chocolate: a doggy danger

why is chocolate toxic to pets?

Made from the beans of the cacao tree, chocolate contains two substances that can harm dogs and cats: caffeine and theobromine.



what are the signs?

Signs that a pet has eaten a dangerous amount of chocolate typically show up within 6 to 12 hours and can differ depending on how much was consumed.

- vomiting
- arrhythmia
- diarrhea
- excessive thirst
- tremors
- rapid heartbeat
- seizures
- high blood pressure

how much is too much?

No amount of chocolate is safe for dogs. Even a little nibble can make a pet sick, especially for smaller pups. The amounts shown here can cause seizures or worse.

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dog weight	5 LBS.	20 LBS.	75 LBS.	160 LBS.
milk chocolate	1.42 oz.	5.6 oz.	21.5 oz.	45 oz.
semi-sweet choc.	0.56 oz.	2.25 oz.	8.3 oz.	18 oz.
baker's chocolate	0.23 oz.	0.92 oz.	3.45 oz.	7.3 oz.



If you think your cat or dog has ingested chocolate, call your veterinarian or the ASPCA® Animal Poison Control Center at 1-888-426-4435 right away.



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