

# PREVENTING POOR POOP



# RED CARPET DOODLES

## PREFACE

There can be many causes for diarrhea, but the most common, is due to stress, like moving to a new home, getting bathed & groomed, or even getting pictures taken.

Common “opportunistic” parasites of *Coccidia* and *Giardia* are already present in the gut of most mammals that we cannot eradicate but can control. These parasites do not cause harm to our animals, but they can be activated under stressful conditions. Even though we do our best to handle potential parasite activation beforehand, if they are not already active, the preventative measure won’t affect them.

## EDUCATION

### Fecal Tests

Fecal Tests are much more sensitive than they used to be, which means that a very low amount of *Giardia* could be detected during a fecal test. When a veterinarian sees a fecal test come back positive for *Giardia*, they typically prescribe medication regardless of severity and symptoms.

Keep in mind that many dogs who have *Giardia* manage it well, without a need for any medication. These dogs may still test positive during the fecal test. The best rule of thumb is to treat your dog when they show symptoms, as opposed to treating it after receiving a positive fecal test.

### The Danger of Treating Chemically

Because chemical-based medications can disrupt the dog’s gut flora and natural balance, it is incredibly important to avoid using them to treat *Giardia*, as it can cause an even worse infection of *Giardia* or *Coccidia*, as well as other health issues due to the sudden change in the gut flora. In life-or-death situations, chemical-based medications may help, but they should only be used in an emergency.

### Alternative Treatments

While most cases of diarrhea can pass on their own while your dog adjusts to stressors, there are still things you can do to treat it while avoiding upsetting your dog’s natural balance and gut flora.

- *MOOM (Magic Oregano Oil Mix)*: 4 oz Extra Virgin Olive Oil, 25 Drops of Oregano Essential Oil. 2 mL for Puppies (Under 6 months) and 3 mL for Adults (6 months+). Dose twice daily for 10 days until the problem has resolved completely.
- *100% Pure Canned Pumpkin*: 1 tsp per 10 lbs, every 6-8 hours.
- *Pre & Probiotics*: Life’s Abundance comes with guaranteed pre & probiotics in the food, but a little extra can’t hurt!

## PREVENTION

Your pet has been on a scheduled preventative deworming schedule in preparation for going to their new home. Please work with your veterinarian’s guidelines on how to continue a preventative deworming schedule to halt parasites from affecting your dog’s health.

It is important to wash your dog’s food and water bowls, making sure that they are uncontaminated. Isolate your dog from others if they are affected as it can be spread easily. Don’t let them sniff or eat other’s poop.

## WHAT'S NORMAL & WHEN TO TAKE ACTION

Due to stress, your dog’s poo may be soft. If it’s at least pudding-like, and not watery, there is not an emergency. Blood & Mucous in your dog’s poo is also normal. There shouldn’t be a lot of blood, but it should be bright. All of this should pass naturally within a few days as their gut flora finds balance.

If loose or bloody poo continues, we recommend using alternative treatments. Remember not to use chemical-based medications unless it’s an emergency as it can cause a downward spiral for your pet.

## SUMMARY

### Choose the Treatment

As a dog lover, and responsible owner, you are more than welcome to choose the proper treatments that you think will work the best for you and your pet. Whether it be through alternative treatments or treating chemically, we understand.

As your dog breeder, we trust you to make the best decision for you and your animals. We hope that this educative handout can assist you in making the right decision for your dog’s overall health and wellness.