

Fun & Enrichment

Whether your pet is spending a bit more alone time, indoors, away with a pet sitter or you just want to treat your cherished pet, providing them with some cheap & easy enrichment will help keep them satisfied, contented and calmer for longer.

Having a ready-made supply of enrichment items is a great way to stay in control & focus on other things - like that unexpected guest - over the festive season.

There are many expensive toys & games you can buy for your dogs and other pets, but why not make some yourself? Not only can this be far cheaper, but it's a great way to recycle. Preparing enrichment items can also be a fun thing to do with any children in the family.

Getting your dog out for daily walk or two, depending on their breed & age, is usually an important part of your daily routine. This isn't just for exercise and going to the toilet, but also for mental stimulation, socialisation (if appropriate) and for performing other natural, species-specific behaviours that we still see in our dogs today - such as searching, sniffing, discovering, retrieving, and other more domesticated aspects of prey-drive such as shredding, chewing & consuming.

Aside from a good walk or two, what dog doesn't enjoy sniffing, chewing & eating? These activities can also help our dogs to relax. If there is food involved as well, fab!

Here are a few quick & easy ideas for you to make:



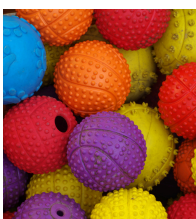
Whole, raw carrots are a favourite of some dogs. For those who are a little more fussy, or just for extra fun, try making slits or holes in a carrot and filling the holes with safe peanut butter or squeezable cheese! You can also fill the hollow side of cooked or raw celery if your dog enjoys it... but make sure their stomach can tolerate celery first!



It's not advisable to feed raw sweet potato but, when cooked, they are great for sensitive tumms. How about baking a sweet potato, cutting it in half (when cooled), then pressing their favourite treats into the soft inner? You can even freeze these to make them last longer! This one is good if you are worried about your dog swallowing larger pieces of veg, as the potato can become lovely & soft.



Toilet roll treat - one of our favourites! When made, this treat will have your dog sniffing to find which bit of paper the treats in, and shredding the paper to get to it and then chewing or consuming whatever you have decided to put inside. This satisfies so many natural behaviours. Although, it does mean there is likely to be a bit of clearing up of shredded paper at some point. Please supervise if your dog eats paper or cardboard!



Got an old cardboard box and a few spare dog-safe balls? The possibilities are endless with this one! Hiding treats in a box of balls so they have to snuffle them out - and maybe play with a ball in between - is great fun and gets those doggy-seeking senses going, along with the satisfaction of consuming the hard fought-for goodies. And, why not mix it up a bit with some treat balls, or crunched-up paper with treats inside?