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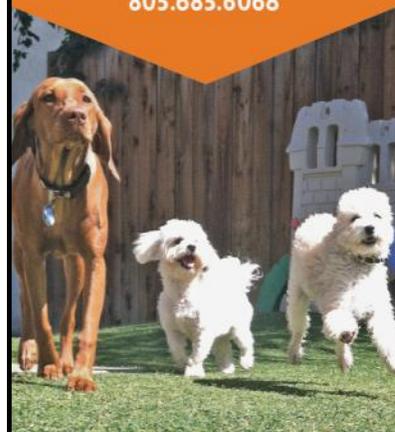
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A Pig Fairy Tale Romance

Can pigs fall in love? Some apparently think so. Two pet pigs said "I do" with squeals and oinks in a 2007 wedding ceremony in Taiwan. Zu Fuge, the handsome groom, married his lovely bride amid parrot bridesmaids and groomsman. A priest even blessed the union. The ceremony sounds like something out of a Disney story. Xu Wenchuan, Zu Fuge's owner, gave him the gift of a bride as a reward for his hard work on the pig farm. One can only hope that it was love at sight and that the lucky couple are living happily ever after in a pig paradise!



VALENTINE'S TRIVIA



- *Wearing a wedding ring on the fourth finger of the left hand dates back to ancient Egypt, where it was believed that the vein of love ran from this finger directly to the heart.
- *A love knot is a symbol of undying love, as its twisting loops have no beginning and no end. In the past, they were made of ribbon or drawn on paper to prove one's eternal love.
- *Alexander Graham Bell applied for his patent on the telephone, an "Improvement in Telegraphy", on Valentine's Day, 1876.
- *Physicians of the 1800's commonly advised their patients to eat chocolate to calm their pining for lost love.
- *While greeting card sales have gradually declined since the advent of e-cards and other digital modes of communication, Americans still buy about 6.5 billion cards each year according to the Greeting Card Association. Hallmark publishes cards in more than 30 languages and distributes them in more than 100 countries and there are 1,400 different varieties of Hallmark Valentine's Day cards in circulation today.
- *Before it became fashionable to give chocolates and flowers, the traditional gift given by a man to a woman on St. Valentine's day was a pair of gloves, symbolizing the request for a lady's hand in marriage
- *In Victorian times it was considered bad luck to sign a Valentine's Day card. Hence, most Valentine's cards are sent anonymously!
- *Valentine's Day grew in popularity due to the industrial revolution, which ushered in factory-made cards, and Hallmark, in Missouri, was one of the first to mass produce Valentine's Day cards in 1913. Pet cards have recently risen in popularity.

PET JOKES

SMART DOG

Two dog owners are arguing about whose pet is smarter.
 "My dog is so smart," says the first owner, "that every morning he goes to the store and buys me a sesame seed bagel with chive cream cheese, stops off at Starbucks and picks me up a mocha latte, and then comes home and turns on ESPN, all before I get out of bed."
 "I know," says the second owner.
 "How do you know?" the first demands.
 "My dog told me."



QUIZ



1. What insanely popular website debuted on Valentine's Day in 2005?
2. Which animals are most commonly associated with romance?
3. How many people typically buy Valentines for their pets?
4. Which Greek Goddess of love has a cat breed named after her?
5. What fruit, once known as a "love apple" for its supposed aphrodisiac properties?
6. Which name for a dog comes from the Latin word meaning faithful?

Answers:

1. YouTube. 2. Lovebirds & Doves. 3. 9 Million.
4. Aphrodite. 5. Tomato. 6. Fido.

PAW-SCOPES

DOGS

Brimming with emotions galore 365 days of the year, these dogs get to let their feelings run free on Valentine's Day. Most of their excitement stems from their love for you, and therefore want to use this special day for a surprise date night.

CATS

February felines will always be romantic cats, with a tendency to converse with their humans and be aware of their human's emotions. These cats love to be admired by their owners, and will take any praise for being the "Top Cat" around the house!

Knights in Shining Armor

During the Middle Ages, when knights would participate in jousting matches, they would dedicate their performance to a lady of the court whom they admired and perhaps were in love with.

To let everyone know how he felt, a knight would pin a handkerchief or a scarf (known as a favor) belonging to the woman on his sleeve.

PUPPY LOVE

You have a cute little nose
And happy wagging tail
You lick me when I come home
You bark because there's mail
You sleep in my bed
And think my shoe is a toy
Sweet little puppy
You fill me with joy
Oh, little puppy
So loyal and true
I just want you to know
How much I love you.

Pet One-Liner's

- Q. Why did the poor dog chase his tail?
A. He was trying to make both ends meet.
Q. What animal cheats at exams?
A. The cheetah!
Q: Why did the boy stand behind the horse?
A. He thought he might get a kick out of it!
Q. Why can't cats work on the computer?
A. They get too distracted chasing the mouse

What is the Guinness World Record for the longest marriage ever recorded?

Herbert Fisher (USA, b. 10 June 1905, d. 27 February 2011) and Zelmyra Fisher (USA, b. 10 December 1907, d. 20 February 2013) were married on 13 May 1924 in North Carolina, USA. They had been married 86 years, 290 days as of 27 February 2011, when Mr Fisher passed away.

*What Valentine's Day film is about a blogger who meets a handsome veterinarian on Valentine's Day?

"All Things Valentine" is about a blogger who has been unlucky on Valentine's Day until she meets a handsome veterinarian.

*What fictional TV character is named after a cat and a valentine and loves red velvet cupcakes?

"Cat Valentine" from Nickelodeon's Victorious, is a character that's not only named after cats and Valentine's Day, but she also loves red velvet cupcakes--a true Valentine's Day character in spirit.

*There's an average of 220,000 marriage proposals on Valentine's Day each year--not including dog, cat, bunny, and hamster wedding proposals.

*In Finland Valentine's Day is called Ystävänpäivä which translates into "Friend's day".

*A dog's heart beats between 70 and 120 times a minute, compared with a human heart which beats 70 to 80 times a minute.

*The oldest love poem was written in a clay tablet from the times of the Sumerians, inventors of writing, around 3500 B.C. It was unromantically named Istanbul #2461 by the archeologists who unearthed it.

*The first photograph of a U.S. President was taken on February 14, 1849 by Matthew Brady in New York City. President James Polk was the subject of the famous picture

*The British Library in London holds the oldest known surviving valentine, a poem composed in French in 1415 by Charles Duke of Orleans to his wife, which he sent while imprisoned in the Tower of London.



Kathy Bode

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Did you know . . . !

Many believe the X became synonymous with the kiss of faith in Medieval times. People who couldn't read or write signed with an X in front of a witness. The X was then kissed with sincerity, as an act of faith.

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Olio Pizzeria	SB	805-899-2699
On The Alley	SB	805-962-6315
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Scarlett Begonia	SB	805- 770-2143

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Q & A

Q: What country started the tradition of giving roses on Valentine's Day?
A: The United Kingdom started the tradition of giving roses on Valentine's Day. In 1969, cargo planes began to airfreight flowers from Colombia where roses grow all year round.

Q: Why is lace a Valentine's Day symbol?
A: It's a net to capture someone's heart. The word "lace" comes from the Latin "laques," meaning "to snare or net," as in to catch a person's heart.

Q: What major invention was patented on Valentine's Day?
A: The telephone

Q: How many pets will get a special Valentine's dinner this Valentine's Day?
A: As many as 59 percent of pet parents say they whip up special meals for their pet to enjoy on Valentine's Day.

Q: What does the key represent on Valentine's Day?
A: It represents the key to one's heart. It's also seen alongside lockets, conferring the same trust of allowing one to unlock a heart full of love.

THE LADY & THE TRAMP

The famous animated romance between the American Cocker Spaniel named Lady and the stray mutt called the Tramp touched the hearts of canine lovers the world over in 1955 and was the first film released in, at that time, the new Cinemascope widescreen film process. It's a typical love story of an upper middle class family pet and a street dwelling mutt whose attraction for each other was the only thing they had in common. If you haven't already seen it with your kids, then St. Valentines Day would be a great time to watch it again - its such a delightful romantic love story, no matter what your age is!



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SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

Arroyo Burro Beach Park

Located at 2981 Cliff Drive, this county park is the portal for the best known off-leash spot in the Santa Barbara area. Dogs are required to be on leash through the parking lot and bathing beach until, passing Arroyo Burro Slough, dogs are welcome to run free and cavort in the Pacific Ocean surf below the city's Douglas Family Preserve. Self service dog wash stations provided by County Parks.

Hours: Daily from 8:00am - Dusk

TUCKERS GROVE PARK

Newly fenced off-leash area at Kiwanis Meadow is now open. The new play area is at the eastern end of the park, and is near ample parking and a public restroom. This area also provides easy access to the San Antonio Creek Trail, a mostly shaded 1.5-mile route that heads northeasterly to a trailhead at CA Route 154. Tucker's Grove County Park is located at intersection of Turnpike and Cathedral Oaks Roads.

Hours: Daily from 8:00am - Dusk

TORO CANYON PARK

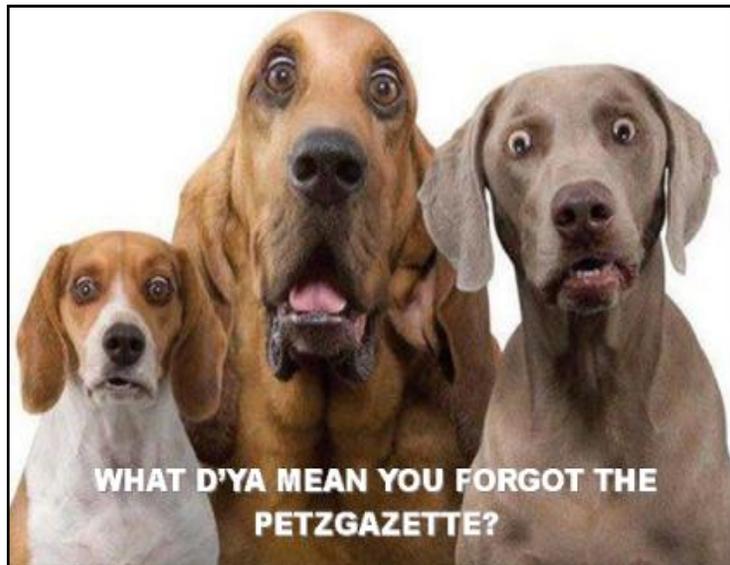
Located at the entry to this 74-acre wooded park, the off-leash canine play area consists of a fenced lawn area shaded by oak trees. Parking and restroom immediately adjacent. Address: 576 Toro Canyon Park Road.

Hours: Daily from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM, and 4:00 PM to Sunset

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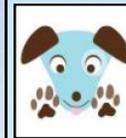
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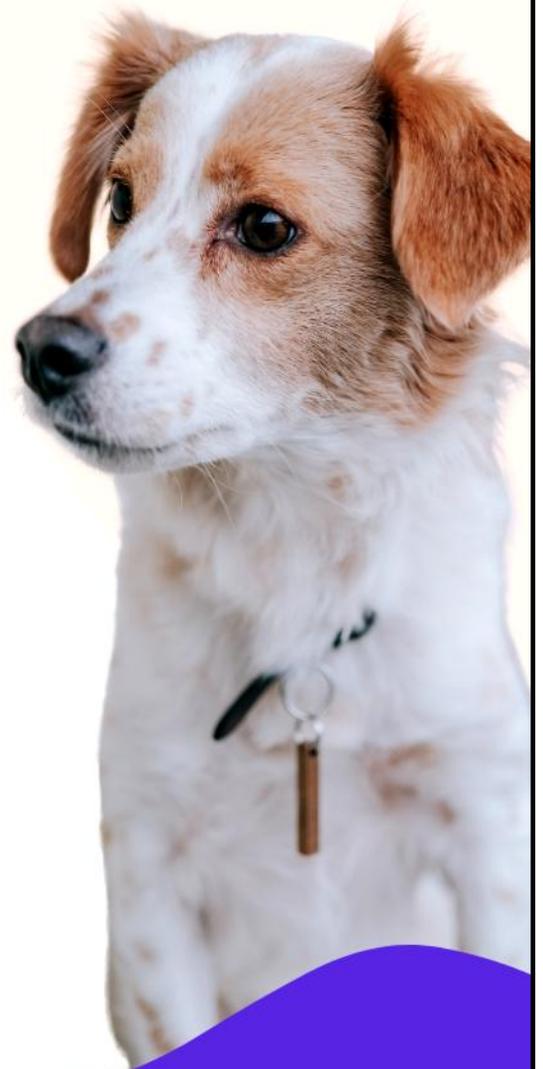
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February Is National Pet Dental Health Month

February is National Pet Dental Health Month

Have you noticed that your pet's breath, well.. smells really bad? Have you noticed that your pets eating habits seem painful or is eating and chewing slowly? Have you noticed blood on your pets toys or chews? Has your pet lost teeth? These could be a symptom of dental problems or other serious health issues. Did you know that more than 85 percent of cats and dogs over four years of age are affected by periodontal disease? Painful toothache, gingivitis and periodontal disease have mercy on no one, man or beast. Combining good dental hygiene at home with preventive veterinary dental care can help keep your pet healthy, pain free and save you money in the long run. An untreated dental infection is not only painful, but can result in tooth loss and spread infection to the heart, kidneys and other organs, and suddenly become life threatening. Here's a guide to help you keep your pet's teeth and gums happy and healthy.

Brush Your Pet's Teeth

While it might seem difficult at first, with enough patience and plenty of healthy yummy rewards, you can turn tooth brushing into a bonding experience with your dog or cat. It's never too early to start familiarizing your pet with the tooth brushing routine. Be sure to only use toothpaste designed for pets because human toothpaste has too much fluoride and can be toxic to pets. If you are worried that your pet may bite you during tooth brushing or if your pet simply won't tolerate the toothbrush, ask your local Veterinarian for alternative home dental care options.

Start by rubbing your pet's teeth with your finger and some tasty pet enzymatic toothpaste. This will familiarize your pet with the brushing process and help your pet to learn to accept and even enjoy tooth brushing.

Work your way up to a pet toothbrush. Specially designed cat and dog toothbrushes, as well as toothpastes. A finger brush is a great choice after teaching your pet to enjoy a gum massage. You may also want to try a regular pet toothbrush and then determine what seems to work best for you and your pet. Focus on the gum line. The line where the teeth meet the gums is the most critical area to scrub.

Consider Dental Toys, Healthy Treats and Food

While not as effective as brushing your pet's teeth, giving your pet healthy treats, food and toys specifically designed to promote oral health will help to maintain healthy gums and teeth by minimizing the development and progression of plaque, tartar and gingivitis. There are also excellent prescription dental care diets for both dogs and cats that can be used as treats or meals. Again, check with your local Veterinarian for advice.

Take Your Pet To Your Vet

Pets are like people and need routine dental examinations, cleanings and care. Ask your Veterinarian to perform an initial screening dental exam as a part of your pet's comprehensive physical examination. He or she will talk with you about past and current medical history including any problems you may have noticed or have concerns about your pets health. Be sure to mention if you've noticed any dental health warning signs such as bad breath, oral pain, bleeding, drooling, and changes in eating habits or lost teeth.

During the examination, your Vet will check out your pet's mouth, teeth and gums for bleeding and inflammation, tooth loss, loose, cracked or damaged teeth, exposed tooth roots, plaque and tartar as well as oral foreign bodies and potentially cancerous lumps. This exam can usually be performed without sedation, unless your pet becomes aggressive or the mouth or teeth are very painful. If your Vet feels that a dental cleaning or other dental procedure is needed, be sure to follow through on their recommendations for dental care. If a dental cleaning is not needed, be sure to spend some of the appointment time discussing good home dental care that will help to keep your pet's teeth and mouth healthy and pain free.

While February is National Pet Dental Health Month, dental health should be a daily ritual for pet owners all year long.



Don't Ignore Your Pet's Bad Breath!

- Bad breath is often a warning sign of dental disease in pets.
- Dental disease can lead to heart, liver and kidney problems.
- Protect your pet with regular check-ups and a home dental care routine.

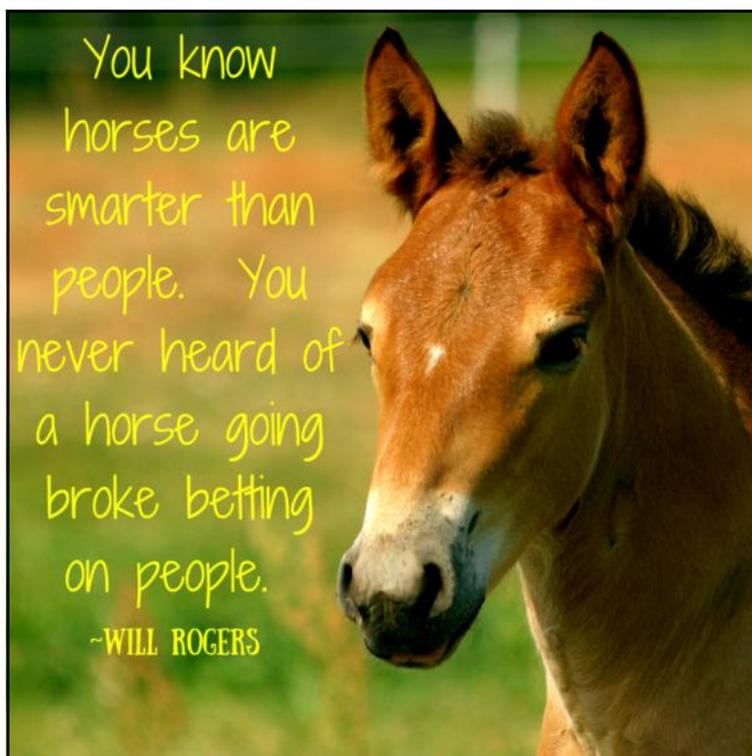


FEBRUARY HORSE TRIVIA



HORSE TRIVIA

- As the god of horses, Poseidon is thought likely to have been introduced to Greece by the earliest Hellenes, who also introduced the first horses to the country about the 2nd century bce. Poseidon himself fathered many horses, best known of which was the winged horse Pegasus by the Gorgon Medusa.
- Black horses that do not sun bleach are called "non-fading" blacks. Some breeds of horses, such as the Friesian horse, Murgese and Ariegeois (or Merens), are almost exclusively black. Black is also common in the Fell pony, Dales pony, Ostfriesen and Alt-Oldenburger, Kladruber, and Groningen.
- Vienna's famous Spanish Riding School features a breed of horse known as Lipizzaner (often called Lipizzan in North America), who trace their lineage back to the sixteenth century. Only the stallions are used in the school.
- The Shire is a British breed of draught horse. It is usually black, bay, or grey. It is a tall breed, and Shires have at various times held world records both for the largest horse and for the tallest horse.



You know horses are smarter than people. You never heard of a horse going broke betting on people.
-WILL ROGERS

Q & A

- Q** The Lone Ranger's Potawatomi sidekick, Tonto, had a horse named what?
A Scout.
- Q** A mustang known as Comanche was the mount of which well-known commander?
A George Custer.
- Q** About which horse did Jimmy Driftwood write a song, popularized first by Eddy Arnold and later by the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band?
A The ground!
- Q** Which 19th-century children's classic by Anna Sewall features a horse?
A Black Beauty.
- Q** The winged horse Pegasus belongs to the mythology of which culture?
A Greek.
- Q** What's the name of a mid-20th-century TV show that featured a talking horse?
A Mr. Ed.
- Q** The Norse god Odin rode a magical horse with eight legs. What was the horse's name?
A Sleipnir.



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RESCUE NEWS



Karma Rescue provides funds for pets and their families with the aim of reducing barriers to pet-retention. Karma Rescue’s Project Coco, an outreach program, offers support to Los Angeles dog parents who need medical assistance and pet behavior modification. Project Coco helps pay for veterinary and training expenses—with the goal of keeping dogs out of shelters and in their homes.

We know you love your pet!

Are you struggling because you cannot pay for veterinarian care or dog training?



www.KarmaRescue.org

info@karmarescue.org

310-512-7833



Call: (310)-512-7833 or
Email: info@karmarescue.org

Sometimes pet parents need help and **KARMA IS HERE** to help you and your dog!

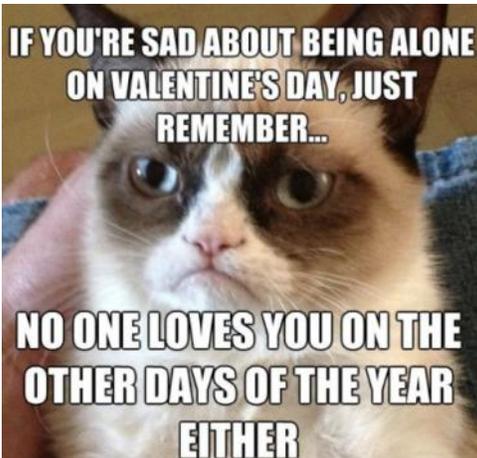


Karma Rescue received a \$20,000 grant from Animal Farm Foundation.

The money will be used for Karma's Project Coco Program



FEBRUARY MEMES



Faux Paw Productions

Worlds most beautiful pet bowls

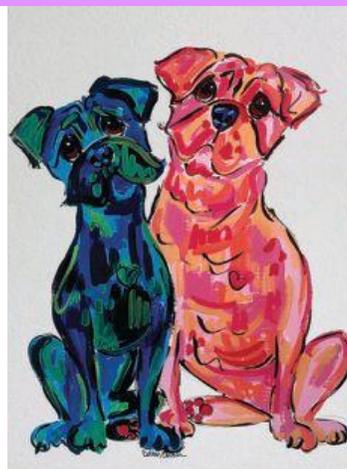
ARTIST DEBBIE CARMAN of FAUX PAW PRODUCTIONS

The irresistible designs from the palette of Debbie Carman reflect “characters and art with heart, because everybody smiles in the same language.” Her lighthearted gifts for pet lovers range from tote bags to teapots to ceramics.

Well known for her whimsical and wacky custom dog and cat paintings, the Laguna Beach-based artist and author reveals a cascade of color in all she creates. This is illustrated, too, in her book covers, from *Bowzers* and *Meowzers* to *Chewdalootie*, *Doing my Duty*.

Debbie Carman has put Laguna Beach in the “pet spotlight” and smiles on the faces of pet parents.

www.fauxpawproductions.com



VALENTINE DOG TREATS

And if you REALLY don't have the time, energy or enthusiasm to create your own, we've listed a few places you can order from ahead of time for the upcoming "Valentine" love day!

[Montecito Pet Shop](#)

[Pacific Coast Pets \(Malibu\)](#)

[Pet Food Express](#)

[Petropolis \(Camarillo\)](#)

[Sailor and Friends Pet Supplies \(Ventura\)](#)

[The Lucky Lab Dog Bakery](#)

[The Dog Bakery \(L.A.\)](#)

[Three Dog Bakery \(Encino\)](#)

[Theresa's Country Feed & Pet \(Simi Valley\)](#)

[Ventura Pet Barn](#)



Thank Goodness for today's electronic means of communications!
With websites, social media, blogs, podcasts, videos and zoom's etc, we are all still able to stay connected, even during this pandemic.

So, with Valentine's Day fast approaching, we thought we'd create a little blurb about Valentine Doggy Treats for you and your family to enjoy creating!

Below is a recipe you can have fun with baking for both your pets and your family, and all with human-grade ingredients.



Home Baked Doggy Cupcakes

Banana Cupcakes with Cream Cheese Frosting

Ingredients

2 to 3 very ripe **bananas**, peeled (about 1 1/4 to 1 1/2 cups mashed)
1/3 cup melted butter, unsalted or salted.
1 teaspoon baking soda.
Pinch of salt.
1/2 cup sugar
1 large egg, beaten.
1 teaspoon vanilla extract.
1 1/2 cups of all-purpose flour.

Directions

Step 1

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Coat muffin pans with non-stick spray, or use paper liners.
Sift together the flour, baking powder, baking soda, and salt; set aside.

Step 2

Combine bananas, sugar, egg, and melted butter in a large bowl. Fold in flour mixture, and mix until smooth.
Scoop into muffin pans.

Step 3

Bake in preheated oven. Bake mini muffins for 10 to 15 minutes, and large muffins for 25 to 30 minutes.
Muffins will spring back when lightly tapped.

Cream Cheese Frosting (for Dogs)

4 oz block-style cream cheese, room temperature
A little Sour Cream to soften
Add a little red jam (or coloring) to make the frosting pink.
Spread over room temperature cup cakes!
Before serving to your pet, please remove the cupcake paper lining first.
Your dog's will love them (and you too)!

Alternatively, spread peanut butter over cupcakes as a frosting!

It is recommended that you only serve one cupcake at a time, preferably broken into two as your dog will probably gulp it down, rather than chew on it.
It is suggested that maybe only two cupcakes be allowed per day!

For the Cream Cheese Frosting (for Humans)

1/2 cup unsalted butter, room temperature
4 oz block-style cream cheese, room temperature
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
3-4 cups icing sugar, sifted
1 tablespoon cream

Directions:

In large bowl beat together the cream cheese & butter with an electric mixer until combined.
Turn down the mixer to low speed and add in the powdered sugar about 1/2 cup at a time until the desired sweetness level is reached.
If the icing is too thick, add a tablespoon or two of cream. Then turn the mixer up to medium-high speed and beat for 15 seconds.
Frost the cupcakes either using a piping bag or smearing the icing with a knife.
Optionally, decorate with dried banana chips.

Doggy Dating

Dog Lovers Fun Date Ideas

Valentine's Day represents romance. It's a chance to celebrate love of all kinds, including the love you have for your dog and who knows, you might meet someone of the same ilk while out with your precious pooch!

Here's a few date ideas for dog lovers;

1 Check out different dog parks

It may not seem noteworthy to those of us who visit the dog park on a daily basis. The dog park, on the other hand, is a great dating activity for dog lovers. Check out other dog parks and take a picnic which will be fun for you and your dog and who knows who you might meet while there!

2 Go for a Romanic Hike

Hiking is one of the most romantic date ideas ever. It's also simple to include the dogs. Fill your daypack with snacks & drinks and head out on the trail.

3 Watch the Sun Setting

Drive to a gorgeous viewpoint, spread a blanket outside, or simply relax in front of a west-facing window with your friends. Pour some wine, make some hors d'oeuvres and dog treats, then sit back and watch Mother Nature put on a Valentine's Day performance. And take pictures to post to social media!

4 Shopping Date

Look for dog-friendly establishments, or simply stroll through your town's shopping district and window shop. Take your date (and dogs too) to the pet supply store to pick out a special Valentine's Day treat if you truly want to impress them.

5 Check Out a Dog-Friendly Cafe's

Need a coffee fix? Bring Fido with you! Many coffee shops offer outdoor seating, so you can sip on a latte with your pup by your side, and watch the passers-by. You never know who might come along!

And in case you didn't know, each Petzgazette area has a list of pet-friendly places to check out.

Here's an after thought:

Wouldn't it be fun if someone came up with a dog park doggy "speed" dating event? (could be a lot of fun! Let us know if you do - we'd love to hear about it!) LOL!

Happy Valentine's Day!



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