

# Puppy Love

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*To mulch, or not to mulch,  
this is the question....*

Most people agree that mulch is a must have for an attractive landscaping project, but all mulch is not created equal and it comes in many varieties. The tried and true wood variations are always popular. But, natural resources such as compost or pebbles are gaining in popularity. Synthetic ones made from chipped rubber are also now available.

An increasingly popular one is made from cocoa bean shells and can be bought at most lawn and garden retailers. It is very attractive due to its fine texture and is equally appealing for the sweet smell the mulch gives off. But, cocoa mulch contains theobromine and can be lethal to dogs.

Dogs are attracted to cocoa mulch because it smells like chocolate; some humans have even reported it smells like a chocolate Pop Tart. Our little doxies are even more vulnerable because it has the greatest impact on small breeds. A fifty pound dog will develop illness by eating two ounces of cocoa mulch, nine ounces will result in death.

Illness will cause vomiting, diarrhea, and abdominal pain. Higher doses of cocoa mulch can cause rapid heart rate, muscle tremors, seizures and death.

## *People Food for Dogs to Avoid*

Most humans enjoy this list of foods, but to your little doxie they can be quite dangerous. The list of reactions to these foods can be from typical symptoms such as vomiting, diarrhea, difficulty breathing, and tremors. More serious complications can occur and result in death.

1. Chocolate, coffee, caffeine – most extreme cases result in death
2. alcohol – can lead to death
3. avocado (all parts) – vomiting, diarrhea
4. macadamia nuts – weakness, tremors, vomiting, hyperthermia
5. grapes & raisins – kidney failure
6. yeast dough – rupture stomach or intestines
7. raw/uncooked meat & eggs – Salmonella & E.coli
8. bones – choking, lodge or puncture digestive tract
9. xylitol (sweetener) – liver failure, lower blood sugar
9. onions, garlic, chives – gastro irritation, red blood cell damage
10. milk – digestive upset
11. salt – excessive thirst & urination, ion poisoning

*What do you get when you cross a blonde  
with a brain? An English cream dachshund!*

*Meet Waldi*



1972



Waldi was the official mascot for the summer Olympics held in Germany in 1972. This little striped doxie was modeled after a real long-haired dachshund named Cherie von Birkenhof. Its stripes represent the official Olympic colors. The dachshund was selected as the official mascot because the breed is known to be fearless, tenacious, and to possess great agility.