

Ten Signs Your Dog Needs a Vet

We are dog people and we know our dogs, and we know what to do when they don't 'look right'. We do, however, sometimes face the situation where we are not entirely sure whether we should contact the vet or not. And somehow the same sign can look quite different 'out of hours'. Remember the veterinary surgeon is the only professional we can telephone and get advice from on subjects that vary from the most mundane to saving of the lives of our dogs. And, usually, there is no charge for this wonderful service.

We know our dogs' habits, movements, and facial expressions. When these change suddenly, they can become powerful signifiers of illness. It is up to us to interpret these and do the right thing. This is a rough guide. It may help you in your decision whether to get your dog to the vet or not.

- 1. Not the usual kind of vomit.**
- 2. Quieter and more still than usual, or choosing an unusual place in the house to sit/stand/lie.**
- 3. Pacing with the tail down, restlessness, and change in the usual expression.**
- 4. Trying to attract your attention, when and where this is not usual.**
- 5. Odd posture when standing, sitting, or lying down.**
- 6. Hesitating or avoiding jumping or climbing.**
- 7. Changes in the poo and pee, and where and when this is done.**
- 8. Bad Breath.**
- 9. Unusual amount of itching, licking, and chewing of self.**
- 10. Coughing and retching more than the expected amount.**

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