






How to Calm Your Pet During a Storm



WHAT MAKES MY PET ANXIOUS?

Our pets' hearing is far more sensitive than ours. That means they can hear a storm coming long before we do, and thunder is much louder to them than it is to us. Storms also produce static electricity, which can run through a pet's fur, creating uncomfortable feelings and even painful shocks if they come in contact with metal.

WHAT ARE THE SIGNS OF ANXIETY?

-  Drooling, panting, trembling and ears back
-  Hiding or trying to fit into tight spaces
-  Moving close to a favorite person
-  Whining, barking, pacing
-  Scratching and acting out destructively

HOW CAN I HELP?



Set up a calming environment

- Start with a space that your dog or cat already likes to go during a storm
- Set up its crate in the most soundproof room of the home
- Try an interior room without windows
- Consider a space such as the bathroom where there isn't any carpet and static electricity
- Leave the light and tv on and close the blinds and drapes



Try natural therapies

- Rub a dryer sheet gently along your pet's fur to cut down on the static
- Try a thunder jacket
- Set up a white noise sound machine or play calming music
- Add a soothing scent, such as a few drops of lavender oil on a cotton ball, or try a dog or cat pheromone spray



Distract/desensitize your pet

- Use interactive toys
- Consider a high-value chew or a treat
- Try giving your fur baby a licking pad with their favorite wet food or soft treat
- Try giving your pet a calming massage
- Play a thunderstorm soundtrack on a low volume while giving your pet high value treats and positive interaction



Try prescription therapies

- In some cases, medication is needed to help keep your fur baby calm. You can try calming treats available at your local pet store or talk to your vet about whether your dog or cat is a candidate for an anxiety prescription