FREE PRINTABLE FOR FAMILIES

Pet Care Planner

What your pet needs every day, every week and every few months, on one page you can stick on the fridge. Pair it with phone reminders from childhoodpets.com/free-printables/pet-care-planner/.

Dog · Cat · Guinea Pig · Hamster · Cockatiel · Budgie · Finch · Leopard Gecko · Bearded Dragon · Chinchilla · Fish

How to use it

1. **Print your pet's page.**
   Put it on the fridge or near the cage, tank or food bin.
2. **Fill in the top.**
   Your pet's name, your vet's phone number and the nearest emergency vet.
3. **Share out the jobs.**
   "Kids can help" jobs suit children with a grown-up checking. "Grown-up" jobs need an adult.
4. **Tick and date it.**
   Tick a box for each week's jobs, and write the date when you do the monthly and yearly ones.

Reading the planner

Kids can help A child can do it, or help, with a grown-up checking it really got done.

Grown-up Medicines, nail trims, deep cleans, vet visits and anything with heat, chemicals or handling risks.

Weekly How often. Numbers like [3] point to the sources below. A dagger (†) means no source gives a fixed interval, so we give a common starting point.

Sources

1. Merck Veterinary Manual: Routine Care of Guinea Pigs
2. Merck Veterinary Manual: Providing a Home for a Hamster
3. Merck Veterinary Manual: Routine Health Care of Hamsters
4. Merck Veterinary Manual: Chinchilla Care Checklist
5. Merck Veterinary Manual: Importance of Veterinary Care in Pet Birds
6. Merck Veterinary Manual: Routine Health Care of Fish
7. Merck Veterinary Manual: Providing a Home for Fish
8. VCA Animal Hospitals: Leopard Geckos, Care and Feeding
9. VCA Animal Hospitals: Bearded Dragons, Feeding
10. AAHA-AVMA Canine Preventive Healthcare Guidelines
11. 2021 AAHA/AAFP Feline Life Stage Guidelines
12. AVMA: Pet Dental Care
13. CDC: Reptiles and Amphibians (Healthy Pets)
14. CDC: Cats (Healthy Pets)

Links to every source: childhoodpets.com/free-printables/pet-care-planner/#sources

A grown-up stays responsible
Kids can take on real jobs, but a pet's food, water, health and safety are always an adult's job. Check every day that the care really happened.

Not veterinary advice
General information for healthy pets; not reviewed by a vet. Young, older or unwell pets often need a different routine. Ask your vet, and for small pets, birds, reptiles and fish, one who treats exotic pets.

Dog Care Planner

Daily, weekly and monthly dog care at a glance

Childhood Pets.com

Pet's name _____ Vet & phone _____ Emergency vet _____

Every day

Fresh water†

Wash the bowl and refill with cool, fresh water

Daily · Kids can help

Meals†

Most adult dogs eat twice a day. A grown-up measures the amount your vet suggests

Twice daily · Kids can help

Walks, play and potty breaks†

Several outings a day. A grown-up holds the leash until child and dog are ready

Daily · Kids can help

Brush teeth†

Dog toothpaste only. Ask your vet first if the mouth seems sore

Daily · Grown-up

Each week

Brush the coat†

More often for long or double coats

Weekly · Kids can help

Wk ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Ear, paw and skin check†

Look for redness, cuts, lumps or ticks

Weekly · Kids can help

Wk ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Every few weeks

Wash the bed and toys†

Hot wash, dry fully

Every 2 weeks · Grown-up

Last done _____

Nail trim†

When nails click on the floor. A groomer or vet can help

Monthly · Grown-up

Last done _____

Flea, tick and heartworm prevention[10]

Exactly as your vet prescribes; many products are monthly

Monthly · Grown-up

Last done _____

Twice a year & yearly

Wellness checkup[10] [12]

At least once a year; vets often suggest more for puppies and seniors. Includes a teeth check

Yearly · Grown-up

Last done _____

Notes from our vet

For grown-ups

- Teach kids to leave a dog alone while it eats, sleeps or chews.
- Puppies need more meals and more potty breaks than this schedule shows. Follow your vet's puppy plan.
- A grown-up stays responsible for food, water, health and safety. If your pet seems unwell, call a vet.

Dates to remember

Next checkup _____

Meds / vaccines _____

Weight _____