

ChiChis And Me Newsletter



DECEMBER 2016

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Why Do Dogs Like to Lick People?

Have you ever wondered why? I know I have. Chihuahuas seem to especially love licking you in the face. Some people allow it (I'm one) and some people get grossed out! Regardless of which camp you're in, most people have wondered why they do it. So I went searching for the answers. I found 4 main reasons.



1. Affection:

Dogs can't say "I love you", but we know actions speak louder than words anyway. Dog's show love and affection by "grooming" each other. So your dog is "grooming" you and saying "I love you!"

2. We taste good!:

Believe it or not, our sweaty, salty skin tastes good to them.

3. They are trying to tell you something:

Licking is also a sign that they are trying to get your attention. They may be trying to tell you they are hungry, or maybe they need to go out to potty. They may even be trying to get you to play. For instance, if he/she wakes you up in the morning by licking you, they may be saying "hey, you've slept long enough, I want to play" or "I need to go out".

4. They are looking for food:

Yep, you read that right. According to the AKC:

"Wild puppies lick their mother's mouth as a signal for her to regurgitate the meat she's hunted and as a way of demonstrating subornation."



Wondering who won our "\$50. VISA Gift Card Give-A-Way? To Find Out:

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Meet Our Chi(s) of the Month



Meet Chaco & Gizmo
They belong to Laurie Moore
We thought that December was such a special month, we needed two "Chi's of the Month" These two cuties were the perfect ones! Thank you, Laurie for sharing them with us.

Your dog could be the next "Chi of the Month" and seen by thousands! We now have over 18K readers and are growing every day, thanks to YOU! Here's how to enter: Just click on the button below and fill out the form. It's as easy as that! If for some reason you can't upload a photo in the form (sometimes the file is too big) Just e-mail the information and the photo to: linda@chichisandme.com
GOOD LUCK!

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DIY PAW PRINT WALL ART

This is such an easy project and can be a wonderful memorial keepsake too.

You'll Need:

- Paper of your choice (I recommend a thicker weight)
- Paint brush
- Non-toxic washable paint
- Fine tip ink pen
- Frame
- And don't forget your dog!



Prepping Tips:

- Paint and dogs... Who else can see this mess coming from a mile away?? To prevent a Doggy-Picasso painted apartment, it would be wise to spread out an old sheet to protect your floors and furniture, or opt for the grassy outdoors.
- Have a bowl filled with a hint of dish soap and warm water ready to wash off those little paws.
- Having a towel handy to dry off the clean paws was helpful. If you're outside air drying is always an option too!

Instructions:

1. Choose the paint color you want your paw print to be. I had a hard time deciding, so Coco and I practiced with a few different colors before we landed on black. That is what is great about this DIY, the options are endless!
2. Take the paintbrush and carefully paint your dog's paw pad. If your dog has ticklish paws, you may need an extra set of hands!
3. Gently press your dogs paw onto the designated paper. Press and hold for a couple of seconds and try to lift the paw straight up to ensure zero smudging. Let the paw print dry for a about 10 minutes.
4. While that is drying, wash your dogs paw in the soapy water. Towel dry any excess water.

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December's "Good for Them" Recipe



Blueberry Dog Cookies

Why should the humans get all the tasty cakes and cookies this holiday?

Prep Time: 5 min Cook Time: 15 min Total: 20 min
24 Servings

Ingredients

- 1 cup almond flour (almond meal)
- ½ cup rice flour
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1 Tablespoon extra virgin olive oil
- ¼ cup fresh blueberries, crushed

Directions

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.
- In a small bowl, mix flours together; set aside.
- In a separate bowl, beat egg, olive oil and blueberries together; combine with flour mixture.
- Spoon onto baking sheet (sprayed with nonstick) using a cookie dough scoop or two spoons.
- Bake at 350 F for 15-18 minutes or until bottom edges are golden brown.

Recipe From: Lola The Pitty:

Holistic Pet Health
means starting with a
natural diet made
from honest
ingredients

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DIY PAW PRINT WALL ART

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5. Once the paw print is dry you can use a fine tip ink pen to write their name and age underneath.
6. Frame and hang!

If you have a puppy, it would be an extra special keepsake to have your puppy's first year of growing documented into a work of art with their age written under each paw print. Not every paw print will turn out perfect, but I think that is what makes it special and unique.

The end result is a wonderful touch for any room in your house that you can cherish forever.

Think you'll try this? I'd love to see your finished projects! Send them to: linda@chichisandme.com

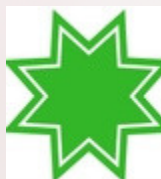
Project From:

Sarah Dickerson, www.prettyfluffy.com

Long Coat or Smooth Coat? The Differences Are More Than Skin Deep

Are there differences between smooth coat and long coated Chihuahuas? You betcha! Did you know that there are even (with some exceptions.... there are always exceptions to every rule) some slight personality differences? It's true. Here are some of the more obvious differences:

1. Long coated Chis can handle cold weather better than their smooth coat brothers and sisters. Although no Chihuahua can tolerate cold for long periods, the long coated can tolerate it better. They may even enjoy a little romp in the snow (providing it's not too deep!). Smooth coated Chis will enjoy your warmth on his little belly while lying on your lap. So, a smooth coated is more likely



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Bringing home a new puppy? Here's a tip



Try to time homecoming for a week's vacation or a long weekend. It has to be a regular weekend? Then make it early Saturday morning, not Friday night. The first night away from mom and his/her brothers and sisters is going to be the hardest for the puppy, so bringing them home on Saturday morning gives them a whole day to acclimate to his new home, environment and people.

to lie on your lap and a long coated Chi is more likely to lie beside you. You'll notice the difference at night too. Smooth coated like to sleep under the covers while long coated are more likely to sleep on top of the covers.

2. Long coated Chis shed less. No, that is not a typo, they really do shed less. They shed twice a year. At that time they shed a lot of hair quickly. But, a few good brushings and vacuuming will usually take care of that. Smooth coated on the other hand shed old hair and replace it with new hair all the time. So you will have to deal with the

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shedding on your clothes and furniture all the time. I have three smooth coated Chis and I can attest to that! I am CONSTANTLY trying to get dog hair off everything in the house.

3. Long coated Chis are a bit more reserved. Short coats are usually more outgoing and friendly. Although both enjoy attention, long coats need more time to warm up to friendly strangers.

There often are long and smooth coats in the same litter. It used to be thought that there was at least one long coated Chi in every litter. It was supposed to be natures' way of keeping the short haired littermates warm. Of course that is not always true - besides the short coated Chis are kept plenty warm enough by their mother.



Looking for a way to keep your little one active and entertained indoors this winter? The iFetch Interactive Dog Ball Launcher is just what you are looking for!

The iFetch Interactive Dog Ball Launcher is the ideal way to keep your pup happy and active while still allowing you the time and focus to take care of everyday necessities. If you've ever had your pup beg to play while working then you know that balancing work and fun can prove cumbersome. The iFetch makes it easy to provide your pup with much needed attention while still catering to your own needs!



Get Yours Now!

Introducing Dog to Dog

The best way to introduce your new Chihuahua to a new brother (or sister) from another mother is to do it on neutral ground. Don't try to do it in the house. This is his or her territory and you don't want him/her to defend it from your new Chi. Just a block or two down the street will do just fine if they are both leash broken. If not, do it in a fenced in yard (not your own - still the other dog's territory). Be sure your Chihuahua is on the ground, NOT in your arms. They must both be on the ground for a proper doggie introduction.



Pssst.....
Did you know
that
Entirely Pets
is having a BIG
holiday sale!

Great Gift Ideas

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**AND THE WINNER IS:
Carolyn S!**

Carolyn won our Beautiful Paw Print Bracelet

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And help pets in need. ChiChis And Me will donate funds to provide 14 bowls of food to the Humane Society US

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Thank you for being a subscriber!

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LET'S GO SHOPPING!

Caring for Your Senior Chi

As much as we hate to think about it — as much as we may try to deny it, we are all getting older each day. That is true of our fur babies too. We can't imagine life without them. Just like us, as our pets get older they become more prone to a number of medical problems. But, with diet, supplements and extra care many of these can be prevented, delayed or managed. As pet parents we want to help them live the longest, healthiest lives possible. Here are a few problems that afflict our senior pets and some things you can do to prevent, treat or manage them.

Arthritis

Most older dogs develop arthritis. You may notice a "slowing down" or "some stiffness" these can be signs your dog is developing arthritis. My 13 year old Chi refuses to go up or down the stairs on some days. Especially if it is cold or damp. I also noticed that he gets up several times a night because he can't seem to get comfortable. If your Chi is **overweight** this can make arthritis worse so it's really important to help them lose weight and maintain a healthy weight. A **high protein diet** helps protect lean muscle while losing fat.

There are **joint protectors and antioxidants** that will provide anti-inflammatory action to help protect while also helping with pain relief.

Digestive Slowdown

The ability to digest and metabolize protein slows down in older dogs. They need a better quality protein and more of it.

[Learn More](#)

Tips To Help Stop Food Aggression

I already had a 9 year old and a 12 Year old Chihuahua When I brought home a 9 week old Chihuahua puppy. My other two had never exhibited food aggression, but the puppy did, the minute I brought her home.

If you are consistent and patient, these tips will cure it. It worked for me and many others I've talked to.

1. Feed your Chi his food a nugget or two at a time from your hand, with your hand in the food bowl.
2. Give him only 1/4 of his dinner. Then just as he finishes that, put the rest of his meal in the bowl.
3. Sit on the floor beside his/her food bowl. Pet him/her for a minute or two as they begin eating, then walk away and let them finish the food.
4. When he/she is finished eating walk up to the bowl and drop in a small bit of hot dog or cheese or whatever is very special, something, they don't usually get as a treat.

These tips will teach your dog that people/children approaching their food bowl is a good thing - especially if a baby crawls too close.



I'm just saying; it kinda hurts my feelings when you don't lick me back