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Caring for your pets at Christmastime

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The Christmas period is a lot of fun for humans, but if youâ€™re a pet owner you need to ensure that your animals are kept safe and secure during the festive period. Many of the items that we have in our home at this time of year have hidden dangers for your cats or dogs that you might not be aware of, so it is vital that you consider the needs of your pets at this time of year.

One of the first Christmas activities we do is decorate our homes with items such as Christmas trees, tinsel and lights. We do this because they look appealing to us, but they also look appealing to animals in a different way. Dangling items such as tinsel and fairy lights will attract a playful cat or dogâ€™s attention but if a pet chews on any of these items there could be serious consequences. If any tinsel is swallowed it could cause life threatening problems in your petsâ€™ stomach, and there is also the risk of electrocution if lights are chewed. Fallen needles from Christmas trees could also cause injury, as could glass baubles if they are broken so it is advised that these are avoided in a home with animals.

One thing that people look forward to the most at Christmas is the food on offer, and your pets will also be tempted by many of the goodies on offer. Big tins of chocolates are found in many homes during the festive season, but this needs to be kept away from both cats and dogs as it is poisonous to them. Many people are aware of the dangers of dogs consuming chocolate but donâ€™t release that it also affects cats â€“ however, cats are much less likely to eat it as it doesnâ€™t appeal to their tastebuds in the same way it does to dogs (and humans!). Grapes and raisins are also poisonous to pets, and if you do choose to give them meat ensure that there are no bones which they could choke on.

As well as being aware of items which could cause harm to your pets, if you have older animals in your home you should also remember that the noise, stress and general hustle and bustle of the Christmas season could be very upsetting for them. Elderly animals can find it unnerving if the house is suddenly full of people, and noises caused by items such as crackers party poppers and Champagne corks can cause them to panic so you should ensure that they have somewhere to go to get some peace and quiet.

Itâ€™s not all bad though! When buying gifts for your friends and family, make sure that your pet doesnâ€™t miss out and allow them to have some fun in the festive season. Internet pet supplies retailer Online For Pets has great items to treat your pets with, all at great prices. On their website onlineforpets.co.uk, there is a wide range of pet accessories, toys and treats for cats and dogs from all the leading brands including Flexi, Halti and Kong. Onlineforpets also offer free shipping on all purchases over Â£50 and have a money back guarantee so you can buy in complete confidence with them this Christmas.

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a Onlineforpets is a great source if you wish to do some shopping for the furry friends at home. a Online for pets offer a wide variety of items to choose from.

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