

STRESS IN DOGS AND CATS & FIREWORKS PET CARE SHEET

It is now well recognized that dogs and cats can be stressed and are may become frightened or anxious by for example

Loud noises eg Fireworks (noise fear)
Change of environment eg New homes, new pets, boarding
Socialisation and adolescence (up to 18 months of age)
Travelling motion sickness and travel fear
Old age – often due to failing ey sight and hearing
Signs of anxiety
Ears back
Panting
Shaking
Hiding (especially cats)
Barking
Loss of house training and cats spraying in house
Excessive grooming – mainly cats

Treatments

Long term treatment may involve **behavior modification** – for more information visit www.adaptil.com or www.soundsscary.com (noise sensitivity including fireworks)

Pheromone support

Pheromones are natural chemicals produced by animals in various situations. Appeasing pheromones are produced by mothers to calm their young. Synthetic appeasing pheromones available as plug ins eg Feliway sprays , tablets eg adaptil or collars eg DAP are safe and effective at calming dogs and cats of all ages in stressful situations they can be used as a targeted treatment eg Firework season, going to the vet, boarding

Fireworks – specific advice

Keep your pets in after dark
Provide a safe quiet warm den area (this is best up high for cats)
Close windows, doors and curtains (especially important to prevent cats escaping)
Distract you pet with play
Play soft music or have TV on
Use a pheromone diffuser

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