or attention seeking. If you're working with your dog to bark less often, the first step is figuring out why he's doing it!

**Thinking of Less Fortunate Pets this Holiday!**

Your pets, and all those who belong to loving families, are so very lucky to have a wonderful home throughout the year. However, there are many, many homeless and less fortunate dogs and cats who have not yet found owners as good as you. Hopefully they will receive some of the care and attention they deserve when the spirit of Christmas reminds us all to do what we can to help them out.

Please take a moment to think on the needs of rescue animals as you celebrate the holidays with your own pets. If you'd like to help an animal in need, the smallest things really can make a world of difference.

A dog or cat lover in your family may appreciate the gift of you making a donation to a rescue shelter on their behalf. Or, ask the local shelters if there are any items or supplies they need this season.

While the donation of money is often the best way to help these animals they can also get just as much benefit from the donation of your time. Maybe offer to walk a shelter dog with your family one day, or stop by to give a few cats some love and attention.

If a puppy or kitten is on your family's wish list for the New Year, please consider a dog or cat adoption, as this will bring joy and fulfillment to the dog and to you!

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This newsletter is provided to you every month so that we can give a little bit extra back to you. The content has been carefully selected in order to provide you with the best possible information. Hopefully you find it entertaining and useful.

Much of the information and articles have been sourced from a Dog Grooming publication company and it is strictly copyright protected. So we're afraid it can't be copied or re-used. If you are ever given a newsletter from another groomer with similar information and articles, we'd be grateful if you'd let us know.

ANSWERS  
to Quiz  
1 - E  
2 - D  
3 - F  
4 - C  
5 - A  
6 - B  
7 - G

**Pets of Perfection Pet Spa**

**Call for an appointment today.  
Tel: 561-369-0913**

- ✓ Have your pet gorgeously groomed so that she is left looking and smelling wonderful. You'll be delighted with how she'll look and you'll be so proud to show her off to your family and friends.
- ✓ You'll never have to worry when you leave your pet with us. She'll be groomed in a clean, relaxed environment where only the best and safest products are used.
- ✓ Help and advice is freely given so you'll always have someone to turn to if you ever have a problem or a worry about your little friend.
- ✓ We use a calm, 'tender loving' approach when grooming, where patience, praise and kindness is assured.

*Your Feline friend can be a "Perfect Pet" too.  
Pets of Perfection  
Specializes in grooming Cats*

*Please submit your questions, concerns and ideas! We would love to receive your input!*

*[petsz@att.net](mailto:petsz@att.net)*

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To continue to provide you with information, help and a little bit of fun, we publish this newsletter at the beginning of every month. There will always be a copy available for you.

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