

Household poisons and unsafe foods

*Animals are poisoned by most of the same chemicals that poison people. A good rule of thumb is that if the chemical will make you sick it will also make your pet sick.

*When using chemicals, read the label and follow the directions. If you think your pet ingested something from a container, save the container and have it with you when you ask for help. If the material is poisonous, the antidote is often listed on the container.

*When using drugs, be sure to use the correct dosage. If you are unsure, call your veterinarian. Also, drugs that are safe in people and dogs may result in death when used in cats. Again, if you are unsure, call your veterinarian for advice.

Aspirin: One adult aspirin given to a cat can kill.

Acetaminophen: A drug for pain that should not be given to cats.

Acetone

Alcohol

Algae toxins

Amphetamines

Antifreeze: The most common fatal poisoning diagnosed in cats.

Arsenic

Bleach

Chlorine

Cosmetics

Crayons

Deodorant

Detergent

Drain Cleaner

Fabric Softeners

Firecrackers

Floor Polish/Furniture Polish/Wax

Gasoline

Hair Dye

Hexachlorophene: found in some soaps

Indelible markers

Insecticides

Kerosene

Lead Based Paint

Linoleum

Lye

Matches: except safety matches

Mothballs

Oven Cleaner

Paint Thinner/Remover

Perfume

Rat Poison

Roach/Ant bait

Shellac

Shoe Polish

Sleeping Pills

Snail Bait

Strychnine

Suntan Lotion

Thallium

Toilet bowl Cleaner

Warfarin

Weed Killer

Wood Preservative

Alcoholic beverages: Can cause intoxication, coma, and death.

Baby food: Can contain onion powder, which can be toxic to cats. Can also result in nutritional deficiencies, if fed in large amounts.

Bones from fish, poultry, or other meat sources:

Can cause obstruction or laceration of the digestive system.

Canned tuna: for human consumption, large amounts can cause malnutrition, since it lacks proper levels of vitamins and minerals.

Chocolate, coffee, tea, and other caffeine: Contain caffeine, theobromine, or theophylline, which can be toxic and affect the heart and nervous system.

Citrus oil extracts: Can cause vomiting.

Dog food: If accidental ingestion, will not cause a problem; if fed repeatedly, may result in malnutrition and diseases affecting the heart.

Fat trimmings: Can cause pancreatitis.

Grapes and raisins: Contain unknown toxin, can damage the kidneys.

Human vitamin supplements containing iron: Can damage the lining of the digestive system and be toxic to the other organs including the liver and kidneys.

Liver: In large amounts, can cause Vitamin A toxicity, which affects muscles and bones.

Macadamia nuts: Contain unknown toxin, can affect digestive & nervous systems and muscle.

Milk and other dairy products: Cats do not have sufficient amounts of the enzyme lactase, which breaks down the lactose in milk. This can result in diarrhea, upset stomach and gassiness.

Moldy or spoiled food, garbage: Can contain multiple toxins causing vomiting and diarrhea and can also affect other organs.

Mushrooms: Can contain toxins, which may affect multiple systems in the body, cause shock, and result in death.

Onions and garlic: (raw, cooked, or powder) Contain sulfoxides and disulfides, which can damage red blood cells and cause anemia.

Potato, rhubarb, & tomato leaves; potato & tomato stems: Contain oxalates, can affect the digestive, nervous, & urinary systems.

Raw eggs: Contain an enzyme called avidin, which decreases the absorption of biotin, can lead to skin & coat problems. Raw eggs may also contain *Salmonella*.

Raw fish: Can result in a thiamine deficiency leading to loss of appetite, seizures, and in severe cases, death. More common if raw fish is fed regularly.

Salt: If eaten in large quantities it may lead to electrolyte imbalances.

String: Can become trapped and twisted in the digestive system.

Sugary foods: Can lead to obesity, dental problems, and diabetes mellitus.

Table scraps: Are not nutritionally balanced. Should not be more than 10% of the diet. Fat should be trimmed from meat; bones should not be fed.

Tobacco: Contains nicotine, which affects the digestive and nervous systems. Can result in rapid heart beat, collapse, coma, and death.

Yeast dough: Can expand and produce gas in the digestive system, causing pain and possible rupture of the stomach or intestines.

For Toxic plants:

check out individual plants on line as the list is quite extensive.

