

Deskunking your dog

Has your dog (or cat or other pet) been sprayed by a skunk? First, check to see if your dog was injured by the skunk. If your dog is bleeding or appears to have been bitten, consult a vet immediately. Skunks may carry rabies.

Once you've checked that your pet is safe, gather the following ingredients and try this method to remove the odour:

What you'll need:

- 1 litre of 3 per cent hydrogen peroxide, H₂O₂.
Use unopened hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂). Hydrogen peroxide eventually turns into water (H₂O).
- 1/4 cup of baking soda
- 1 teaspoon of liquid soap
- 1 pair of plastic or latex gloves

Instructions

- Bathe your dog outside or, if it's too dark or cold, in the bathroom with the door closed and window opened.
- Combine the ingredients in an open container (do not store in a sealed bottle--it will explode).
- Using gloves, wash your dog with lukewarm water and the mixture while the mixture is bubbling. Work the mixture well into the fur.
- Be sure to concentrate on the area that was sprayed.
- Keep mixture away from your dog's face and eyes (it's a harsh solution).
- Let the mixture stand for 10 minutes or so before rinsing off.
- Rinse your dog with lukewarm tap water. Don't wash the mixture into your dog's eyes (use a washcloth to cover the eyes if you're rinsing the head).
- After bathing, check your dog's eyes. If they are red and watering, your dog may have taken a direct hit in the face. Skunk spray won't blind the dog, but it's very painful. Contact your vet.

References

<http://home.earthlink.net/~skunkremedy/home/>

