

Your Quick 'Healthy Dog' Checklist

Here's what you can expect to see in a healthy dog:-

CLEAR, BRIGHT EYES

No discharge, redness or tearing

A HEALTHY MOUTH

white teeth without tartar build- up. Moist, pink gums. Dry or 'rubbery 'gums could indicate dehydration. Pale, or white, gums indicate a health problem.

HEALTHY COAT

Clean and shiny. No bald areas or signs of redness/inflammation No flakiness, overly dry skin or excessive shedding. No signs of fleas and for ticks.

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CLEAN EARS

No redness, inflammation, discharge or bad odor.

HEALTHY NOSE

No discharge. Not excessively dry or cracked.

NORMAL TOILET HABITS

Firm, regular stools. Normal urination. No loss of bladder/ bowel control. No diarrhea or constipation.

NORMAL GAIT/MOVEMENT

No limping, lameness or stiffness. No signs of pain or discomfort when moving. Normal range of motion ie. sitting, standing, walking, running, laying down etc.

HEALTHY WEIGHT

Not over, or under, weight. You should be able to feel the ribs easily, but they shouldn't be clearly visible.

GOOD APPETITE

Appetite can vary between dogs but a healthy dog is interested in his food and eats regular meals. Loss of appetite is often an early sign of illness.

NORMAL ENERGY LEVELS

Energy also varies from dog to dog, but a healthy dog likes to walk, run (within reason) and play. If a dog is disinterested in, or unable to, exercise or be active there is something wrong.

NORMAL THIRST

A change in thirst, or excessive thirst is often a sign of illness. A healthy dog will drink water regularly without being frantic for it.

ABOUT LUMPS/GROWTHS

While many dogs have benign warts, skin tags a fatty cysts, these should always be examined regularly by a vet. Any new, or sudden, lumps/bumps/growths need to be evaluated quickly.

To get more detailed information you can check out these links to full pages/articles on my website:

<https://www.fidosavvy.com/dog-health-information.html>

<https://www.fidosavvy.com/dog-illnesses.html>

<https://www.fidosavvy.com/dog-dental-care.html>

<https://www.fidosavvy.com/dog-emergency-symptoms.html>

