monthly wellness scan

Performing a monthly wellness check on your dog is crucial for maintaining their health and well-being. By regularly inspecting your pet for any abnormalities or changes, you can catch potential health issues early, allowing for timely intervention and treatment. This proactive approach not only helps prevent small problems from escalating into more significant issues but also ensures that your dog receives the care they need to live a happy and healthy life.

nose

Check for lesions, crust or excessive drainage. Is their nose wet or dry? (it won't always be wet so don't panic if it's not! Consistent dryness or overly wet can be indications of illness, however.)

eyes

Observe your dog's eyes for any signs of abnormal discharge. Each dog may have a different level of eye weeping, so it's important to know what's normal for your pet and take note of any changes. Check the symmetry between both eyes, considering factors like shape, color, discharge, and movement. Examine all parts of the eye, including the whites, and watch for changes in color, such as increased redness or graying.

ears

Check your dog's ears for any unusual swelling, debris or foul odor.

spine

With a comfortable pressure, run two fingers along the sides of your dogs spinal cord, noting any areas of swelling or tenderness.

mouth

Inspect your dog's mouth (if you can safely do so) for any signs of lesions, swelling, or bad breath. Healthy gums should appear pink, and teeth should be free of tartar and plaque. Examine the tongue and its underside closely. Pay particular attention to the symmetry of the gums and roof of the mouth, checking for any noticeable masses. Ensure that the normal ridges are consistent on both sides.

jaw

When checking the outside of your pet's mouth, make sure the jawline feels the same all along and on both sides, without any tenderness when touched.

skin

From the tip of your dog's tail to the tip of their nose, run your hands against the direction their fur grows, keeping an eye out for any lumps, bumps, flakiness or sensitivity. Take note of any discolorations of their skin (especially red or dark spots) or sores.

paws

Check in between their toes (top and bottom) for any redness, swelling or irritation.

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