



OHS HUMANE EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

Promoting Education in Animal Well-Being

NOVEMBER Animal Holidays

- Adopt a Senior Pet Month
- National Senior Pet Month
- National Animal Shelter and Rescue Appreciation Week - 11/5-11
- Jellyfish Day - 11/3
- Bison Day - 11/4
- American Frog Day - 11/10
- Fancy Rat & Mouse Day - 11/12
- Turtle Adoption Day - 11/27

NOVEMBER 2023

ANIMAL NEWS

A CLOSER LOOK

NOVEMBER IS NATIONAL SENIOR PET & ADOPT A SENIOR PET MONTH

Dog & Cat Math: How old is a pet in human years?

When is a Dog a Senior ?

Despite the old belief that a dog ages 7 human years for every dog year of life, calculating a dog's age depends on their size, breed, genetics, and environmental conditions. Opinions vary on exactly how to calculate, but these factors enter into the final count.

- Large and Giant breed dogs (see chart below) age faster than small breeds. The larger are considered to be senior at about 5 to 7 years old.
- Medium breeds are senior when they are 8 to 9 years old.
- Small breeds may not be considered senior until they are 7-10 years old.
- However, some veterinarians will classify a dog as a senior when age-related health issues appear.

The American Veterinary Medical Association has guidelines to calculate how to compare a MEDIUM dog's years to human's:

- At the end of the dog's 1st year, they are about 15 human years.
- The next dog year adds 9 additional human years, to equal about 24 years for the dog by the time they turn 2d.
- After 2 years, each human year adds around 5 dog years.
- Additionally the age for senior dogs can vary by breed and genetics.

When is a Cat a Senior?

Unlike dogs who are aged by size and breed, adult cats are mostly the same size, so scientists have developed a different aging system.

- A 1-year-old cat is about 15 human years.
- At the end of the 2nd year, the cat is 25 in human years.
- Each year after that, the cat ages about 4 human years.
- So cats are about 8-10 years old when considered to be a senior.
- When age-related issues start to set in, regardless of your pet's actual age, they are a senior.

HOW OLD IS MY DOG IN HUMAN YEARS?

AGE OF DOG	AGE IN HUMAN YEARS			
	Small 20 lbs or less	Medium 21-50 lbs	Large 51-100 lbs	Giant 100+ lbs
1 Year	15	15	15	12
2	24	24	24	22
3	28	28	28	31
4	32	32	32	38
5	36	36	36	45
6	40	42	45	49
7	44	47	50	56
8	48	51	55	64
9	52	56	61	71
10	56	60	66	79
11	60	65	72	86
12	64	69	77	93
13	68	74	82	100
14	72	78	88	107
15	76	83	93	114
16	80	87	99	121



HOW OLD IS YOUR CAT IN HUMAN YEARS?

KITTEN BIRTH - 8 MONTHS	0-1 month: 1 year 2 months: 2 years 3 months: 4 years 4 months: 6 years 5 months: 8 years 6 months: 10 years
JUNIOR 7 MONTHS - 2 YEARS	7 months: 12 years 12 months: 15 years 18 months: 21 years 2 years: 24 years
ADULT 3 - 6 YEARS	3 years: 28 years 4 years: 32 years 5 years: 36 years 6 years: 40 years
MATURE 7 - 10 YEARS	7 years: 44 years 8 years: 48 years 9 years: 52 years 10 years: 56 years
SENIOR 11 - 14 YEARS	11 years: 60 years 12 years: 64 years 13 years: 68 years 14 years: 72 years
GERIATRIC 15 YEARS +	15 years: 76 years 16 years: 80 years 17 years: 84 years 18 years: 88 years 19 years: 92 years

For every year after add 4 years to the cats age

VISION LOSS

EATING ISSUES

HEARING LOSS

ACCIDENTS

LESS ACTIVE

AWARENESS FUN FOR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

Which of these problems you see in old people might you see in old pets?
How are old pets and old people alike or different?
What are some ideas how to help animals with these problems?

Problem	Ways to Help	Problem	Ways to Help
Unable to see well		Has trouble getting up or lying down	
Cannot hear you when you call		Not eating well	
Stumbles or limps when walking		Sleeps more or most of the day	
Seems to be grouchy		Doesn't want to be held or cuddle	

