

# Making a First Aid Kit for Your Small Pet

*Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff*

Since you never know when an accident will happen, keeping a pet emergency kit at your home is a good idea. You can put a first aid kit together yourself and buy the items separately, or buy one ready-made. If you make one yourself, use a small plastic tub with a tight fitting lid to store the following items:

<p><b>Important Phone Numbers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Veterinary clinic phone number and directions to the clinic</li><li>• Emergency clinic phone number and directions</li><li>• Poison control center phone numbers</li></ul> <p><b>Equipment and Supplies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Magnifying glass</li><li>• Scissors</li><li>• Tweezers</li><li>• Nail clippers and metal nail file</li><li>• Styptic powder or sticks, Kwik Stop, or cornstarch</li><li>• Penlight</li><li>• Scalpel blades and handles</li><li>• Eye dropper</li><li>• Cotton swabs</li><li>• Cotton balls</li><li>• Clean towels - cloth and paper</li><li>• Rectal thermometer</li><li>• Lubricant such as mineral oil or KY Jelly (without spermicide)</li><li>• Disposable gloves</li><li>• Syringes of various sizes</li><li>• Needle-nose pliers or hemostats</li><li>• Wire cutters</li><li>• Pet carrier</li><li>• Heating pad or heat lamp to use at home</li><li>• Gram scale</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stethoscope</li><li>• Heat pack or hot water bottle (to keep pet warm during transport; wrap the pack in a towel - do not apply directly to your pet, or burns may result)</li></ul> <p><b>Bandaging Materials</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Square gauze of various sizes - some sterile</li><li>• Non-stick pads</li><li>• First aid tape - both paper (easily comes off of skin) and adhesive types</li><li>• Bandage rolls - gauze and Vetwrap</li><li>• Band-Aids (for humans)</li></ul> <p><b>Nutritional Support</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rehydrating solution such as Gatorade or Pedialyte</li></ul> <p><b>Medicines*</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wound disinfectant such as Betadine or Nolvasan</li><li>• Triple antibiotic ointment for skin</li><li>• Antibiotic ophthalmic ointment for eyes, e.g., Terramycin</li><li>• Eye wash solution</li><li>• Sterile saline</li><li>• A probiotic gel such as BeneBac, LactoBac, Probios, or Fastrack</li></ul> <p>*Watch the expiration dates on any medication, and replace as needed.</p>
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