

What Does Your Dog's Skin & Coat Tell You About Their Underlying Health?

Here are a few of the most common ailments to look out for and how to treat them effectively:

PROBLEM

SOLUTION

Hot Spots

These skin infections begin as small lesions that can grow into something more itchy and painful.



Treat the area with a cold compress as well as an antiseptic. A cloth soaked in black tea can also be very effective in reducing inflammation.

Dry Skin Patches

If you've begun to notice that your dog is experiencing dry skin, a change of diet may be the best way to clear these up.



Limit dog's sun exposure and add vitamin D supplements that contain essential fatty acids like omega-3s.

Flea Allergy Dermatitis

Severe itching and irritation of your dog's skin may indicate a flea allergy. Dogs that have FAD are hypersensitive to the saliva a flea passes into the dog's skin when it bites.



Remove fleas from dog's environment. Flea prevention is a must. Consider applying preventative flea and tick control products.

Dull Coat

When your dog's coat begins to lose some of its luster and strength, this can be a tell-tale sign of poor nutrition.



Consider improving quality of your dog's food. Be sure to brush dog's coat regularly and use a conditioning shampoo specially formulated for dogs.

If you begin to notice dry skin, lesions or a coat that doesn't look as good as it used to be, don't ignore it! These changes can signal many underlying nutritional or physiological problems that will only get worse if you don't act quickly.