

5 KITCHEN HAZARDS FOR SCHNAUZER OWNERS

What to put away. What to check.
Who to call if your dog gets into something.



A practical guide + a printable fridge checklist

Start with the next five minutes

You do not need to memorize toxic doses. You need a safer kitchen and a clear first call.

These risks are not unique to Schnauzers

The five groups in this guide can harm dogs of any breed. Risk depends on the ingredient, amount, dog and circumstances. A dog that looks normal may still need urgent advice. [1, 2]

Make three changes today

Move food and sweeteners into closed storage. Keep bags and trash out of reach. Ask everyone in the home to check with you before offering a snack.

If you suspect an exposure, call now

Contact your veterinarian, an emergency veterinary hospital or ASPCA Poison Control at (888) 426 4435. This U.S. service operates 24 hours a day. A consultation fee may apply. [4]

Keep the facts together

Save the packaging. Note the product, possible amount, time eaten and your dog's current weight. Describe anything unusual you have noticed. [1, 3]

DO NOT WAIT FOR A CHECKLIST

This guide is general education, not veterinary diagnosis or treatment. An exposure needs case specific advice. Do not induce vomiting or give a home remedy unless a veterinary professional directs you. [3]

The sweet cupboard

01 Chocolate, cocoa and caffeinated products

Chocolate and cocoa contain methylxanthines. Dark chocolate, baking chocolate and cocoa powder are more concentrated sources. Coffee and other caffeinated products also belong out of reach. [1, 13]

Your kitchen check

Move baking supplies and snack bags away from reachable counters. Check gift boxes, backpacks and the trash after baking. Keep the original label if anything goes missing.

02 Foods sweetened with xylitol

Xylitol may appear in sugar free gum, sweets, baked goods and some nut butters. Labels may also call it birch sugar or wood sugar. It can cause a dangerous drop in a dog's blood sugar. [2]

Your label check

Read the full ingredient list each time you buy a product. A familiar brand or a sugar free label does not establish that a product is suitable for your dog. Store these products securely. [2]

BEFORE A SPOONFUL

Check the exact jar, not a memory of the brand. If a label is unclear, leave the food out of your dog's bowl.

Fruit, seasonings and dough

03 Grapes and raisins

Grapes and raisins can damage a dog's kidneys. Look beyond the fruit bowl: raisin bread and mixed snacks may contain them. Contact a veterinary professional after a suspected exposure. [14]

04 Onions, garlic and related ingredients

Onion, garlic and chives can damage red blood cells and cause anemia. Keep them away from your dog, including foods made with them. [1]

05 Raw yeast dough

Unbaked yeast dough can expand in the stomach and produce alcohol. Both create serious risks. Keep rising dough inside secure storage that your dog cannot open. [1]

The household rule

No shared scraps without checking the ingredients. Put a named adult in charge of dog snacks during meals and gatherings. Clear plates and spills promptly.

FIVE GROUPS, NOT A COMPLETE LIST

Other hazards include alcohol, macadamia nuts and unsafe chews. Use the linked veterinary resources for broader guidance. [1, 8]

The kitchen reset checklist

One shared plan for everyone who feeds your dog.

- ☐ Chocolate, cocoa, coffee and caffeinated products are stored out of reach.
- ☐ Grapes, raisins and foods containing them are put away.
- ☐ Onions, garlic and seasoning ingredients are kept away from dog food.
- ☐ Xylitol products are secured. The exact label has been checked.
- ☐ Raw yeast dough rises in a place the dog cannot access.
- ☐ Trash, lunch bags and food gifts are secured.
- ☐ Everyone knows which person approves dog snacks.

My dog's name

Current weight and date checked

Our veterinarian and phone

Nearest emergency veterinary hospital and phone

SUSPECTED POISONING

Call your veterinarian or ASPCA Poison Control: (888) 426 4435. Available 24/7 in the U.S. A fee may apply. Do not induce vomiting unless directed. [3, 4]

Keep a reliable reference

Put the checklist where your household will use it. Save your vet's contact details in your phone before you need them.

[1] ASPCA People Foods to Avoid Feeding Your Pets

[2] FDA Paws Off Xylitol

[3] ASPCA Is It Ever Safe to Induce Vomiting?

[4] ASPCA Poison Control and contact information

[8] WSAVA Nutrition Committee Feeding Treats to Your Dog

[13] VCA Animal Hospitals Chocolate Poisoning in Dogs

[14] VCA Animal Hospitals Grape, Raisin and Currant Poisoning

YOUR NEXT STEP

For a repeatable home routine, The Schnauzer Care Playbook adds beard and coat care, gentle training games and printable planning pages. Get the Care Playbook for \$9 USD and start your first routine today.

Get the Care Playbook for \$9 USD

Published by Schnauzer House. U.S. edition, October 2026. General education for owners. No veterinary review or endorsement is claimed. Sources checked October 17, 2026. This short guide is not a complete toxicology reference.