



Chocolate can make our pets very sick

Pets and chocolate

Chocolate is yummy!

We know how much you love your pet and want to share lots of your time and sometimes your food with them. But did you know that if you give your pet chocolate it can be very dangerous for them?

Chocolate has a special ingredient called **theobromine** which is very safe for people but can make our pets very sick.

Theobromine makes your pet's heart beat faster or differently than it should.

Some signs that your pet has been poisoned by chocolate are:

- they start vomiting
- their poo becomes runny
- they keep needing to do a wee
- they wont sit down and rest.

If your pet has had a lot of chocolate they can become very sick, start shaking, and become unconscious.



So remember:

Don't feed your pet any chocolate no matter how much they beg for it or look sad when you are eating it

You can give your pet other treats such as:

- special dog or cats snacks which look like chocolate but are made just for your pet
- at Easter time give your dog or cat a real egg instead of an Easter egg. A fresh egg will give them a nice shiny coat
- for Christmas, buy some good-quality pet biscuits as a present.

And, if your pet accidentally eats a large amount of chocolate (a medium-sized chocolate bar can be dangerous) take them to your vet immediately.