







Fun not fear this firework season

Fireworks can be great fun for us but they can be a source of great fear and anxiety for our pets. It's always best to try to prevent your pet from developing a fear of fireworks, this is especially important with young animals and can be achieved by desensitising them to the noise of Fireworks by using CD therapy (always follow the instructions).



A week before the firework season starts, select an area to provide a safe haven for your pet to relax and be secure in while fireworks are going off. This area should be away from windows and cosy, for example a covered cage or cat igloo in a corner. Place in the room an **Adaptil** diffuser (formerly DAP) for dogs or **Feliway** diffuser for cats, both contain pheromones which help make your pet feel calmer and protected.

During firework season help to reduce stress for your pets and ensure their safety by doing the following:

-  Walk dogs during daylight hours and keep dogs & cats indoors when fireworks are likely to be set off.
-  At nightfall, close all windows and curtains and put music, or the TV on to mask and muffle the sound of fireworks.
-  Give your cat or dog access to a safe, cosy, "den" so they can go in there when they are frightened.
-  If your pet shows signs of fear, ignore their behaviour and do not make a fuss of them unless they are relaxed and calm. Fussing them when they are scared will be reinforcing the fear response. Act confident and ignore the fireworks to help your pet to understand there is nothing to fear.
-  Try to engage your pet in a game to distract them from the fireworks and to help build a positive association with the situation.
-  **Never** punish your pet when it is scared, as this will only make them more anxious and stressed

If you experience issues with your pet during firework season seek professional advice from a qualified animal behaviourist on how best to help your pet.

Article by Natashya Hanch DipCABT holistic pet behaviourist and trainer who can help restore harmony for you and your pet (contact details overleaf)

Important News Regarding Pet Passports and the Pet Travel Scheme (PETS)

For those of you not already familiar with the current arrangements, the UK Government operates a system of Pet Passports, whereby dogs, cats and ferrets can travel between European Union and certain other designated states and the UK without the need for quarantine upon their return.

Currently the scheme involves a number of steps including identification of the pet by means of a microchip, vaccination against rabies and a blood test to ensure an adequate response to vaccination has occurred, and the preparation of a Pet Passport which allows re-entry to the UK.



Currently the pet cannot re-enter the UK until six months after the taking of the successful blood sample. It must also be treated for ticks and tapeworms between 48 and 24 hours before returning to the UK.

However, from 1st January 2012, the rules for bringing back your pet dog, cat or ferret will change.

There will no longer be a need for blood testing to verify the response to vaccination. Animals need only to wait 21 days following rabies vaccination to be allowed to enter the UK. The requirements for tick and tapeworm treatment have yet to be confirmed.

The consequence of all this is that the need for blood sampling has effectively disappeared already, as under the existing arrangements, you would have to wait six months before re-entry was allowed, by which time the new arrangements will already be in force.

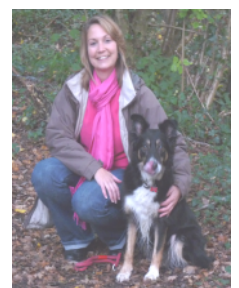
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Problems with your pet?





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Natashya Hanch of Best Behaviour provides a tailor made friendly service by to help restore harmony for you and your



To summarise, in order for your pet to re-enter the UK following a trip to the EU, you will need to do the following:

-  Ensure your pet is microchipped.
-  Have your pet vaccinated against rabies.
-  Be in possession of a Pet Passport completed by your vet.
-  Be sure to be travelling to the UK on an approved route.

Having done all of the above, your pet will be able to re-enter the UK once 21 days have elapsed following the rabies vaccination. It is anticipated that the current rabies revaccination interval will apply, which is three years for the vaccine used by this practice.

One final important point, these updated regulations apply only after the 1st January 2012, so even if your new Pet Passport has been completed, you will not be able to return to the UK until after this date.

The following link to the DEFRA website should be of use, it is important to consult the website regularly for updates on the legislation.

www.defra.gov.uk/publications/2011/06/30/pb13582-bringing-pets-into-uk/

Do ring and speak to one of the vets if you need any advice on travelling with your pet. There are other issues to consider in addition to Pet Passports, such as exotic diseases and the export requirements of individual member states.

A different system exists for animals entering the UK from countries other than those mentioned above, again please consult the DEFRA website and feel free to contact us for assistance.



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Animal	Cost per month
Cat	£9.60
Small Dog (Under 10Kg)	£12.50
Medium Dog (10-20Kg)	£12.98
Large Dog (21-40Kg)	£14.05
Ex Large Dog (41Kg+)	£15.72

Garston News

Frome Cheese Show 2011

The Frome Show was a bit wetter this year but it didn't put the visitors off, attendance at the show increased by 1000 visitors.

In Celebration of our 100th birthday this year some of the team wore Edwardian style dress which certainly caught the eye of passers by. We also provided hot drinks and homemade cakes for our visitors which proved very welcome during a couple of early downpours!



As ongoing supporters of the show we sponsored the prize cards this year, so if you were lucky enough to win a prize you will notice our logo on your prize winning card.

The day was once again a great success and everyone enjoyed meeting new people and seeing some familiar faces. Thank you to everyone that joined us and donated to our charities, this year we raised over £200 for Bath Cats and Dogs Home and Cats Protection League.

Bath Cats and Dogs Home Open Day

As the official vets for Bath Cats and Dogs Home, vets and nurses joined in the fun at their open day in September helping to raise funds for the charity. The day was a great success and Garston raised £210, which will help Bath Cats and Dogs Home continue their good work



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