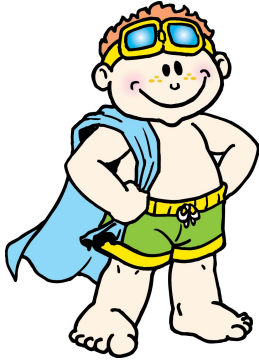


Puppy Love

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Just Keep Swimming!

Splashing in sparkly H₂O is a favorite pastime for many dog lovers whether it is in a lake, pool or ocean, we love it! Swimming is said to be easy on our joints, while building up endurance and muscle strength. In fact, you work almost every muscle in your body when you swim making it a wonderful workout. But, does swimming provide similar benefits for dogs? According to Dr. Stephanie Liff the answer is yes. "Just like for people, swimming is a low-impact form of exercise that can be very useful to pets," According to Dr. Liff almost any dog can benefit from the exercise swimming provides, it is especially useful for senior canines, provides therapy for healing & rehabilitation, manages weight control, inspires positive activity for high energy dogs, and socialization for those who are bored and enjoy the company of others.



Brice welcomes Lilybelle home and shares a sweet moment with her by the pool.



Doing the Dog Paddle

An unusual strip mall in Maryland has five narrow pools and several swimmers of varying abilities, but only one stroke: The dog paddle. The concept of aquatic centers has taken off in recent years as pet parents consider their dog as family. "It's a relatively new field in veterinary medicine, but it's one of the fastest-growing areas," said Dr. Jonathan Block. The goal, Block said, is "to help keep pets comfortable, mobile and active for as long as possible." Dr. Daryl Millis said, "It is important to use caution when working with dogs in water, but the benefits to strength and mobility are real." Dominique Darcis, founder of K9 Aquatics Centers in Maryland says veterinarians frequently refer patients to the center. About 50% of the dogs attend the center for health reason, the other 50% come to the center for recreation.



Be water safe,
always follow these rules.

- Not all dogs can swim, make sure your little doxie can.
- Never let your dog be unattended near water or swim alone.
- Always put a life jacket on your dog in moving water and on a boat.
- Make sure your dog can climb up the stairs in a pool.