

# LET DOGS LIVE INDOORS

*They Deserve the Best*



## Keeping dogs indoors is safer and healthier for both them and their guardians!

- ♥ Dogs who live indoors are calmer and more protective of their “pack” (their human family).
- ♥ They're less likely to bite or be attacked by other dogs.
- ♥ They're cleaner and less likely to get fleas or worms.
- ♥ They're happier! These social animals need companionship. Leaving dogs chained or penned in the backyard, forgotten and all alone, is like sentencing them to solitary confinement. Constant barking is a cry for attention, and a dog kept outside who has stopped barking has given up hope.

## 5 Ways to Improve the Life of a 'Backyard Dog'

If you have a dog who's chained or penned in a yard (or if you know someone who does), check out and pass along these important tips:

- ♥ Let your dog be indoors, especially during heat waves, cold snaps, thunderstorms, and other extreme weather.
- ♥ Have your dog spayed or neutered. Sterilized dogs live longer and are less likely to be hit by a car, mark territory by urinating, or get cancer. For low-cost or free spay/neuter services in your area, contact your local humane society or call Spay USA at 1-800-248-SPAY.
- ♥ Always provide plenty of food and water as well as a clean space. Fresh water must always be available to dogs, who can die of dehydration on even the coldest day without it. (Place the water bowl or bucket inside a tire to prevent tipping, and always check to make sure the water hasn't frozen during cold weather.) In the winter, dogs left outside need to eat almost double their summer rations to maintain a layer of body fat for warmth. Chained or penned dogs must urinate and defecate where they live, so cleaning up their waste is crucial. Waste attracts flies, and flies can eat the tips off dogs' ears. Keeping the space clean also helps prevent odor.
- ♥ Replace heavy chains with lightweight tie-outs that attach to a properly fitting nylon collar or harness. This will allow the dog to move around safely. Chains should never be wrapped directly around a dog's neck, and collars should be loose enough to fit two fingers underneath.
- ♥ Take your dog to the vet for regular checkups at least twice a year.

Visit [peta2.com/backyard](https://peta2.com/backyard) for more ways you can help “backyard dogs” in your community.



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