

FREE BONUS GUIDE

Wiener Emergency Guide

Know what to do when it matters most.

Bonus guide for The Complete Dachshund Guide

Before We Begin

Nobody wants to think about emergencies. But when something goes wrong, the minutes count, and knowing what to do can make a real difference to your Dachshund.

This guide helps you recognise the most common emergencies in Dachshunds, keep your dog safe while you get help, and be prepared before anything happens.

> **This guide is not a replacement for veterinary care.** In any emergency, contact your vet or an emergency vet straight away. Never give human medicines to your dog unless your vet tells you to.



Be Prepared

Save these numbers now

- your regular vet
- your nearest out-of-hours emergency vet
- an animal poison helpline, if one is available in your country

Put them in your phone and on the fridge.

Know the way

Find out where your nearest emergency vet is, and how long it takes to get there, before you need it.

Your first aid kit

- bandages, gauze and vet wrap
- saline for rinsing wounds or eyes
- blunt-ended scissors
- tweezers and a tick remover
- a digital thermometer
- disposable gloves
- a clean towel or blanket
- a flat board or tray for carrying a Doxie with a back injury
- a basket muzzle (even gentle dogs may bite when in pain)

Be Prepared

Know your dog's normal

When your Doxie is healthy, get to know:

- their normal breathing at rest
- their gum colour (usually pink)
- how they normally walk, eat and behave

That makes it easier to spot when something is wrong.



Back Emergencies

Back problems (IVDD) are the most common emergency in Dachshunds.

Signs

- sudden weakness or wobbliness in the back legs
- dragging the back legs or walking on the tops of the paws
- unable to stand or walk
- yelping, shaking or a hunched back
- loss of bladder or bowel control

What to do

1. **Keep your dog still** in a crate, small pen or confined space.
2. **Call your vet or emergency vet straight away.**
3. **Carry them flat,** supporting the whole spine. Slide them onto a flat board or tray if you can.
4. **Don't let them walk, jump or use stairs.**
5. **Don't give human pain medicines.**

Time matters. Dogs with severe signs often need urgent treatment.

Poisoning

Dachshunds are curious, food-loving dogs who explore with their noses. Common poisons include:

- **chocolate,** especially dark chocolate
- **grapes, raisins and sultanas**
- **xylitol,** a sweetener in some sugar-free gum, sweets and peanut butters
- **onions, garlic and leeks**
- **human medicines,** including painkillers
- **rat and slug poisons**
- **antifreeze**
- **some plants,** such as lilies (dangerous to cats too) and daffodil bulbs

What to do

1. **Remove your dog** from the poison and keep the packaging.
2. **Call your vet straight away,** even if your dog seems fine. Some poisons take hours to show signs.
3. **Tell them** what your dog ate, how much, and when.
4. **Don't make your dog sick** unless your vet tells you to.

Heatstroke

Dachshunds are low to the ground, close to hot pavements, and smooth Doxies can overheat quickly.

Signs

- heavy panting
- drooling
- bright red or pale gums
- weakness, wobbliness or collapse
- vomiting

What to do

1. Move your dog to a cool, shady place.
2. Pour cool (not ice-cold) water over them, especially the tummy and paws.
3. Let them drink small amounts of cool water.
4. Call your vet straight away and take your dog in.

Heatstroke

Prevention

- Never leave your dog in a car, even for a few minutes.
- Walk early or late on warm days.
- Check pavements with the back of your hand.
- Provide shade and fresh water.



Choking

Signs include pawing at the mouth, gagging, panicking or struggling to breathe.

- If you can see the object and can remove it safely, do so carefully.
- Don't push your fingers deep into the throat.
- Get to a vet immediately.

Swallowed objects

Socks, toys, corn cobs and bones can cause blockages. Signs include vomiting, not eating, a sore tummy, or straining to go to the toilet.

- Call your vet if you think your Doxie has swallowed something.



Other Emergencies

Seizures

- Keep your dog away from stairs and furniture.
- Don't put your hands near their mouth.
- Time the seizure.
- Call your vet.

Bleeding

- Press a clean cloth or gauze firmly on the wound.
- Keep pressure on and get to a vet.

Eye injuries

- Don't let your dog rub their eye.
- Call your vet straight away.

Allergic reactions

Swelling of the face, hives, or difficulty breathing after a sting or bite need urgent vet care.



Other Emergencies

Collapse or breathing problems

Collapse, pale or blue gums, or struggling to breathe are always emergencies. Get to a vet immediately.

Puppies and low blood sugar

Very small or young puppies can become weak and wobbly if they don't eat. Call your vet if your puppy is unusually weak, sleepy or shaky.



PART 7

How to Move an Injured Doxie

1. **Stay calm.** Your dog will pick up on your stress.
2. **Use a muzzle if needed.** Even gentle dogs may bite when in pain.
3. **Slide a board or tray underneath,** keeping the back as straight as possible.
4. **Cover with a towel** to keep them warm and calm.
5. **Drive carefully** to the vet. Ask someone else to drive if you can.



Seasonal & Garden Hazards

Spring and summer

- **Heat:** hot cars, hot pavements and hot days.
- **Grass seeds:** these can work their way into paws, ears and noses. Check after walks.
- **Bees and wasps:** most stings are minor, but swelling of the face or difficulty breathing needs urgent help.
- **Blue-green algae:** some ponds and lakes can be toxic in warm weather. Keep your dog out of water that looks scummy or discoloured.
- **Barbecues:** cooked bones, skewers and corn cobs.

Autumn and winter

- **Conkers and acorns** can upset tummies or cause blockages.
- **Antifreeze** tastes sweet but is extremely dangerous.
- **Rock salt** on paths can irritate paws. Wipe paws after walks.
- **Festive foods:** chocolate, mince pies, Christmas pudding and grapes.
- **Cold:** smooth Doxies feel the cold. Use a coat.

Seasonal & Garden Hazards

In the garden

- **Slug pellets and rat poison:** keep them away from dogs entirely.
- **Plants:** some plants and bulbs are toxic to dogs, such as daffodils and foxgloves. Ask your vet if you're unsure about your garden.
- **Compost heaps** can contain mouldy food. Keep them fenced off.
- **Holes under fences:** Doxies are great diggers and escape artists. Check fences regularly.



10 Popular Questions Answered

1. How do I know if it's an emergency? If you're unsure, call your vet. It's always better to check.

2. My Doxie ate a little chocolate. Is that OK? Call your vet. Tell them the type and amount.

3. My dog yelped and won't move. Keep them still and call your vet straight away.

4. Can I give my dog painkillers? Never give human medicines unless your vet tells you to.

5. What's a normal gum colour? Usually pink. Pale, blue or bright red gums need a vet.



10 Popular Questions Answered

6. Should I make my dog sick if they eat poison? Only if your vet tells you to.

7. How hot is too hot for walks? If the pavement is too hot for your hand, it's too hot for paws.

8. What should be in my first aid kit? See Part 1.

9. Is pet insurance worth it? Many owners find it helpful for emergencies.

10. How can I prepare? Save your vet's numbers, know the way to the emergency vet, and keep a first aid kit.



Your Emergency Checklist

- ☐ Vet and emergency vet numbers saved.
- ☐ Route to emergency vet known.
- ☐ First aid kit ready.
- ☐ Flat board or tray for back injuries.
- ☐ Danger foods out of reach.
- ☐ Basket muzzle trained.
- ☐ Know your dog's normal.



A Final Word



We hope you never need this guide. But if you do, being prepared means you can act quickly and calmly.

Save the numbers today, pack your kit, and keep your Doxie safe.