

How to Care For Your Senior Dog

DURING THEIR
GOLDEN YEARS



Kristen Levine

PET LIVING®

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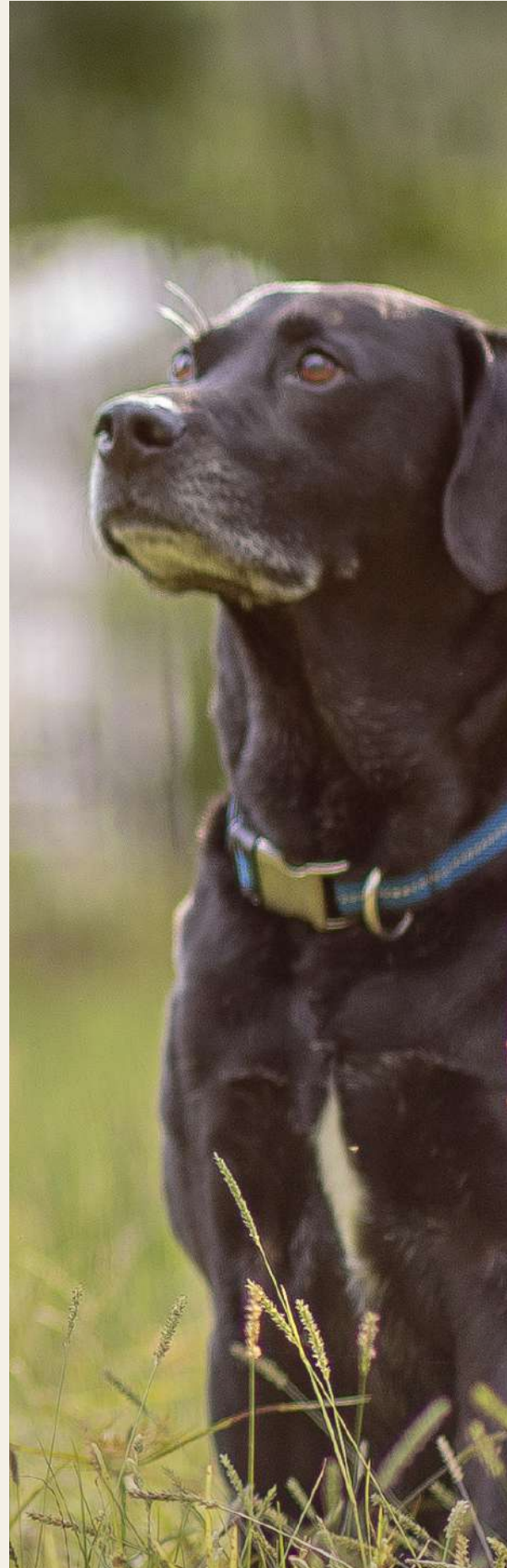
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*Look for the golden heart to see
Kristen's favs for senior pups!*

contents

introduction



There's no question that dogs require more care, patience, compassion, and veterinary visits as they age. For pet parents, these senior years present a unique and special time to deepen the relationship and bond we have with our beloved canine companions.

Senior dogs hold a special place in my heart. I think of

their later years as a time to pay them back for all their loyalty and companionship, and for all the joy they've provided (and still provide) to me, my household, and my life in general.

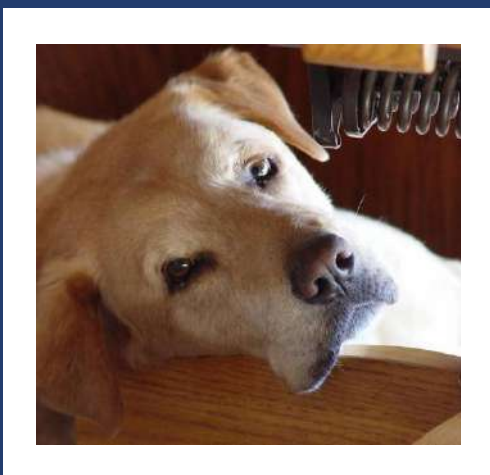
My late dog Buck had a lot of health issues in his later years. He required special care and my husband and I devoted ourselves to his comfort and happiness. While his golden years were more challenging than most, we cherish the memories of

those days. We know we did everything we could to give him quality of life as he aged, and it filled us with peace.

At the time of this writing, my dog Chilly is eleven, so he's well into his senior years. Lucky for him (and for me!), he's doing great and is in good health. But I'm keeping a very close eye on his behavior and personality to identify any changes that could signal a problem that needs to

be addressed. Bi-annual senior wellness visits with his veterinarian help to ensure he's on track for his age.

I created this ebook with the help of one of my favorite brands, Vetericyn® Animal Wellness, so you'll see me recommend many of their products throughout. They not only have a deep understanding of how to keep our dogs healthy



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but, like me, they hold our senior companions in high esteem. Learning how to care for your senior dog is important for him, but it's also important for you. And that's what this ebook is all about -- learning how to meet your senior dog's unique needs. How can you best care for your senior dog and how can you adjust to his changing needs so that your home continues to be a place that fosters love, care, and comfort?



intro

Throughout this guide, I share personal stories about my experiences caring for senior dogs and explore important tips, tricks, and products that have helped me along the way. As pet parents, we want to take the best care of our dogs at every stage, providing them with the best quality of life while addressing their unique needs as they age. Let's dive into this rewarding and important topic together!



chapter one

COMFORT

I know firsthand how difficult it can be to admit that your dog is getting older. In certain ways, it's hard to watch them age. But in other ways, it's beautiful to be part of their older years, and it's a privilege to be able to provide them with the care and comfort they deserve.

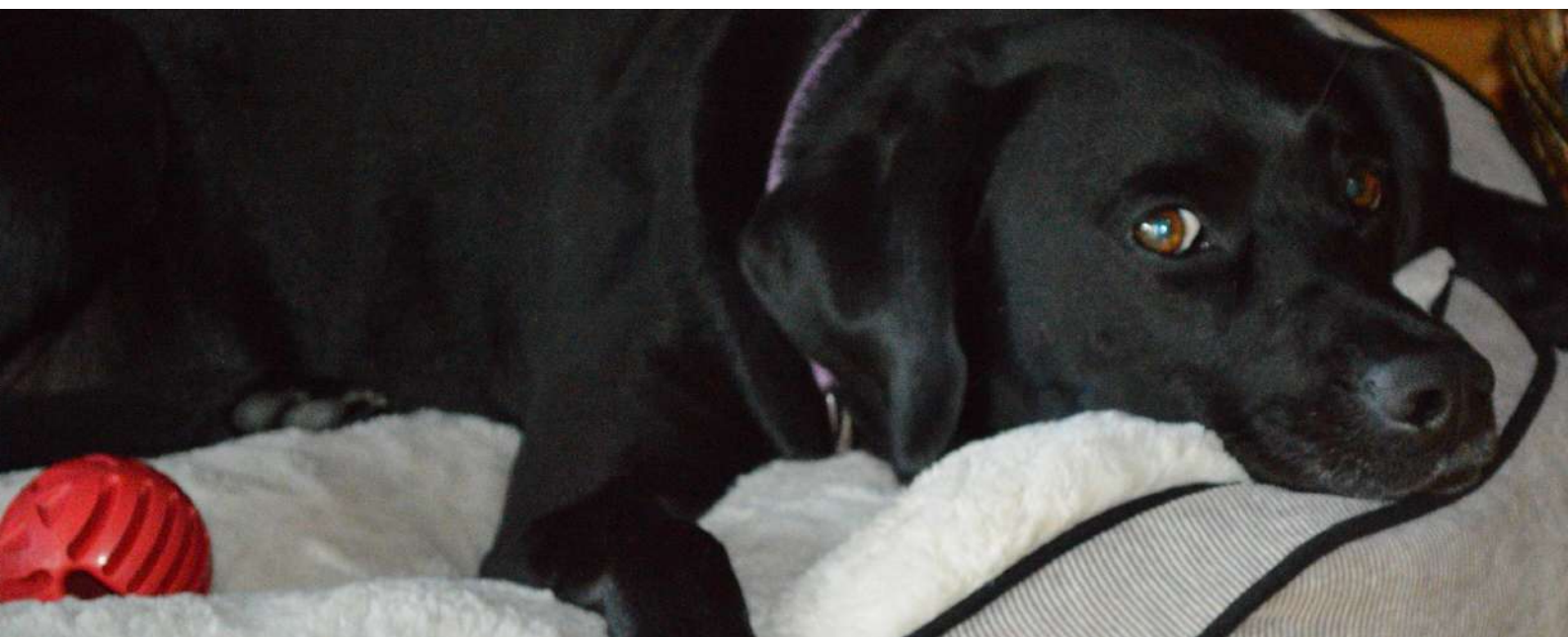
It's important to consider all aspects of your dog's comfort as he gets older. Start by researching what bedding is best for his age, weight, and joint health and consider purchasing something new, if need be, that better suits his current needs. A comfortable bed that meets their bedding

preferences and a nice blanket can go a long way toward easing pain in your dog's aching joints or help to regulate his fluctuating body temperature.

As dogs age, they tend to get increasingly uncomfortable during extreme weather. Hot

summers and cold winters can affect mobility, energy levels, and overall quality of life. To help, invest in things like sweaters, jackets, and boots if you're out and about in cold weather. When the weather turns hot, make sure he has a cool place to relax indoors, as well as plenty of shade outside when possible. And always make sure your dog's

”
Pay close attention to your dog's physical and emotional cues, which can help you understand what he really needs and wants.



water source is easy to access both inside and out, so he can stay hydrated all year round! A pet water fountain is a great investment, too, because it encourages more frequent drinking.

Here are some other ideas for ensuring your senior dog's comfort.

MOBILITY

Some days, your senior dog may feel well enough to go up and down the stairs, but other days, he may not feel up to the challenge.

If you live in a multi-story home, put a bed



**Kristen's favorite
dog beds**

downstairs in case he doesn't want to make that climb every day.



Similarly, if your dog typically sleeps in your bed, make sure he has an easy way to get in and out of bed. Portable stairs and ramps can be purchased for just this reason.

While these external aids can certainly provide

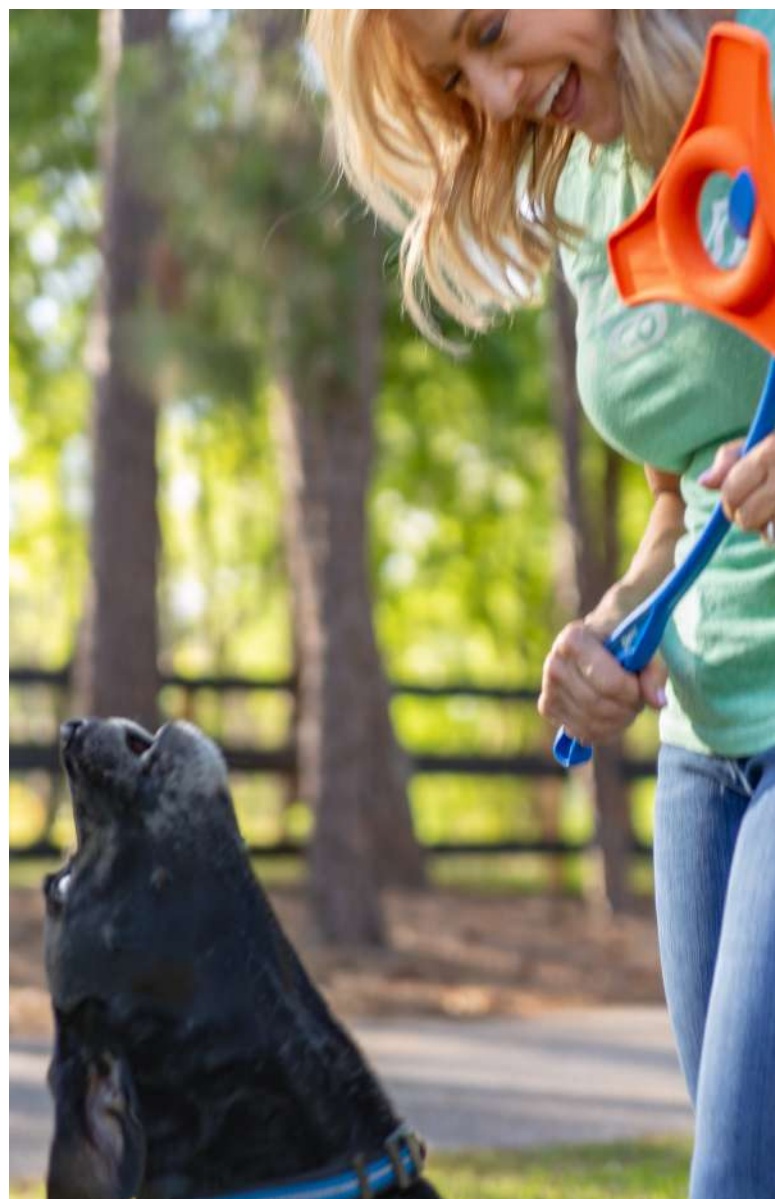
more mobility and comfort for your senior companion, even more important is managing the internal processes that reduce pain and increase mobility.

Vetericyn's ALL-IN™ supplement for seniors is formulated specifically to support healthy bone turnover and joint structure. It helps keep them comfortable by relieving occasional aches and pains that can accompany exertion. I give Chilly his ALL-IN supplement every day and I've noticed big changes in his activity and comfort levels.

PLAYTIME

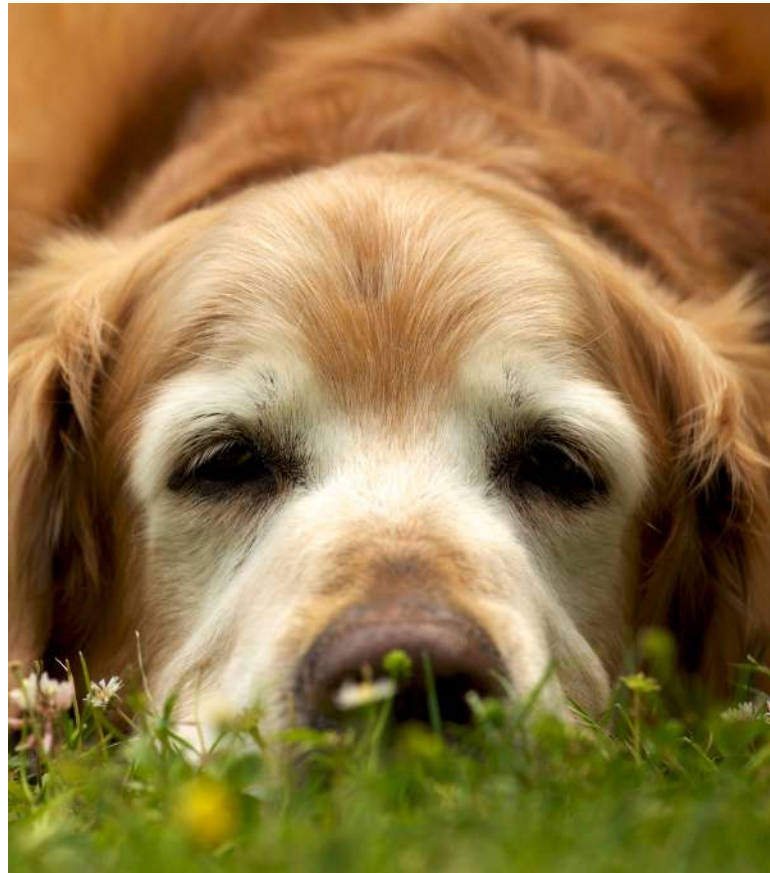
Even with regular dental checkups, as your dog

ages, his teeth may become worn or more prone to decay. Make sure to get him toys that aren't hard on his teeth. Additionally, the toys he used to play with as a rough and tumble pup are probably not appropriate for him in his golden years.



PAIN MANAGEMENT

As dogs age, they naturally develop more sore spots. Certain breeds are also more likely to develop hip dysplasia, which can cause a fair amount of pain. Keep a close eye on him and be aware of any areas of his body that are sore. If your dog is around small children, monitor their interactions carefully. Kids have a tendency to



grab dogs, and if your dog is in pain, this can lead to protective behavior, like biting or nipping.

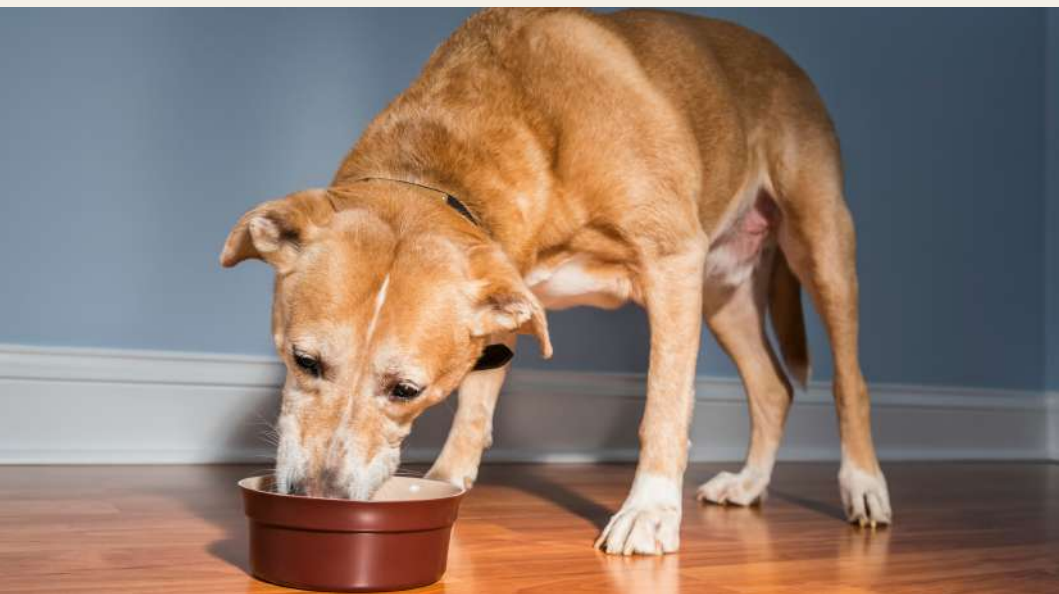
REST

And of course, we have to ensure our dogs are getting the rest they need when they need it. Create comfortable areas for them to relax and restore energy throughout the days and nights.



DIET AND NUTRITION

Optimizing your senior dog's diet is the best way to prevent obesity and to promote digestive and cognitive health, which are fundamental to overall well-being. Your dog's diet should change as he ages. With more years comes the need for reduced calories, additional or



different nutrients, and food that's easier to digest. There are many dog foods formulated for senior dogs and many condition-specific formulas, too, so a great first step is to talk with your veterinarian or a nutrition expert to pinpoint the

chapter two

exact right diet for your particular dog and his unique health needs.

As Chilly has gotten older, I've leaned on Purina Pro Plan BRIGHT MIND because of the MCTs (medium-chain triglycerides), which can help manage age-related health conditions. This food contains a blend of brain-supporting nutrients as well as botanical oils that support cognitive health and promote alertness and mental sharpness.

Studies have also shown that a diet rich in antioxidants is good for brain health. If you'd like to add some to your dog's diet, talk to your veterinarian about giving him extra vitamin E,



Studies have also shown that a diet rich in antioxidants is good for brain health.

vitamin C, or colorful fruits and veggies like raspberries, blueberries, carrots, or spinach.

No matter the brand you choose or what other deliciousness you add to your dog's plate or bowl, a well-planned diet can help ease the overall aging process while addressing specific conditions such

as constipation, kidney failure, diabetes, liver disease, joint pain, arthritis, and heart disease.

And don't forget about treats! It's fun to give our dogs treats and



**Kristen's favorite
treats**

watch them excitedly devour them, but as dogs age, it's best to

take a “less is more” approach. Think about shifting to softer, easier-to-chew options and consider giving your dog fewer treats throughout the day.

chapter three

SUPPLEMENTS



Quality dog food is important, but it's just the beginning in terms of thinking about overall nutrition, especially as your dog ages.

Food can provide the basic building blocks for good health, but it may leave out essential nutrients that dogs need for optimal health.

That's where supplements come in. When you're shopping for a nutritional supplement for your senior dog, make sure it:

- Is formulated for his life stage
- Supports healthy joints
- Improves skin and coat health
- Promotes digestive health
- Supports brain health and cognition
- Is easy to administer
- Optimizes nutrient absorption

A couple of years ago, I started giving Chilly ALL-IN from Vetericyn. It delivers many health-boosting nutrients, and it even helps him absorb more of the nutrients from his food. It's protein-based and uses a patented delivery system that ensures the maximum nutrients in Chilly's food are absorbed correctly. It even optimizes his digestion so he's actually absorbing more nutrients.



ALL-IN comes in three different formulas – for puppy, adult, and senior dogs – so special care is taken to help dogs during each stage of life.

The Senior Canine Formula contains ingredients that have a wide variety of benefits that address

and soothe many concerns we pet parents experience over the years.

It's a complete source of nutrients that rejuvenates your senior companion with vitamins, minerals, and prebiotics that are formulated for maximum absorption so the right ingredients end up just where they need to, and not on your lawn!

How do you know if your dog's supplement is doing its job? Some benefits may take some time to appear. But others are evidenced fairly quickly, over the course of days or weeks.

For starters, the proof is in the poop! Shortly after Chilly started taking ALL-IN, I noticed improvements to his digestive health. The extra boost of fiber in the digestive complex keeps his bowel movements regular and more formed.

Next, look at your dog's skin and coat. Chilly's coat is so shiny! His nutritional supplement contains



essential skin nutrients like biotin, lysine, and creatine to help repair skin and increase firmness. It also has CLA, an omega-6 fatty acid that helps prevent dry skin and shedding of fur. If it weren't for his gray muzzle, you'd never know Chilly was 11 years old!

Lastly, look at mobility. While Chilly gets up a little slower than he used to and trots rather than runs these days, he hasn't exhibited many signs of severe joint pain. ALL-IN helps prevent joint

discomfort so the hope is that he'll continue feeling nimble and mobile as he ages.

While I have my favorite supplement, I know there's not one single solution for all dogs and all pet parents. Research different supplements and talk to your veterinarian to decide what's best for you and your dog!



Use code **PETLIVING** for 20% off **ALL-IN** senior formula.



chapter four

My sister's dog, Bear, was obsessed with tennis balls, and that didn't change during his precious senior years. He still loved to play with them, but when he got too old to run, my sister and her family shifted from throwing the balls in their big wide yard to rolling them over to him on the carpet indoors where he could trap them with

EXERCISE

his paws or mouth. They found a way to modify "fetch" to keep Bear mentally and playfully engaged – and they had fun doing so!

As your dog enters his senior years, focus on what he can and can't do with his level of mobility and make adjustments accordingly. Perhaps

your dog (like so many others) still enjoys daily walks, even as he slows down. Consider taking shorter, leisurely strolls, or change your route to ensure the terrain is easy for him to manage.



When Buck was getting older, his arthritis prevented him from enjoying the walks he used to love, so we bought a golf cart so that he could still get some fresh air,

interact with sights (squirrels!), and smells, and get that all-important brain exercise that he needed from the comfort of his shotgun seat in the cart. He came to really love his rides around the neighborhood! You can also buy pull-carts to take your dog on comfortable strolls if you don't want to or can't invest in a golf cart.

Exercise is great for bonding and important for your dog's overall health and wellbeing, but pay close attention to your dog's physical and emotional cues, which can help you understand

what he really needs and wants. How can you tell? He might not get as excited as usual when you show him his leash, or maybe on his last walk, he moved really slowly and kept pulling to go home.

As always, be sure to talk to your veterinarian about what they think is best too, based on everything you're trying and noticing about your dog's behavior and energy level.

Pay close attention to your dog's physical and emotional cues, which can help you understand what he really needs and wants.



chapter five

TRAVEL

Lots of people (including me!) like to include our furry family members in travel and vacation plans. If you're used to traveling with your dog, it can be difficult to adjust to the idea that as he ages, he may prefer to stay home rather than hit the road or get on the plane. He may prefer to stay home where he's comfortable and at ease.

When considering your next big trip, start to more closely observe your dog's behavior to figure out

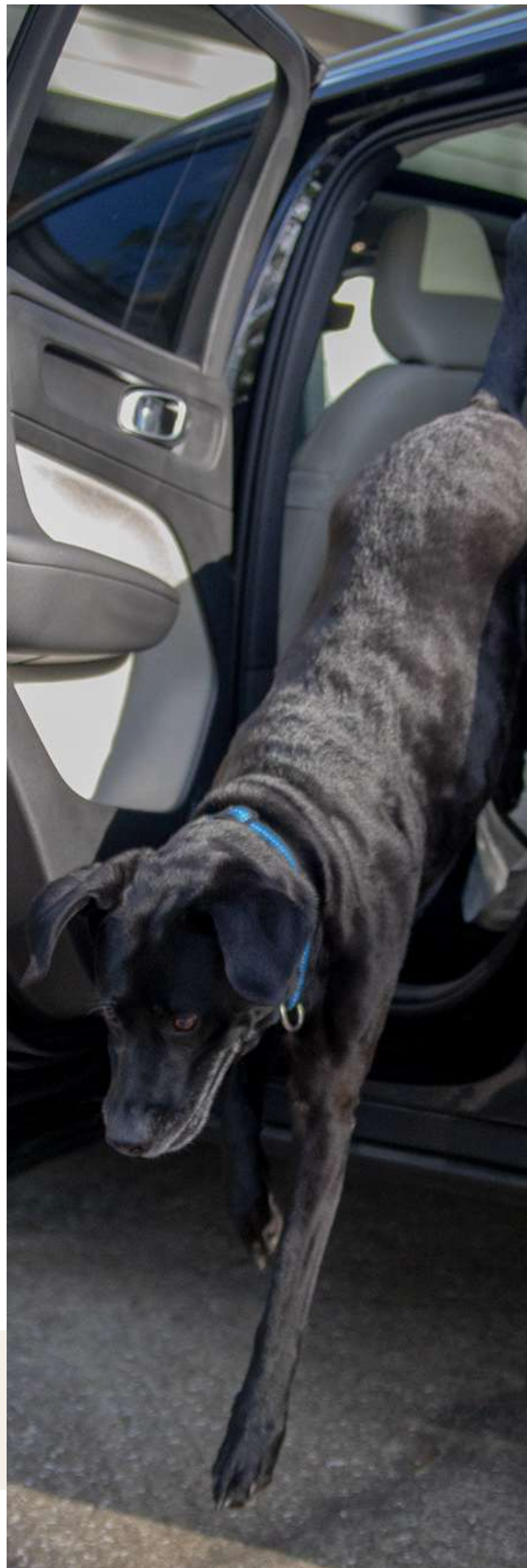


how he feels about traveling. Has he been avoiding getting in the car lately, for example, even for routine drives around town? Does he seem less energetic and mobile overall, with less of an ability to hop in and out of the car or get up and down the stairs?

These ideas, plus anything else that comes from your careful forethought, can make a huge difference in your senior dog's life as you make the decision to either hit the road together or relax at home.



**Kristen's favorite
mobility aides**





chapter six

HEALTH CONCERNS

We love our pets and nothing hurts us worse than when they hurt!

I'm all too familiar with the pain that can accompany our cherished canine companions in their

- Senior Wellness
- Veterinary Visits
- Anxiety
- Arthritis/Mobility
- Incontinence
- Hearing/Vision
- Weight
- Old Dog Vestibular Syndrome
- CDS
- Dental Care

senior years. But there are ways to identify what ails them and to help ease their pain.

Our dog's health concerns change as they age, and it's important to be aware of possible health challenges so you can adapt accordingly and get him what he needs to feel better and more comfortable.



Dogs age at a rate 7x faster than humans. So visiting the vet twice per year is the equivalent of a person going to the doctor every 3.5 years!

SENIOR WELLNESS VETERINARY VISITS

Introduce regular wellness visits – at least twice a year! – to help your veterinarian track changes and perform diagnostics that maintain your dog's health. Keep in mind that dogs age at a rate 7x faster than humans. So visiting the vet twice per year is the equivalent of a person going to the doctor every 3.5 years!

Since you're with your dog each and every day, it



can sometimes be difficult to pick up on more subtle changes that happen over time. Your veterinarian can help with that, addressing everything you might miss (and trust me, even the most observant dog parents miss things from time to time!).

Of course, it's still important to keep a close eye on your aging pups, who are facing new aches, feelings, emotions, and limitations. If anything out of the ordinary or new arises, schedule additional vet visits as needed.

ANXIETY

There's nothing more heartbreaking than watching your pet pant, drool, whine, hide, or even harm themselves because they suffer from fear, anxiety, or stress (FAS). Senior dogs can have additional difficulty with anxiety because they don't feel like themselves anymore and the changes happening with them and around them become more difficult

to cope with. In addition, health concerns like cognitive dysfunction can promote anxiety. A supplement like ALL-IN's senior formula can



also help here. Among many other things, it contains hydroxytryptophan (hTP), valerian root extract, and ginkgo biloba to promote restful sleep, reduce anxiety, and improve memory in aging dogs.

Additionally, you can help your senior dog achieve a more stable and less anxious life by talking to your veterinarian about the possibility of prescription medications if your dog's symptoms include anxiety due to noise aversion. Your veterinarian might have other wonderful suggestions too.

ARTHRITIS & MOBILITY

The early signs of arthritis in dogs can be subtle. However, careful observation of your middle-aged or senior dog will help you spot the symptoms so you can get your dog early treatment. Here are some things to pay attention to:



- Does he take longer to rise from a sitting or lying position?
- Does he make grunting sounds when lying down or getting up?
- Has he stopped going up the stairs, or does he newly struggle while doing so?
- Perhaps he's stopped jumping up on the bed, or he's running and walking more slowly than in the past.

These can all be subtle signs easy to miss but indicative of pain or discomfort.

This topic is near and dear to me, as my late dog, Buck, suffered from Osteoarthritis (OA), the

progressive and permanent deterioration of the joint cartilage, which is the tissue between joints that allows them to move smoothly. Knowing how to identify and treat OA is an important aspect of managing your dog's health and wellness as they age.

Whether your senior dog is already experiencing signs of canine OA or if you want to enhance his mobility, the right supplement can help make your



dog more comfortable. ALL-IN is formulated to support bone turnover, joint health, and manage aches and pains from exertion or exercise. Chilly not only loves the taste, but it helps to keep him mobile and active.

INCONTINENCE

Dogs can have accidents in the house for any number of reasons, but as your dog ages, it can become even more common. Senior dogs' incontinence can be a sign of underlying health

conditions like bladder stones, urinary tract infections, weak bladders, tumors, and more. If you start to notice more frequent accidents, schedule an appointment with your veterinarian as soon as possible so they can run tests to determine the cause and to make a plan of action to help your dog feel better quickly.

As a good rule of thumb, it's important to stay patient with your senior dog. Just like when he

was a puppy, if he pees in the house, he shouldn't be punished for it, as that just leads to confusion and fear – especially in older dogs who may not even be fully aware of their new condition and loss of control.

HEARING & VISION

As dogs age, they can experience loss of hearing and/or vision. Pet parents need to take extra care with dogs who experience this type of loss,

As a good rule of thumb, it's important to stay patient with your senior dog. Just like when he was a puppy, if he pees in the house, he shouldn't be punished for it.



especially when they're outside.

In general, dogs should always be supervised while outside, but I realize some dog parents have a lot of yard space and may let their pups wander a bit on their own. That's okay, as long as it's not for too

long. But as your dog ages, you'll need to watch him a bit more closely to ensure his safety.

Without the senses our dogs have so long relied on for navigation, they're more likely to get lost while outside or not hear you when you call for them. Watch them carefully, go outside with them, and take them out on a leash when necessary.

WEIGHT

When it comes to the struggle to maintain a healthy weight, Chilly isn't alone. Pet obesity is a huge issue in the US, and it's only getting worse. For senior dogs, the risks of weight gain can be even greater.



As our dogs age, they move and exercise less often and less vigorously, making weight gain easier. Those added pounds can carry other health risks, so it's important to find lasting ways to monitor and reduce caloric intake.

To start, take care not to overfeed your dog. You can address this with your vet, who can provide



useful guidance about portion control so your dog has a diet tailored specifically to his needs. You can also scale back on the treats. One way I do this with Chilly is to use training treats. While he's no longer in training (those days are long gone!), the small size of the treats are perfect for him. He still gets

those flavorful bursts without the added calories.

OLD DOG VESTIBULAR SYNDROME

It's important to know the signs of this syndrome, which can be common in senior dogs. It's typically a benign condition that comes and goes, but it can be very scary because it often presents like a stroke. Your dog's eyes might not be able to focus

and they may start to favor or list to one side. For example, your dog might come running or walking up to you, but start veering to the side and end up totally off track! If you notice these symptoms, be sure to take your dog to the veterinarian for treatment.

COGNITIVE DYSFUNCTION SYNDROME

As they age, about 50 percent of senior pets experience what's known as Cognitive Dysfunction Syndrome (or CDS), which is similar to dementia or Alzheimer's in people.

Symptoms of CDS in dogs include having accidents in the house, disorientation or confusion, changes in sleep or activity, and more. If you've ever experienced moments of confusion, forgetfulness, or disorientation you know how stressful this can be.

Thankfully, there are steps we can take as pet parents to support our dogs' mental health and keep them happy and calm as they age.



Symptoms of CDS in dogs include having accidents in the house, disorientation or confusion, changes in sleep or activity, and more.

For Chilly, I include plenty of mentally-stimulating activities every day, and, even though he hasn't shown many signs of decline, I've also added the ALL-IN Life-Stage Supplement to his daily diet. It contains MemoRem® Neuro-Complex, which is designed to help nutrients cross the blood-brain barrier and support the brain's nerve cell function.

It supports memory and is important for synthesis of neurotransmitters such as dopamine, epinephrine, norepinephrine.

It also helps protect brain cells by scavenging free

radicals, reducing inflammation and improving cognition, and aids in the development of the brain cortex. The MemoRem® Neuro-Complex is also supplemented with hydroxy-tryptophan (hTP),



valerian root extract, and ginkgo biloba to promote a restful sleep, reduce anxiety, and improve memory in aging dogs.

DENTAL CARE

Most pet parents are aware of the importance of regular routine visits to their veterinarian in order to keep their pets in good health. One aspect of pet health that sometimes goes unnoticed, though, is dental health.



It's estimated that 85 percent of pets have periodontal disease by the time they are 3 years old! This can result in bad breath, or much more serious side effects like tooth loss, which can lead to difficulty chewing. Even worse, bacteria from under your dog's gums can enter the bloodstream and travel to their heart, kidneys, or liver.

Thankfully, gingivitis and periodontal disease can be prevented with a good routine of oral hygiene. And even if your pet has developed periodontal disease, you can slow down the progression of the condition with proper care.



chapter seven

SKIN, COAT, EYE & EAR CARE

It's a good and healthy practice to regularly brush and bathe your dog at all stages of his life. But as your dog ages, your approach and the products you use should change to reflect his senior status.

SKIN AND COAT

For bathing, I use a shampoo formulated for dogs, like FoamCare, to keep bath time as quick and healthy as possible. It comes in an easy-to-use spray bottle, so there's no fussing with a cap. To make washing easier on your own back, I recommend using a Booster Bath. The Paws for Thought booster bath even includes a ramp, which is excellent for senior dogs. Additionally, try a Waterpik for the fastest, most stress-free bath time routine ever.

Another thing that can happen as a dog ages is that his coat can lose its luster and his skin can get flakier. Usually, dull



As your dog ages, your approach and the products you use should change to reflect his senior status.



fur signifies that a dog isn't absorbing enough nutrients from his food, so ALL-IN's prebiotic complex often takes care of that. ALL-IN has certainly helped Chilly maintain a shiny, healthy coat, even though he's eleven years old!

EARS AND EYES

If you've ever had an ear infection or a case of itchy, watery eyes, you know how miserable it can be.

Your dog can also experience discomfort, and routine care tasks are among the most important at-home things you can do for your pet. They're surprisingly easy to do when you have a little instruction and the right products!

Clear your dog's eyes regularly to help them avoid infection or irritation and to relieve allergies. I use Vetericyn Plus® Eye Wash to keep Chilly's eyes clean and healthy. But Chilly has some environmental allergies, so sometimes just rinsing



his eyes after a good romp outside isn't quite enough. When I notice his eyes getting a little itchy, I use Vetericyn Plus® Antimicrobial Ophthalmic Gel to give him quick relief.

As for his ears, I clean them about once a week using Vetericyn Plus® Ear Rinse immediately following his bath – while he's still in the tub! It only takes an extra minute or two (max), and because he gets a nice ear rub after I put the drops in, he actually enjoys the process.

At-home remedies are great for preventing problems or treating minor issues, but if you notice ongoing discomfort or unusual symptoms, it's a good idea to see your veterinarian.



Kristen's favorite bathtime supplies

SAFETY

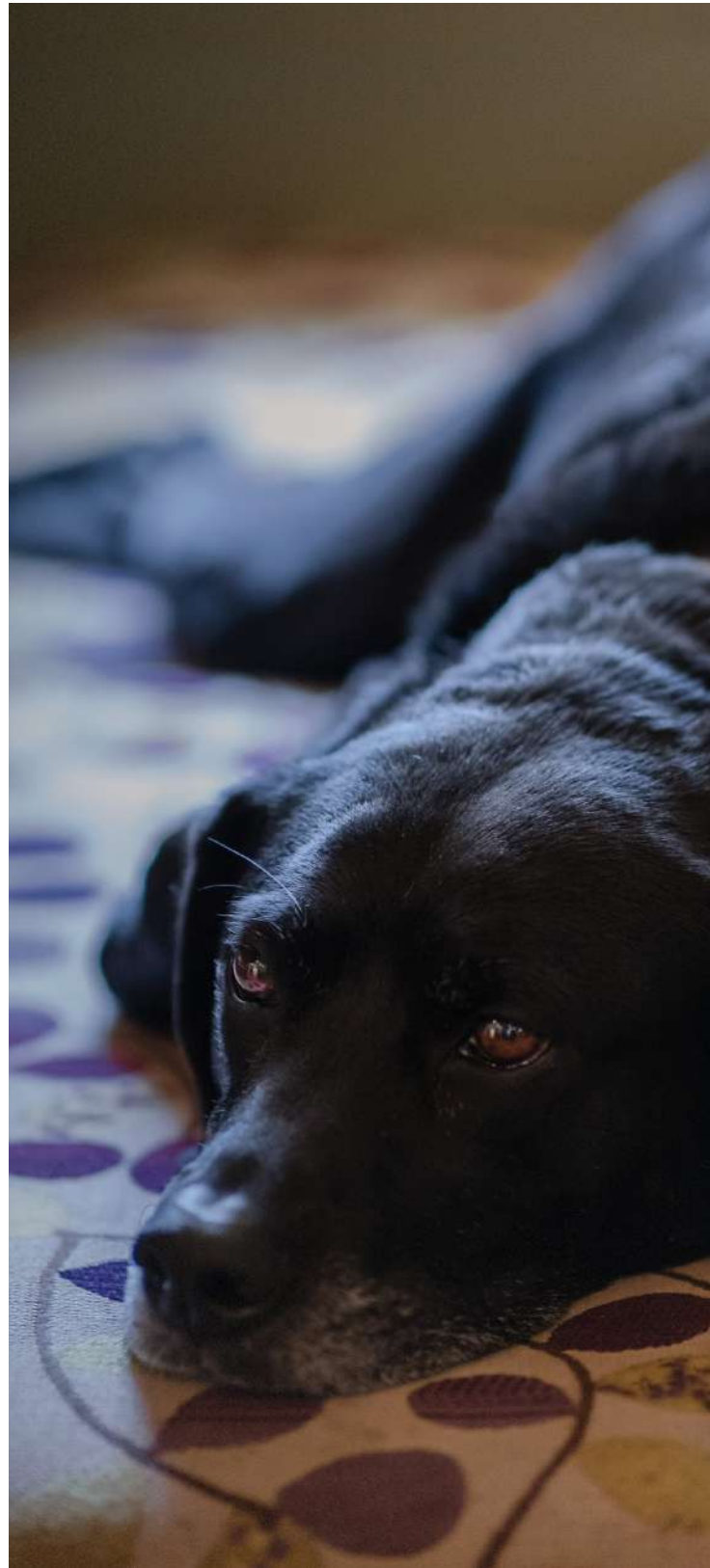
When it comes to safety with senior dogs, it's almost like having a puppy again in a couple of specific ways, especially as they lose some of their former sharpness and/or abilities. To help, here are some things to consider when it comes to keeping your dog safe inside and outside the home:



chapter eight

- **Mobility & Agility:**

If your dog has a harder time getting around these days, he might need some help! You can start by blocking off stairs so he doesn't try to climb up or down and get hurt. Or perhaps you can add ramps to furniture if your pup is used to jumping up to snuggle on the couch or get in bed with you. Observe your dog's movements and take action to help in any way you can to ease his pain or discomfort.



- **Vision & Hearing:** With age, vision and hearing can become impaired. When that happens, we need to watch our dogs even more closely as they move around the house to make sure they aren't running into anything that could harm them. Clear your walkways of loose toys or



other household items, and clean up spills and other potentially hazardous happenings as soon as possible so your dog doesn't slip and fall.

And when your dog goes outside, it's even more important to monitor his activity to make sure he isn't feeling confused, lost, or scared of his surroundings.

- **Cognitive Abilities:** This is another reason your dog might get, or feel, lost and confused. If he has a loss of certain cognitive abilities, it can be harder for him to make sense of the world around him, even the former familiarity of the family home. Take special care to guide your dog where he needs to go and give him encouragement and love as he moves around the house.

chapter nine



BONDING

Your senior dog may be less active than he used to be, but that doesn't mean he needs any less attention! The attention you give just needs to take on new forms. This is an opportunity to think differently about bonding and to get creative with how your time together is spent.

Maybe you used to bond with your dog during long walks or running around the yard and playing fetch. Now, you can shift bonding time to calmer

activities like cuddling up on the couch to watch TV or a movie, or taking shorter, slower walks around the block or through the park. You can still play if your dog is up for it! Just take it easy and take it slow, being careful not to overexert or exhaust them.

Grooming can also be considered an opportunity to bond, and this should happen about once a week. During that time, be sure to check for cuts and bumps, and anything new or out of the ordinary on your dog's body. Vetericyn's skin and wound care has helped me care for Chilly's cuts and scrapes plenty of times. But of course, anything of

concern warrants a follow up with the veterinarian, especially lumps that develop as your dog ages. (Sometimes they're benign, fatty deposits, but they also have the potential to be cancerous.)

You can still play if your dog is up for it! Just take it easy and take it slow, being careful not to overexert or exhaust them.

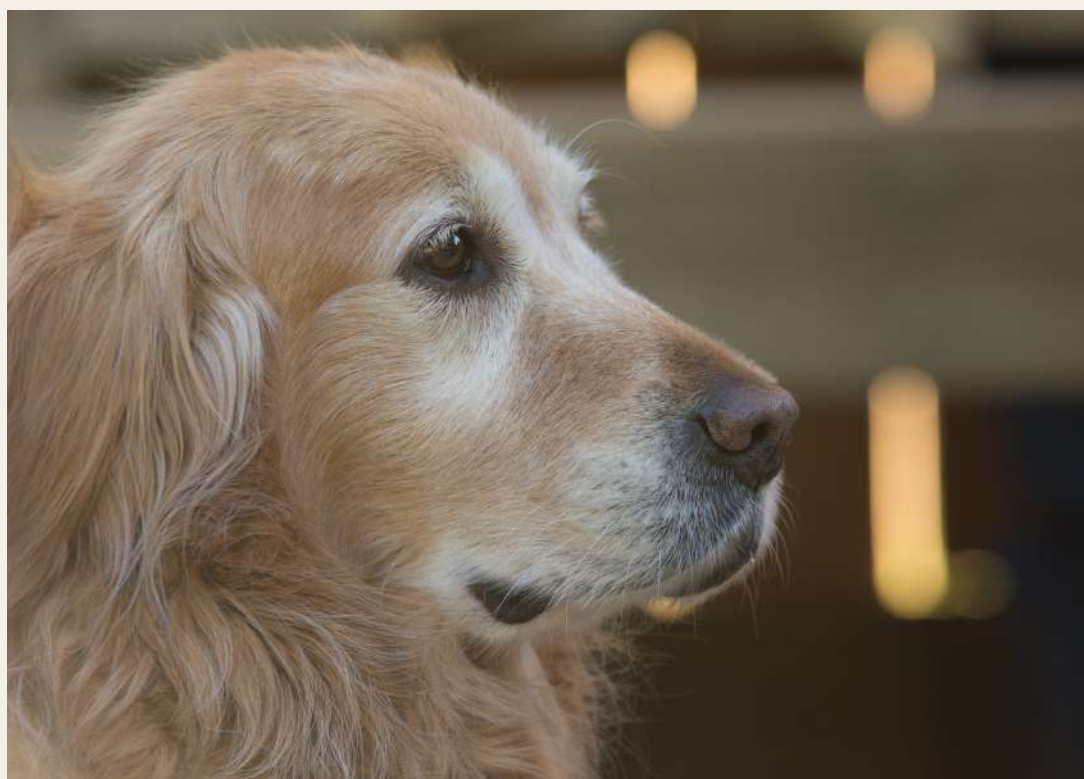


This routine of weekly grooming as bonding allows for regular closeness as well as a heightened awareness of any bodily changes that could signal health issues.

ADOPTING A SENIOR DOG

The need for senior dog adoption is great, and so are the benefits for both dog and pet parents when an adoption like this is complete and your lives together begin. Dogs' senior years offer a chance to bond and show love to an animal who's living a full and good life, and who's provided the world with a special presence by being its unique self.

When people surrender senior dogs, for whatever reasons they do, the



dogs are much harder to place in new homes for a variety of reasons. The adoption rate for senior dogs is just over 50%, according to The Grey Muzzle Organization, one of the only national organizations that provide funding and resources to animal shelters and rescue groups nationwide on behalf of senior dogs specifically.

Their work, as well as the work being done by organizations like Senior Dog Sanctuary (a permanent safe haven for senior dogs who are unable to be cared for by their owners, who are abandoned or abused, or face euthanasia), is vital to the goal of connecting loving pet parents and families to these beautiful animals.

Don't forget some of the benefits of adopting a senior dog – and there



are many! For one, these dogs are already trained. Most older dogs have already learned at least some basic commands.

And since they are also more mellow, you can probably teach them anything else you want them to know.

You also won't have to worry about cleaning up accidents associated with house training. Plus, they're less likely than a puppy or a younger dog to chew on shoes and furniture. Those are just a few of the many great things about bringing a senior dog home!

If you're interested in adopting a senior dog, I recommend checking out your local organizations and keeping this ebook handy for when the time comes to give your new dog the care he needs and deserves!



THE GREY MUZZLE ORGANIZATION

- [Adoptable Senior Dogs](#)
- [Donate](#)
- [Volunteer](#)



SENIOR DOG SANCTUARY

- [Adoptable Senior Dogs](#)
- [Donate](#)
- [Volunteer](#)



PETFINDER



the tail end

My experiences caring for senior dogs – including my current time with Chilly – fill me with joy every day. Caring for senior dogs comes with challenges, to be sure, but being prepared and ready for what's to come helps lessen the struggle and enhance the beauty and peace of bonding even deeper with your dog as he ages.

My hope is that you can use this guide to boost your dog's health and wellbeing as time goes on and to maintain and deepen the bond you have with him well into his precious golden years.



shopping list

✓ VETERICYN PRODUCTS



ALL-IN™ Senior Formula



Antimicrobial Hydrogel



FoamCare Shampoo

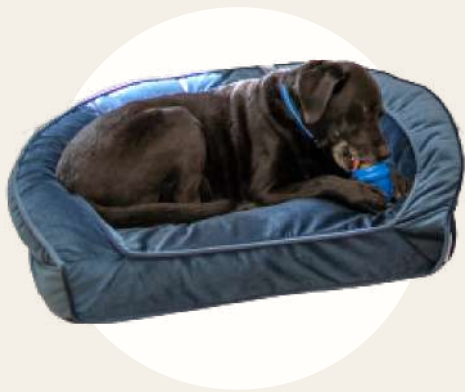


Eye Wash



Ear Rinse

shopping list



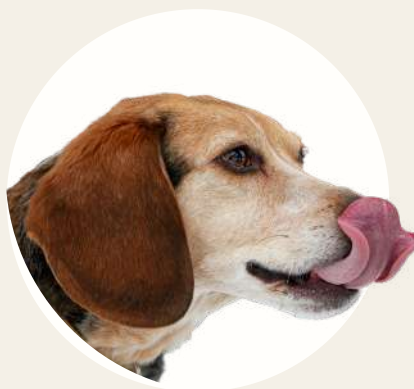
BEDS



TOYS



CLOTHES



TREATS



**MOBILITY
AIDES**



BATHTIME



hi, i'm kristen

As a pet-parenting expert and a pet advocate, I speak everything pet — and I love to help translate between brands, veterinary professionals, and pet parents to ensure you can provide your furry loved ones the very best care at all stages of their lives. I've been insanely passionate about my pets since I was a little girl.

Early on, pets were a critically important part of my life. I had a powerful experience that shaped how I forever feel about animals and our relationships with them.

I believe we need pets as much as they need us and I believe we owe them the very best care we can afford and provide. I've had more than 30 pets in my lifetime — including dogs, cats, goats, donkeys, a horse, a gerbil, mice, and chickens! — and my love for pets has wiggled its way into nearly every aspect of my life and career.

I spent 15 years working in animal welfare for the SPCA, had the opportunity to appear weekly on our local FOX station, appeared on seven morning drive time radio shows each week, and penned a pet column for our local newspaper for 10 years.

This all paved the way for me to launch the first PR agency to exclusively serve the pet and veterinary market in 2003. My agency was acquired in 2017, allowing me to focus on this Pet Living platform and directly serve pets and their people, which is what I believe I was put on Earth to do.

Kristen Levine

