

Skunk Smell!

Dogs often get sprayed by skunks during late night walks -- the worst time to have a stinky clean-up problem on your hands! Here's what you should do:

1) See if your dog was injured by the skunk. If your dog is bleeding or appears to have been bitten, consult an emergency vet immediately. Skunks can be carriers of rabies. If your dog has been vaccinated, it is safe from the rabies virus BUT YOU ARE NOT!

2) If your dog doesn't appear to be injured, put on some gloves and use one of the de-skunking solutions listed below. They work best with warm water.

3) After bathing, check your dog's eyes. If they are red and watering, your dog may have taken a direct hit in the face by the skunk spray and you should contact a vet for treatment advice.

De-skunking Remedies

Forget the old tomato juice remedy: It's messy, expensive, and not very effective. Here are two solutions that really knock down the skunk smell. Commercial enzymatic skunk shampoos are also available at your local pet supply store.

The goal with any of these treatments is to dissolve the oily skunk secretion so that it comes off your dog and goes down the drain.

Even after using these solutions, your dog may continue to have a slight odor for several weeks, especially if their coat gets wet.

Solution #1:

- 1 pint of hydrogen peroxide
- 1/4 cup of baking soda
- 1 tablespoon of Dawn dishwashing detergent

Mix the ingredients into a solution, apply to your dog, lather, rinse, and repeat.

NOTE: **This is a harsh solution, so KEEP IT AWAY from your dogs face and eyes.**

If your dog has been sprayed in the face, try Solution #2.

Solution #2:

- Any over-the-counter feminine hygiene Douche product, mixed as directed.

These can be purchased at 24-hour convenience stores. They are effective and are mild enough to use on your dog's face. Tricotine Douche works especially well; just mix it as directed and apply to your dogs' coat, scrub, rinse, and repeat.