

WHY DO DOGS CHEW???

KONG

Nylabone



DENTAL BENEFITS:

Chewing on toys or bones is good for the dog's teeth. It helps scrape away plaque...the harder the toys surface the better to keep exposed teeth smooth, making it harder for plaque to adhere.

RELIEVES BOREDOM:

Toys and bones will keep a dog entertained for hours and keep their mind stimulated.

SATISFIES CHEWING URGE:

Toys and bones make excellent substitutes for your furniture, woodwork or shoes.

STIMULATES GROWTH OF ADULT TEETH IN PUPPIES:

Very similar to a teething ring for infants, every toy can be either very safe or very dangerous, depending on the dog, the toy and the owner. Pick a toy or bone that matches your dog's chewing rate and habits, and remember, dogs can be particular about what they chew on. Old sneakers, slippers, sweatshirts, pieces of firewood, empty plastic containers should not be used as substitutes for dog toys.

If your dog is chewing something it shouldn't, offer to exchange for something he or she likes. If your dog is chewing something appropriate, praise your dog for doing the right thing.

RUBBER TOYS

(Examples: Kong, Rhino and Nylabone) Provide great jaw and mouth exercise and are usually safe enough to be left alone with most dogs. Durable enough for aggressive chewers, Good for fetch games, some can be stuffed with dog biscuits

VINYL TOYS

(Usually with squeakers) Easily compressible by most chewers, but not good for aggressive chewers: can easily be destroyed. Great for fetch games, need to be checked often for loose pieces of vinyl that could easily be swallowed.

SOFT TOYS



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Usually made of fleece or plush fabric but not good for aggressive chewers: can be easily destroyed. Retain dog's scent for extended play. Great for fetch games and for snuggling

ROPE TOYS

Good for teeth and gums, Great for fetch or tug-of-war, Not good for aggressive chewers: pieces of rope can be swallowed and obstruct intestines.

RAWHIDE

Comes in different sizes, shapes and flavors. Larger ones are harder to soften and take longer. Flavored ones may leave stains on carpet or white fur. Can be chewed and swallowed: risk of smaller pieces lodging in throat or stomach.

BALLS & FRISBEES

Great for fetch games if dog has good retrieving skills or high prey drive instinct. Can be solid rubber, plastic or real tennis balls. Hollow plastic ones and tennis balls can be chewed and ripped open: risk of smaller pieces lodging in throat or stomach. Easiest way to teach a dog to catch a frisbee: start feeding him out of the toy, then start throwing his 'food dish' around

REAL BONES

Come in different shapes and sizes: knuckle bone, long bone, pelvic bone, etc. Can be natural or flavored, usually smoked: high staining potential. Usually safe even for aggressive chewers, although small pieces of bone can fracture off and be swallowed. Hollow bones make great puppy cannolis: stuff mixture of crushed dog biscuits, shredded carrots and low-fat peanut butter into bone, freeze and then hand out



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