

It's natural for all animals to become startled and be fearful of loud noises, so it's no surprise that fireworks can be particularly frightening for our pets. In fact, more pets get lost on the Fourth of July than on any other day of the year.

1 in 5 pets go missing after being scared by loud noises, so make sure your furry friends are safe and stress-free with these tips from our experts.



Ensure your pet is microchipped and wearing a visible tag with current information. The microchip should be registered with a universal microchip registration database.



Use a calming collar or plug-in.

Adaptil is a pheromone that helps dogs relax, and a Feliway diffuser can be plugged into a cat's safe room.



Keep pets away from citronella candles, insect coils and sprays, and tiki torch oil products. These fumes, if inhaled, are toxic for an animal.





Avoid coercion. Never force your pet into scary situations. Don't punish them for their natural aversion to the noise and confusion.



Use food-dispensing toys. Before and during the fireworks, place your pet in their safe room with a treat.



Soothe your pet. Provide a comfortable environment without windows or close the curtains. Play relaxing music (example: "Through a Dog's/Cat's Ear" music therapy soundtrack)



Use OTC medication, like Solliquin to support behavioral health and relaxation.



Leave town with your pet, if possible. Go somewhere quiet, without fireworks.



Talk to your vet. If your pet still gets stressed out, prescription medication might help.