

## GIVING YOUR DOG MEDICATION BY LIQUID OR PILL

When giving your dog medication, remember that he may not be feeling particularly well and may not react the way you normally expect him to. Speak firmly and gently while administering the medication and always praise him when it is over. Follow your veterinarian's specific instructions about when and how much medicine to give. Ask if he can eat or drink around the time he is being medicated. Do not mix medications, use old prescriptions or give your dog another dog's medication unless directed by your vet. Medication that is safe for humans may not be safe for your pet.....when in doubt, call the vet!

### Administering Liquid Medicine

Step 1: Back your dog up in a corner. Stand over him, facing the same direction he is. This position will keep him from backing away from you.

Step 2: Hold the dog's mouth shut and gently tip the head back slightly.

Step 3: Using a plastic eyedropper, dosing syringe, or child's liquid medicine spoon, slowly feed the medicine between the molar and canine teeth at the side of the mouth. A small pocket will form in this area and works very well. Give the medicine slowly so he doesn't get strangled. Be patient, praise.

### Administering Pills

Step 1: Back your dog up in a corner. Stand over him, facing the same direction he is. This position will keep him from backing away from you.

Step 2: Wrap your hand under the dog's mouth and press the sides of his lips against the back teeth at the jaw to get him to open his mouth. Hold the mouth open by continuing the pressure. Tip his head back slightly.

Step 3: Take the pill between the thumb and index finger of your other hand. Place the pill as far back on the tongue as possible, then push it into the throat with your index finger. Close mouth and gently rub the throat. By putting most of your hand into the dog's mouth, you will keep the dog from biting you. He can close his mouth easier if you try to use only one finger to give him the pill.

If your dog can eat, an alternative method to giving him a pill is to wrap it in his favorite treat. Hide the pill inside a piece of hotdog or cheese, and your dog won't even know he's taking medicine.