



Leaders in pet care, putting your pets first

Pet Brands are the proud distributors in South Africa of several well-known and reputable brands. Our partner's products are distributed across South Africa through pet, vet, and online stores as well as through selected branches of Dis-Chem. Visit our website on www.petbrands.co.za for more information or email us on info@petbrands.co.za for our full catalogue. We hope that our monthly newsletter will give you more information about our highlighted products as well as interesting information that you can share with your customers.



FABULOUS FACTS ABOUT RABBITS

- A baby rabbit is called a kit, a female is called a doe and a male is called a buck.
- A rabbit's teeth never stop growing! Instead, they're gradually worn down as the rabbit chews on grasses, wildflowers and vegetables – meaning they never get too long.
- Rabbits' eyes are on the sides of their head, meaning they can see almost all the way around them.
- Like cats, happy rabbits purr when they're content and relaxed.
- Rabbits are amazing athletes – they can jump as high as 90 centimetres in one leap!
- Growing up to 10 centimetres in length, rabbits can turn their ears by 180 degrees, keeping a careful listen out for predators.
- Rabbits are very effective baby-makers! Mother rabbits are pregnant for between 28-31 days, giving birth to up to 14 baby rabbits in a single litter.



Choosing the right leash



Leashes are an important training tool, and something that you'll use almost every day – which means it's important for you to find one that matches your needs and preferences. You'll see dog owners walking their dogs on lots of different widths and lengths, styles, materials, and even different clasp and handle types.

Which is best for you and your dog?

Different activities are easier with different kinds of leashes. You might find that having multiple kinds of leashes is best, depending on the things you plan on doing with your dog – whether it's hiking, going to dog training class, or walking through the neighbourhood. No matter what kind of leash you choose, it should be well-made with a secure clasp and comfortable for you to use.

If your puppy gets ahold of the leash and it's not durable, you may be buying several until they grow out of the habit and are trained not to chew on their leash.

Do you want an all-in-one daytime and nighttime leash? If so, opt for a reflective one. Leash size and material should be chosen based on the size and weight of your dog. A chihuahua will be overwhelmed by the weight of a thick leash with a heavy clasp, and a Saint Bernard can easily snap a thin leash strap or lightweight clasp.

A good rule of thumb when checking your dog's collar fits right is that you should be able to fit: one finger under the collar of small breeds, two fingers for medium sized breeds and 3 fingers for large breeds.

Nylon is the most common material that dog leashes are made of. They come in a large variety of colors, styles, lengths, and sizes. Nylon leashes are generally better for puppies as they can cause leash burn if you have a dog that can suddenly pull the leash from your hand. Leather leashes are not as popular and common as nylon leashes, but are generally just as durable. Leather leashes also soften with time and are easier to grip should you have a dog that can have a strong pull. Leather leashes don't tangle as often and provide a softer grip than nylon or chain leashes.

Consult an employee at your local pet store about popular and common dog leashes. Most employees will also be able to recommend leashes based on your dog's size, age, and energy level. Although they won't be able to provide specific recommendations about your dog's health or behavioral issues, most employees should be able to point you in the right direction. Ask the employee questions like, "Which leash do you sell the most of?" "Which leash would you recommend for behavioral training?" or "What leash should I get for my high energy dog?"

"If you don't own a dog, at least one, there may not necessarily be anything wrong with you, but there may be something wrong with your life." - Roger Caras

PET BRANDS PRODUCT FEATURE



Effortlessly de-shed your dog or cat with the Pawise Pet Grooming Glove



- Easily removes loose pet hair and tangles.
- Massages for better blood circulation
- Use in the bath to clean and massage your dog or cat.
- Perfect for long, short and curly haired dogs, cats, horses, and other pets
- Adjustable strap designed to fit most people. Ergonomic design allows you to groom hard to reach places
- Loose fur sticks to the silicone and can be easily removed as one piece from glove.

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Travelling with a dog?

The Pawise Safety Car Grid Barrier keeps both you and your dog safe and secure while on the road. The Grid helps prevent your dog from leaping over seats and causing distractions. Made using high quality materials, it's lightweight, durable and easy-to-install.



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Grooming your dog has never been easier!



The PAWISE grooming range includes -

- Dog Slicker Brush - featuring soft, curved metal pins, great for detangling and removing dead hair. Reduces moulting with regular use.
- Pawise Dog Pin Brush - Featuring soft pins, perfect for detangling the coat of your dog. Massages skin and stimulates blood circulation.
- Pawise Flea Comb - will remove fleas, flea eggs, flea dirt and dead hair from your pet's fur.
- Pawise Dog Nail Trimmer - a useful nail trimmer which is easy to use. This nail trimmer has a safety, so you cannot trim your dog's nails too short.



Available at pet, vet and online stores in SA. Contact us to be an All for Paws stockist in South Africa.

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The All For Paws Sparkle Dental Cleaning Combo Pack Toothbrush Set has all you need to keep your dog's teeth clean. Looking after your dog's oral hygiene is important for their overall health and has many benefits including plaque and tartar control and fresh breath!

If you want to keep your dog's nasher's pearly white and their breath smelling sweet, the All For Paws Sparkle Dental Care Combo pack has everything you need to get started - a tooth brush, toothpaste, and a finger dental brush. Available in different flavours from your pet, vet or online store.



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All for Paws Travel Dog Car Ramp

The All For Paws Travel Dog Car Ramp is perfect for dogs who like to travel. Highly recommended for dogs suffering from arthritis, it can also be used to prevent hip and spine issues in the future. Made with a non-slip surface and lateral security bar to facilitate access to the car for your dog, its also foldable for easy storage and will fit most SUVs, sedans and minivans.

- Ideal for dogs with arthritis, hip, spine, and joint problems as well as elderly and small dogs.
- Non-slip surface
- Lateral security bar to facilitate access to the car
- Fits most SUVs, sedans and minivans
- Maximum weight capacity is 90kg



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A must-have for all households SIMPLE SOLUTION MULTI-PURPOSE DISINFECTANT CLEANER

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- Long lasting 24 hour residual protection
- Works in seconds, protects for hours
- Now with 3 in 1 Action Clean, Disinfects & Deodorises
- Eliminates tough pet odours
- Formulated for use around pets
- Suitable for hard and soft surfaces
- Bleach, ammonia and phenol free
- Applications in floor care and surface care
- Ideal for use on Litter trays, kennels, crates, plastic, laminates



Available at pet and vet stores

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We your dog!

Treat your pooch to our Semi Moist Dog Treats

PET REWARDS

because your pet deserves it



Semi Moist's are soft and easily palatable making it an ideal treat option when training and for good behaviour.

Salmon, Lamb, Duck and Chicken our delicious flavours that are available in our variety of shapes, roll and stick treats.

OUR EXCITING GLUTEN FREE Semi Moist Treats are a first!

Available at Pet and Vet Stores and Dischem nation wide

FEEDING WILD BIRDS

There is debate about feeding wild birds, and some are of the opinion that if we feed them, then we encourage them to become reliant on us. Others feel it is our duty to assist them, seeing that we humans have been responsible for urban sprawl which robs them of the required natural habitats for their food sources. The use of bird feeders should provide birds with supplementary feeding only. Long term supplementary feeding can influence bird populations and distributions.

Always Place feeders at least a meter off the ground to ensure that accumulation of food on the feeder is minimised and attack by ground predators, such as domestic cats, is minimised. Place bird feeders in different parts of the garden, if more than one feeder is being provided. Birds should be provided with natural and healthy sources of food such as seeds, freshly chopped fruit and vegetables, suet, meal worms and bone meal. The feeding of milk and bread should be avoided as it can lead to diarrhoea in some birds.

Minimize the spread of disease by disinfecting feeders and bird baths every day using F10 veterinary disinfectant soap or hot water and vinegar. Remove algal growth on feeders and bird baths with a scrubbing brush. Ensure that any waste underneath the feeder is removed regularly and discard any food that is damp, contains fungus or has a bad odour as soon as possible.

Acknowledgement - Birdlife South Africa www.birdlife.org.za



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ANATOMY OF A DOG

(Part 1)

PAWS

Understanding how your dog's paws operate and how to best maintain them is critical for your dog's overall health and well-being. While the eyes, ears and tails of your dog may get most of the attention for their expressiveness, a dog's paws are wonderfully designed appendages and there is so much going on underneath the fur of a dog's paw that you may have never realized.

Paws are made up of the following five components -

- Claws
- Digital Pads (the pads on the toes)
- Metacarpal Pad (the pad in the middle)
- Dewclaw
- Carpal Pad (the pad farthest back)



TOES AND CLAWS

Dogs are what are known as digitigrade animals - this means that when they walk, they will put all the weight on their digits/toes and not on the heel. Because of this, dogs' toe bones are very important. A dog's claws are made of a hard protein called keratin. Traditionally, Claws are used to catch and hold prey in the wild, but domestically, claws are also used for digging, self-defence and grooming.

DEWCLAWS

Dewclaws are thought to be the Canine equivalent of human thumbs, although they do not have the same functionality and are non-opposable, dogs do often use their dewclaws to get a better grip on bones, treats, and toys. Certain breeds like the will also make use of their dewclaws for stability on uneven surfaces, these dogs will often have double dewclaws on their back legs. Dewclaws are not essential to domestic dogs and are typically removed in the first few days of puppyhood. Dewclaw removal is often done to reduce chances of potential injury but is also sometimes done to improve appearance for the showing purposes.

PADS

The digital pads (toe pads) and the metacarpal pad (centre pad) work both as a kind of shock absorber and to protect the foot when walking on rough terrain such as gravel or roads. The carpal pads (back pad) is used mostly as a sort of braking system to easily navigate slippery or steep slopes. Paw pads also help insulate the foot from extreme temperatures. The pads are made up of fatty tissue that doesn't conduct cold as quickly and when the paw does get cold, arteries transfer the chilled blood back to the body where it warms up again.

TAKING CARE OF PAWS

Taking proper care of paws is essential to your dog's wellbeing so always be on the lookout for signs of injury or infection. Nails can break, pads can get injured, the skin between your dog's claws can be susceptible to damage or infection and, keeping nails trimmed is an important part of taking care of your dog. Some dogs will naturally wear down their nails from frequent walks on concrete sidewalks, but if your dog primarily gets their exercise outside, their nails may need to be trimmed as much as once a month. A dog's nails will grow just as fast as human nails and if not trimmed with enough frequency there is a greater risk of them breaking off, in addition to a variety of other problems.

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7 WAYS TO HELP AN ANIMAL SHELTER

- 1. Donate Your Skills and Experience** - Shelters need help from those with specialized knowledge and skills. For example, those who love taking photos or making videos of animals could be a huge help in closing the gap between animals and adopters.
- 2. Donate Your Time** - Volunteering to spend time with the animals at your local shelter or rescue is an incredible gift, not only to the animals, but to those that work there. Animal shelters need all the extra hands they can get. There are a lot of dogs to walk and cats to groom.
- 3. Donate Your Pet's Used Items** - Most animal shelters have a wish list that you can donate to. Maybe your dog isn't interested in the toy you bought him so instead of burying it in the bottom of the toy box, donate it!
- 4. Donate Household Items** - Do you have old towels and sheets that you don't know what to do with? Donate them to your local animal shelter. Just ensure they are clean and washed properly as most shelters use them to provide comfortable bedding for cats and dogs. Even paper towels, pillows and wash cloths are needed. Animal shelters can get pretty messy considering their residents, so cleaning supplies including, laundry detergent, dishwashing liquids, bleach and soaps are all used to keep your local shelters clean and safe.
- 5. Donate Grooming and Medical Supplies** - Animals waiting in shelters rely on being groomed to look their best for potential adopters. Shampoo, pet soaps, brushes and combs are all needed in your shelters. Even flea and tick treatments are needed.
- 6. Donate Pet Foods and Formula** - A large amount of the money donated by generous individuals goes toward buying pet food and milk formula. No one likes going to bed on an empty stomach, which includes the pets at your local shelters. Donate a few bags of food or formula or do a collection in your office.
- 7. Donate a Place in Your Home** - Being a foster parent can be unimaginably rewarding. Giving an animal in need a place in your home allows them to feel something they may not have felt before, safe. Donating a place in your home will not only bring the animals spirits up, but it will be a fulfilling experience for you and your family.

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