

Why Does My Dog Eat Grass?

Many dog owners wonder why their pups seem so fond of munching on grass, often worrying that it might be a sign of illness. But in most cases, it's not something to be alarmed about. In fact, it's more likely that your dog simply enjoys the taste, especially when the grass is fresh and green in the spring or summer.



Why Do Dogs Eat Grass?

Contrary to popular belief, dogs don't usually eat grass because they're sick or trying to make themselves vomit. Studies suggest that grass-eating isn't tied to an upset stomach or nutritional deficiency—it's probably just tasty to them!

However, there are a few things to keep in mind. Make sure the grass your dog is nibbling on hasn't been treated with harmful chemicals, such as pesticides or fertilisers. Also, if your dog is protected from lungworm (which can be transmitted through slugs and snails found in grass), there's even less to worry about. Just remember, over-the-counter flea and worm treatments might not protect against lungworm, so it's worth checking with your vet.



Boredom Might Be a Factor

Sometimes, dogs might eat grass simply because they're bored. If that's the case, providing more mental and physical enrichment could help. Extra walks, playtime, and interactive toys like food puzzles can keep their minds and bodies busy, reducing the chances they'll resort to grazing.



When to See a Vet

While most grass-eating is harmless, there are a few situations where you should consult your vet:

- Your dog is eating grass but not showing interest in their regular food.
- The grass-eating becomes excessive or compulsive.
- Your dog eats grass and keeps vomiting over the course of a few hours.
- They seem unwell or out of sorts after munching on grass.

Finally, be cautious of **grass seeds**, especially in the summer months. These can get lodged in your dog's eyes, ears, skin, or paws and may lead to irritation or infections. Regular grooming and checking for seeds can help prevent any issues.

In summary, most grass-eating is just a quirky habit, but it's always good to monitor your dog's behaviour and health to ensure they stay safe and happy!