Arthritis Physical Aid Selection Guide

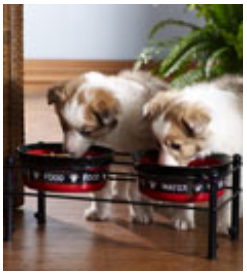
Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff

There are many ways you can help a dog with arthritis feel more comfortable and have better mobility. Depending upon the location and severity of your dog's arthritis, one or more of the following may be helpful.

Orthopedic dog beds

An orthopedic dog bed provides good insulation and support, and makes it easier for your dog to get up. These dog beds with convoluted (egg-carton shaped) orthopedic foam distribute weight evenly and reduce pressure on joints. The Quilted Super Deluxe Dog Bed or Deluxe Double Thick Orthopedic Pad are both very good choices. For help in selecting an orthopedic bed see our Orthopedic Dog Bed Comparison Chart.

Elevated dog feeders and waterers



When even eating and drinking can be a chore for an arthritic dog, elevated dog feeders and raised waterers can be the answer. Several water-filled feeders placed around your home will also help ensure your arthritic dog will maintain her hydration.

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Lifts

Lifts like the ComfortLift Carrier provide extra help for dogs that have difficulty rising or walking. They are easy to use and comfortable for you and your dog.

Ramps and steps

Ramps and steps help dogs that have difficulty jumping into cars or onto the bed. There are a variety of styles available. For help in choosing one see our Ramps and Steps Comparison Chart.

Dog harnesses

Dog harnesses are much better than collars for dogs with arthritis of the neck or back. They allow dogs to have much needed daily walks without the risk of further injury.

Sweaters and jackets

Outdoors, try one of many sweaters or jackets for dogs that can help keep the heat in and the cold out.

Life preservers

Swimming is an excellent exercise for dogs with arthritis or other joint problems. Dog life preservers or flotation devices can help dogs who enjoy swimming feel more secure.

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