

# AGEING CANINE CHECKLIST

Owner name

Dog name

Date

Yes Maybe No

## Mobility

Is your dog slowing down, tiring on walks or wanting to go for a walk less?

Are they struggling with stairs, getting onto a sofa or bed, or stiff on rising?

Are they limping, dragging or scuffing their feet, wobbly or falling over?

## Dental

Does your dog have bad breath or crusty brown deposits around their teeth (tartar)?

Are they reluctant to eat hard foods or have their teeth checked?

Are they chewing more on one side of their mouth?

## Weight gain

Has your dog gained weight recently?

Do they have a fatter belly than they used to?

## Weight loss

Has your dog noticeably lost weight or muscle condition even though they are being fed the same amount of food?

## Behaviour

Is your dog acting depressed, lethargic, looking sad or disinterested in life?

Do they spend nearly all their time sleeping?

Has your dog become grumpier?

## Confusion

Does your dog have episodes of looking confused, staring into space, bumping into things or aimlessly pacing?

Have they started waking during the night or become more anxious?

Are they losing their sight or hearing?

Work through the checklist answering each section. If your dog scores red or amber for any questions in any section, please seek advice from your veterinary practice. It can also help to take videos or pictures of anything you find to show them.



Yes Maybe No

## Toileting

Has your dog started having accidents or urgency to go to the toilet when they were previously housetrained?

## Drinking

Is your dog drinking more than usual or urinating more frequently?

## Lumps

Have any lumps or swellings appeared on your dog's body?

## Other signs

Is your dog showing any other changes (for example, coughing, panting scratching, licking, tummy upsets, anything else)?

## Quality of life

Are you concerned about your dog's quality of life?

Is it getting worse?

## Care

Is looking after your dog becoming more challenging than it used to be?

## End of life

Finally, although it is incredibly difficult to think about the end of your dog's life, there are decisions that will have to be made when the time comes. It is helpful to think about these sooner rather than later and have discussed in advance with family members. Do you feel prepared for what might happen? Would you benefit from discussing options available with your veterinary practice?