

Tips for Handling an Injured Dog

If your dog is injured, it could be in pain and is also most likely scared and confused. You need to be *careful* to avoid getting hurt, bitten or scratched.

Never assume that even the gentlest dog will not bite or scratch if injured. Pain and fear can make animals unpredictable or even dangerous.

Don't attempt to hug an injured dog, and always keep your face away from its mouth. Although this may be your first impulse to comfort your pet, it might only scare the animal more or cause them pain. Comfort your dog with your voice and gentle petting.

Perform any examination slowly and gently. Stop if your animal becomes more agitated.

Call your veterinarian or an emergency veterinary clinic before you move your dog so they can be ready for you when you arrive.

If necessary *and* if your dog is not vomiting, place a muzzle on the dog to reduce the chances you'll be bitten.

Dogs may be muzzled with towels or gauze rolls if you don't have his kennel muzzle.

NEVER muzzle your dog if it is vomiting.

If possible, try to stabilize injuries before moving an injured animal by bandaging or possibly splinting them.

While transporting your injured dog, keep it confined in a small area to reduce the risk of additional injury., you can use a throw rug, blanket or something similar to act as a stretcher.

You should always keep your dog's medical records in a safe, easily accessible place. Bring these with you when you take your dog for emergency treatment