

Preventing Common Household Accidents

Family Matters

Home is where your pet feels safest.

It's where they sleep, play, explore and spend most of their lives. Yet many of the everyday items we barely notice can pose unexpected dangers to curious dogs and cats.

At Amity, we believe the safest accident is the one that never happens. That's why our purpose is to **Empower You Through Education**, helping you identify potential hazards before they become emergencies.

Curious Pets Explore Differently

Dogs and cats experience the world with their noses, mouths and paws.

A puppy may chew an electrical cable.

A kitten may squeeze behind a washing machine.

A dog might help themselves to the kitchen bin.

They're not being naughty—they're simply exploring.

Looking at your home from your pet's perspective is one of the simplest ways to prevent accidents.

Watch Out in the Kitchen

Many common foods are toxic to pets.

Chocolate, grapes, raisins, onions, garlic, xylitol (found in some sugar-free products), macadamia nuts and alcohol can all cause serious illness.

Keep food well out of reach and remind children never to share human treats without checking they're safe first.

Rubbish bins can also be irresistible. Secure lids can prevent both poisoning and intestinal blockages.

Medicines Aren't Treats

Human medications should never be given to pets unless specifically prescribed by your vet.

Even common painkillers such as ibuprofen or paracetamol can be extremely dangerous.

Store all medicines, vitamins and supplements securely out of reach.

Be Careful With Household Products

Cleaning products, antifreeze, pesticides and some garden chemicals can all be harmful.

Always follow the manufacturer's instructions and allow treated surfaces to dry before your pet has access to them.

If you're ever unsure whether something is safe, ask before using it around your pet.

Keep Your Home Pet-Safe

Simple changes make a big difference:

- Secure electrical cables.
- Keep small objects off the floor.
- Close toilet lids if appropriate.
- Use stair gates for young puppies if needed.
- Check washing machines, tumble dryers and cupboards before closing them—especially if you have a curious cat.
- Ensure balconies, windows and gardens are secure.

Most household accidents are entirely preventable with a little planning.

Prevention Is Better Than Panic

No matter how careful we are, accidents can still happen.

If you think your pet has eaten something they shouldn't, don't wait for symptoms to develop.

Contact your veterinary practice as soon as possible. Early treatment often makes a significant difference and may prevent a minor incident from becoming a major emergency.

A Safe Home Is a Happy Home

Keeping your pet safe isn't about wrapping them in cotton wool.

It's about creating an environment where they can explore, play and enjoy life with confidence.

At Amity, **Amity Essential Membership includes unlimited health checks**, so if you're ever unsure about a potential hazard or have concerns about your pet after an accident, we're always happy to help.

Because preventing accidents means more time spent doing what matters most—making memories together.

Your pet trusts you to keep them safe.

And we're here to help you do exactly that.

Because they're not just your pet.

They're family.

Family Matters.

If you need more information, book an appointment with an Amity vet. We're here to Empower You Through Education and help you become your pet's greatest advocate.