

Part 1: Bag of Tricks Suggestions from Greyhound Parents Around the World

We all hate it when our furkids aren't acting normally; we want to do whatever we can to help them feel better. The hounds can't tell us what they need, so we've gathered a list of problems and solutions, tips and tricks to help. We'd love to hear any comments or ideas you have to add!

First Aid

Many of our over-the-counter medications are safe and effective in treating your pup's problems. Be sure to consult your local vet for dosage or possible drug interactions before using.

Benadryl (or generic equivalent): can help reduce scratching/itching of minor rashes or irritations. Licking paws can be a sign of allergies or irritation. Follow the dosage frequency on the medication, generally using one (25 mg) pill for each 25 pounds of weight (so a 50-lb. hound would get 2 pills). These meds can cause drowsiness – which may help the pup, and you, sleep better;

Manuka Honey, made from manuka bushes in New Zealand: believed to help with wound healing. See <https://www.healthline.com/nutrition/manuka-honey-uses-benefits>;

Antibiotic cream or Arnica Gel: for minor cuts, bug bites and wounds;

Pepto Bismol and Maalox tablets: helps with indigestion, especially in older hounds. You should check with your veterinarian about dosage and appropriateness for your hound.

Newborn diapers: provide excellent absorption for wound care in locations that aren't flat or are hard to bandage.

Vet wrap: for a hound's thin skin; can be bought in volume online.

Pet bloomers or Belly bands: for incontinence

Baby fitted crib sheets: use on dog beds for incontinence leaks

Press & Seal wrap: for covering hurt paws when hound goes outside

Stress:

Stress can be caused by many things, including but not limited to 1) seeing your suitcase being packed, 2) thunder and lightning, 3) adding a new member to the family or pack, or 4) separation anxiety. Signs of stress can include lack of appetite, chewing or other destructive behaviors, runny nose, pacing around the house, diarrhea (stress can cause bloody diarrhea). To help ease stress, give one or more of the following remedies a try:

1. **Secret Sauce:** Composure Max by Vetri Science
2. **Essential oils:** for calming to ease anxiety
3. **Melatonin**
4. **Ace bandages and cotton balls:** to make ear plugs for sound sensitive pups.
5. **Thundershirt**
6. **Dapp calming collar**



7. **CBD oil:** check that oil does not contain Zylotol
8. **"Through a Dogs Ear" CD:** for calming and alone training
9. **Alone Training:** hounds have never been alone and must learn that you will return.
10. **Toys:** for nervous dogs, grunty sounding toys are preferable to high pitched squeaky toys
11. **Music:** may need to try different types (country, jazz, folk, etc.) to see what they like best.
12. **Thunderphobic/fireworks phobic dogs:** a greyhound can lose up to 10-15 lbs every summer due to severe anxiety about storms. It has been said that it is physiologically impossible for a dog to eat and be scared at the same time. As an antidote to thunder phobia, you must get them to eat. It takes consistent work and the use of very high value treats. At the first sign of a storm, grab the treats and started encouraging your hound to eat. Rotisserie BBQ'd chicken breasts cut into small pieces work well. The first few times, it can be a struggle getting your pup to take the treats. You may even have to force open the mouth and make him/her to eat. Consistency in this training over a couple of weeks with the first sign of a storm will help your pup associate good things with the thunder booms. Your goal is to have your pup become non-reactive to the sound of a storm; eventually, you can stop the use of treats.

Always remember to stay calm and be consistent with your pup. If you become anxious or frustrated, your pup will pick up on that anxiety which in turn will intensify the anxiety your pup is already experiencing. Time can resolve many issues with consistent training and behavior. Contact your adoption representative for additional help before the situation gets desperate.

Tummy Issues:

1. **Pepto Bismol**
2. **Imodium**
3. **Ginger snaps:** helps with car sickness
4. **Canned Pumpkin:** firms up loose stools
5. **Gas-X**
6. **Yogurt:** fat-free
7. **FortiFlora** by Purina: canine probiotic supplement

Lack of Appetite:

1. **Parmesan cheese,** grated
2. **Baby food puree:** served with plain rice and boiled hamburger
3. For picky eaters, **freeze dried food** (Grandma Lucy's, Honest Kitchen): mix up just enough to make a sauce to top the kibble.
4. **Dyne:** use in tiny amounts as Dyne is very rich
5. **Satin Balls:** great for getting pills down and putting weight on. See recipes that follow.

Satin Balls (With Grain):

10 pounds of ground beef
 1 box of Total cereal (NO RAISINS) or Shredded Wheat
 1 box of oatmeal
 1 jar of wheat germ
 1 1/4 cup olive oil
 1 1/4 cup of unsulfured molasses
 10 raw eggs with the shells
 10 envelopes of unflavored gelatin
 A pinch of salt

Satin Balls (With Grain): for smaller amounts

1 pounds of ground beef
1 cup of Total cereal (NO RAISINS) or Shredded Wheat
1 cup of oatmeal
1/4 cup of wheat germ
1/4 cup olive oil
1/4 cup of unsulfured molasses
1 raw eggs with the shell
1 envelope of unflavored gelatin
A pinch of salt

Combine all of the ingredients, roll into 1-inch balls and feed them raw! Portions can be frozen for future use.

Grain-free Satin Balls

10 pounds of ground beef
1 large tub of 4% fat cottage cheese
500 g of cream cheese
1 1/4 cup olive oil
1 1/2 cup of unsulfured molasses
10 raw eggs with the shells
10 envelopes of unflavored gelatin
A pinch of salt

Life Saving Meatballs: for weight gain in dogs

2 lbs. raw hamburger or ground turkey (the cheaper and fattier, the better)
3-4 raw eggs
1 cup peanut butter: no salt is best – be sure peanut butter contains no Xylitol
1/2 cup Karo corn syrup
1 cup wheat germ or oatmeal

Combine all ingredients into a large bowl and mix together with a wooden spoon or your hands. Form into balls about the size of a ping-pong ball and feed up to 10 meatballs per serving.

These meatballs are great for putting weight on thin or sick dogs and for enticing ill dogs to eat. Freeze the meatballs on a cookie sheet and store in freezer in zip lock bag. Thaw a day's worth of meatballs in the refrigerator and replenish from frozen stock as needed. These meatballs are served raw, not cooked.

6. **Bone meal powder** works great on firming up stools
7. **Nutritional yeast, baby food meats, or cat food** can help trigger an appetite.
8. **Human grade diatomaceous earth:** for internal parasites
9. **Slippery Elm:** very good for digestive issues
10. **White bread slice:** at bedtime to calm an upset tummy
11. **Raw chicken liver:** puree in blender and spoon in small amounts on meal; helps build up blood levels.
12. **Pedialyte for dehydrated hounds:** from children's hospital health care professional (2004)
 - 4 cups boiled water
 - 1 cup apple juice
 - 2 tbsps sugar
 - 1/4 tsp salt