



Living with the current important movement restrictions is a worrying time for all of the family. It is also a concern to know how best to care for our pets during this time. There are some things which you can do to help you prepare for any time that you have to isolate in your home with your dog.

[H2] Plan ahead

- Create a plan for who will care for your dog in your home should you contract Coronavirus. In some cities there are groups that have formed that are ready to help walk dogs of people that are unable to leave their home
- Have an 'emergency kit' ready in case you cannot leave your home:
 - 2 weeks' worth of pet's food
 - Any medications your dog requires
 - New food bowls and collar and lead can be useful to use should someone else need to care for your pet

[H2] Create a new routine

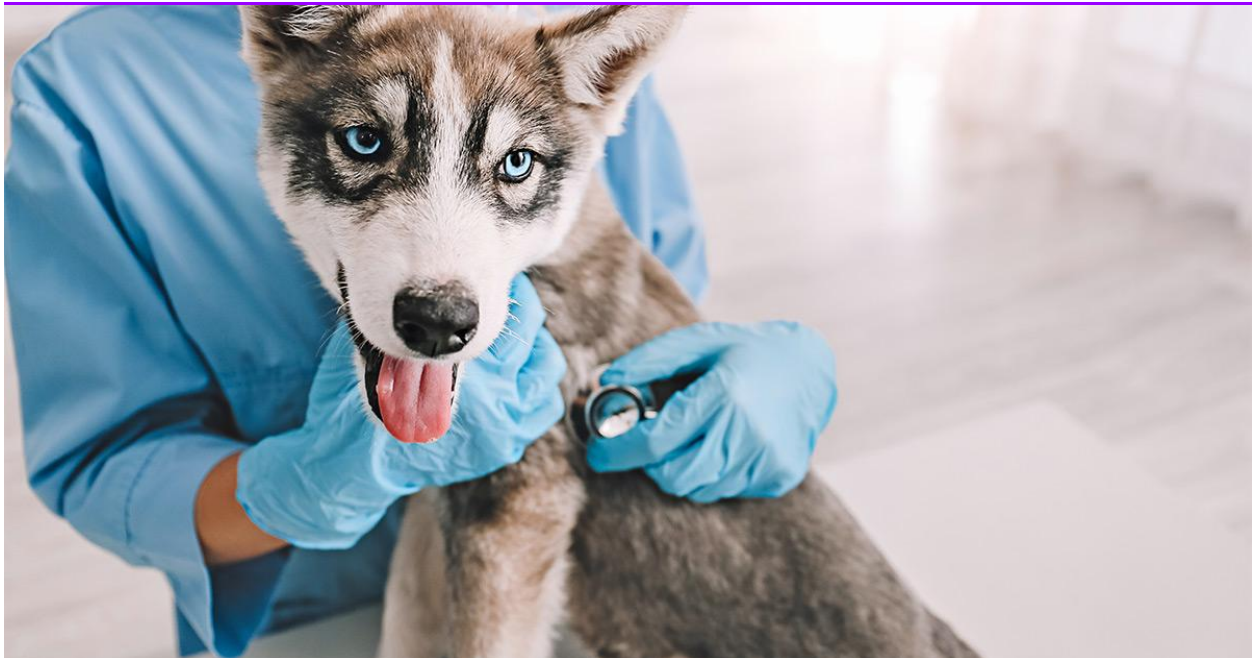
- Being at home all the time is new for the human members of the home and can be confusing for dogs. Put aside time when you can do activities with your dog, such as play time and maybe time for learning a new trick. Plan shorter walks which you can take if you are able to leave your home.

[H2] What happens if my dog is unwell?

Veterinary clinics in affected areas may only be able to see urgent or emergency cases. If you have a routine healthcare appointment for your dog booked in the next few weeks, call your vet to discuss what steps they have put in place for routine appointments. You may be asked to postpone routine care, such as vaccinations. It may be appropriate for your vet to discuss your dog's health via a consultation on the phone or via a video link.

If you are worried about your dog's health during this time, contact your veterinary clinic by phone initially to discuss your concerns. Your vet will decide whether your dog needs to be seen at the clinic.

- Don't leave your house if you are self-isolating. Is there a family member, friend or neighbor that can take your dog to the clinic if this is required? Your vet clinic may be able to assist you in organizing someone else bringing your dog to the clinic should they require veterinary attention.
- Veterinary clinics have measures in place to protect you and their staff members, so please follow their instructions which may include:
 - Only 1 person accompanying your dog into the clinic
 - Call from the parking lot when you arrive, to check in
 - Wash your hands as you enter the clinic
 - Avoid contact with people and keep a 2m distance whilst in the clinic
 - Wash your hands when you leave the clinic, as well as when you return home
 - Some clinics may request you stay in the car while your pet is in the clinic



Being restricted to home is challenging for us all, but your faithful 4-legged companion will be happy to see so much of you. Planning ahead will help to keep your dog healthy through this period of isolation.

If you are staying home with your dog, share your stories on Facebook with the #adaptilathome with us!

Stay safe!

The ADAPTIL team

#adaptilathome