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Human Food That Must Not Be Given To The Dog

A dog only needs to put on the pleading look and the owner would come running. Dogs love to eat and these four legged friends love to eat the food being eaten by the master. We can't blame dogs. Given a chance dogs would surely not trade the appetizing aroma and taste of people food with the unpleasant smelling dry kibble.

After a lot of dogs have died from the contaminated commercially prepared pet foods, dog owners have shunned commercial dog food and have started feeding the pets with home cooked meals. Food contamination would be avoided if the dog's food is prepared by the owner but dog owners must be careful not to give the pet human food that are poisonous to dogs. Dogs' metabolism is different from humans thus some food that are safe for human consumption would be poisonous to dogs. Chocolate is perfectly safe for human consumption but this food is poisonous to dogs.

People really love eating chocolates. Young and old and even dogs would love to have a chocolate fix. Chocolates must not be given to dogs as even a small amount can have dangerous effects on the pet. The naturally occurring stimulant Theobromine in chocolates is poisonous to dogs. Theobromine is a stimulant that affects the nervous system and the heart of a dog. The level of this stimulant varies with the type of chocolate. Different types of chocolates would contain different levels of this stimulant but the darker the chocolate, the higher is the level of the theobromine. Milk chocolates and other chocolate mixes have lower levels of toxicity but dogs can still get affected if large amounts of these chocolate types are consumed.

The dangerous effects of chocolate would depend on what type was consumed, on the amount and on the body weight of the dog. Vomiting and diarrhea are usually the first signs of chocolate poisoning. As the toxic substance is absorbed, the pet would start to be hyperactive and restless. Muscle twitching, excessive panting and frequent urination will be noticed. A dog that has eaten large amounts of chocolates can die in 30 minutes after consumption as the toxic substance would affect the functioning of the heart so that blood flow to the vital organs will be compromised.

Unlike other toxic substances, chocolate poisoning has no antidote. With chocolate poisoning, it would be much better to be safe than sorry thus even if the amount of chocolate ingested by the dog is unknown or even if the dog is not showing signs of poisoning, immediate medical attention must be given to the pet.

Want to know more about [which foods are poisonous to dogs](#). Visit [Sarah's Dogs](#) for a thorough list of toxic dog foods as well as [dog first aid](#) tips.

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