



Tanzania Animal Welfare Society

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WORLD ANIMAL DAY PROJECT, OCTOBER-2015

BASIC CARE FOR DONKEYS

- Donkeys are herbivores, with grass being their preferred food source, but they adapt well to supplemented diets containing a good balance of energy and fibrous material. It is important to remember that higher quality feed will lead to a better performance! They should receive 2 feeds every 24 hours.
- Water is essential for donkeys and it is important that it should be available at all times whilst they are not working.
- A suitable shelter should be provided for the donkey when not working and to sleep in at night. It should have shade from the sun and protection from wind and rain in order that they remain healthy animals.
- Pregnant donkeys should not be worked after 8 months of their gestation and until 3 months after giving birth.
- Seek a Vet advice on the vaccinations your donkey requires, Rabies vaccination is given once per year. However, regular deworming is important and can be carried out by the owner.
- Working donkeys' feet need special care as they are critical for its performance. They should be inspected regularly and treated immediately if necessary.

- Donkeys that pull carts **MUST** have a properly fitted and well-padded harness that does not put pressure on the spine or cut into the skin.
- Donkeys should never be used to carry or pull loads before they are 3 years old, as their bones are very soft until this stage of their development. If worked earlier, permanent leg and back damage may result, causing suffering and the shortening of their overall and working life.
- It is critical that a donkey is **NEVER** overloaded! Firstly, it is very cruel, but you will also shorten its working life. Over loaded donkeys may die at 10 years old, 20 years earlier than healthy individuals.
- With regards to over loading; a small donkey (standing up to 102 cm at the shoulder) should carry less than 50 kg, a medium sized one (102-112 cm) 63 kg and a large donkey (over 112 cm), 76 kg maximum.
- Finally, beating a donkey is cruel and unnecessary and shows poor capability on the part of the driver. It can also lead to criminal prosecution!!!

REMEMBER ALWAYS BE KIND TO DONKEYS!

BASIC CARE FOR DOGS

- Dogs have a varied diet, and will eat most foods that humans do. A balanced diet for dogs should include proteins like meat, offal, chicken, eggs or beans. They also require carbohydrates like maize meal, rice or commercial dog food. Vegetable matters such as carrots, cabbage or spinach are a good source of vitamins and roughage.
- Adult dogs need to be fed **ONCE** a day.

- Puppies need at least THREE meals a day so that they develop properly.
- Dogs need clean water to drink at ALL times.
- Dogs need access to suitable shelter that provides protection against rain and sun and also has good ventilation. If possible they should never be locked up. However, if you need to confine your dog then build a fenced enclosure around its kennel.
- Dogs MUST be vaccinated against Rabies EVERY YEAR! This is the law. If you can afford it, dogs should receive vaccinations against Distemper, Hepatitis, Leptospirosis and other diseases.
- Washing/dipping dogs once a week should help prevent them from picking up ticks and fleas. It is best to use an anti-parasitic solution, but take care to read the instructions carefully.
- Dogs need to be dewormed every three months (make sure that you use enough de-wormer).
- Dogs require regular daily exercise.
- Dogs can breed every six months, however this is not recommended as it will weaken the bitch. Once a year should be minimum time between litters. It is best to spay bitches and neuter male dogs in order to avoid unwanted puppies. This needs to be done by a qualified vet, and if you need assistance contact your local SPCA or animal welfare group.

REMEMBER! ALWAYS BE KIND TO YOUR DOG!

BASIC CARE FOR CATS

- Cats are independent, clean animals who, if given moderate attention will take care of themselves.
- Cats can eat meat, meat scraps, offal, chicken, fish, table scraps, milk, eggs, cooked rice and maize meal.

- Adult cats **MUST** be fed at least once a day and **MUST** have available at **ALL** times.
- Cats are mainly meat eaters, but can take up to 50% carbohydrates mixed in with their meat.
- Cats do not need a special place to sleep. They will usually find their own place to sleep in the house.
- Cats need a vaccination for rabies every year for their protection, as well as for the humans that they are in contact with. They should be vaccinated against cat flu at the same time if funds allow.
- Cats need to be de-wormed regularly (every 3 months), especially if they are good hunters, as they often pick up worms in this way.
- Cats should be checked for parasites regularly. If they have only a few ticks or fleas, you can simply remove them. If however, it is a heavier infestation it needs to be referred to a qualified vet.
- Cats breed rapidly so, if possible, it is best to get your cat sterilized (spayed or neutered) by a qualified vet. This allows them to live long and happy lives.

REMEMBER! ALWAYS BE KIND TO YOUR CAT!

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