

Pets and Christmas

Routine can affect dogs and cats in various ways. The excessive periods out shopping, children getting excited around home, the rearrangement of rooms and appearance of trees in the living room can become all too much for some pets. It is sometimes all too easy to forget about your pets simple needs, therefore it is important that, periods of play, exercise, attention and reassurance are adequately given during this time. Disruption can cause anxiety, which is manifested in various ways, therefore ensure your pet is adequately catered for and your attention is distributed equally.

Diet is always a tempting change over the festive period with the odd scrap from the table. But be warned, over indulgence for animals can result in gastric overload. Edible Christmas presents from granny and granddad can also have similar consequences if not carefully monitored, and you can guarantee that it will be mum or dad to do the cleaning up. Once the dinner has been demolished and the Pudding has been polished off, it is time to clear the tables. However, it is now the opportunistic instincts of our domesticated four legged friends that become active. The left over carcass crammed amongst the chipolatas in a polythene dustbin bag is no match for the claws of the ever-hungry predator. The temptation of the aroma can be all too much for our pets, but the consequences that follow the ingesting of turkey bones and similar rich food are not pleasant for any of the parties concerned. Therefore ensure you dispose of all the rubbish sensibly and avoid the unwanted trip to the vets at Christmas.

Candles are an integral part of advent or as decoration for the festive table. Great care must be taken over the positioning of these decorations, well away from the wag of a tail or swipe of a clumsy claw. Equally the invitation to pets from the glow of an open fire can be irresistible, yet are potential pet hazards, so ensure your pet is supervised at all times. If after careful consideration of your pets' welfare, you decide that alternative care arrangements are needed, make sure you plan well in advance. Boarding Kennels, Pet Sitters, and Catteries get booked up well before Christmas and make sure vaccinations are up to date.