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It's okay to love dogs and still not want random ones coming into your yard. If you're wondering how to keep dogs out of your yard without causing any harm, there are several ways to go about it. From DIY dog repellents and lawn ornaments to specialty fertilizers and plants, there are many options for dog repellents to keep dogs away from your property. Keeping dogs out of your yard goes beyond just wanting to avoid having to pick up unexpected dog poop. Dog urine can damage grass and other plants. Plus, some dogs might dig in your yard or garden, as well as chew on or otherwise damage landscaping or edible plants. You may have some plants in your landscape that are toxic to dogs. The three main categories of dog repellents are sprays and other DIY or commercial products (liquid or granule), physical barriers (like fences and hedges), and reactive deterrents (a gentle water spray or ultrasonic noise emitter). The right product for you depends on your budget and the time you want to spend on it. There are several smells that will keep dogs away from your yard, but some products—both DIY and commercial—can be problematic. Do not use any type of pepper as a dog repellent, as it can be harmful to the dog if they inhale it. A good DIY dog repellent spray is one that is safe for the dogs and low cost for you. Pro: Easy to make on your own with ingredients at home. Con: Ingredients may be harmful to dogs and other animals. You can use vinegar to keep dogs away from your lawn by spraying it around the perimeter of the area you want to be canine-free. Dogs don't like the strong smell of vinegar and thus will be deterred by it. Using white vinegar is typically the most inexpensive option, but any vinegar will do. You can use it straight or dilute it down to as much as a 50-50 vinegar-water solution in a spray bottle. However, do note that to protect your plants, stick to using it along sidewalks or pathways. Reapply when you can no longer smell it. Pro: Vinegar can help to neutralize urine odors, so passing dogs won't be compelled to mark over where another dog had previously peed. Con: Sufficient amounts of vinegar can kill vegetation, including lawn grass. Some people use vinegar as a natural weed killer. Dogs also dislike the smell of citrus. So you can use citrus essential oils or even the peels as a dog repellent. If you want to avoid peels, lightly spray citrus essential oil where you want to repel dogs instead. But don't get too heavy-handed with it, as citrus can be somewhat toxic to dogs. The goal is for the scent to be present without providing enough for the dog to ingest. Pro: Can make for good compost to help your garden. Con: Peels can be unsightly when scattered in your front yard, and might attract other critters such as rodents. Credit: The Spruce / Almar Creative Store-bought dog repellents can get pricey in the long run because they need to be reapplied often. These products also might contain elements that could be harmful to your hard and garden, so read the labels carefully to make sure they are safe to use around your home. There are numerous dog repellent sprays on the market. Many are meant to protect humans from dog attacks, but others are suited for yards and contain scents that dogs don't like. These dog repellents come in both granule and spray forms. Pro: Easily available to ready to use. Con: Might contain harsh chemicals. Critter Ridder is an organic dog repellent put out by the maker of Havahart traps (humane traps used to relocate live animals). Available in both granules and sprays, Critter Ridder works as a dog repellent because it gives off a smell of black pepper, which canines find offensive. Havahart also offers Cat & Dog Granular Animal Repellent. One major selling point of this product is that it is supposed to be long-lasting (up to 60 days). Pro: Organic option. Con: Users say it is not strong enough to ward off animals and needs to be frequently reapplied. Liquid Fence works on a different principle from many other dog repellents. It depends on the fact that dogs seek out areas with familiar smells to do their business. Liquid Fence masks those smells. So instead of repelling dogs with offensive odors, this product removes the welcoming odors and helps to keep dogs from peeing and pooping in your yard. Be sure to get the Liquid Fence specially formulated for dogs. Pro: Odorless once dried. Con: Can be harmful if swallowed. Certain types of fertilizers can actually attract dogs, especially ones that contain bone meal, fish, and blood. The smells of these products can bring in curious canines who might be interested in eating the fertilizer. To avoid unintentionally drawing dogs to your lawn, try switching to a plant-based fertilizer. Its smells shouldn't be as appealing to canines. Pro: An organic option to use for gardening. Con: Quick-release options can be too rich for your lawn and plants and lead to plant burn. A natural plant barrier can be effective in keeping dogs away from your yard. Specifically, prickly or thorny plants can do well to deter dogs—especially in hedge form or otherwise planted close together. Even just a thick boxwood hedge could do the trick, if you don't want to get something prickly. Some dogs also don't like to walk on ground cover plants, especially vining ground covers that would be cumbersome to walk through. Freshly planted or harvested thyme, rosemary, mint, and basil have been known to repel dogs. The intense aroma that these herbs emit is due to a high concentration of oil that dogs are not fond of and will likely stay away from, so consider adding these herbs as well. Pro: Odorless once dried. Con: Might not work for those who don't have the time or want to care for their plants. Unlike dog repellents, the common ones, granules, or spray (liquid) form, no reapplication is required with gadgets like motion-activated scarecrow sprinklers. These can be found under many brand names, such as Orbit, Havahart, and Hoont. Just hook the scarecrow sprinkler up to your garden hose, and let its motion-activated sprinkler mechanism do the work to scare dogs away. Another advantage of this product is that there is no need to take separate control measures against each of the various types of pests that might infiltrate your yard. Scarecrow sprinklers will repel stray cats and garden pests just as surely as they will keep dogs away from your yard. Pro: Motion-activated and can repel other animals. Con: Can be considered an eyesore for some people. Yard Gard is a safe, silent, and electronic dog repellent. Like scarecrow sprinklers, it is effective against other pests, as well. But unlike a scarecrow sprinkler, you have a choice of two modes. You can continually blast would-be pests 24/7 or allow its motion-activated mechanism to alert it when pests approach. This dog repellent works by emitting sonic and ultrasonic sound waves that canines find offensive (but humans can't hear). Mount it on an outdoor storage shed, tree, or fence near where stray dogs tend to roam. The units typically have a plug or run on batteries. Pro: Quiet. Con: Needs to be mounted and cannot be concealed. Credit: The Spruce / Almar Creative While putting up a fence is usually a considerable expense, it can offer multiple benefits. Not only does fences provide privacy and curb appeal, but they also can keep stray dogs out of your yard and away from your landscaping. Pro: The best physical option to keep animals out of your yard. Con: Expensive. Here are a few relatively affordable options for fencing that can keep stray dogs off your lawn. For a rustic yard, erect a chain-link fence accented with painted horizontal wood boards. For less public areas of your yard, consider mesh or hardware cloth containment fencing, which is also often used to keep deer out of your yard. For your front yard, you might only need a short picket fence that's just restrictive enough to keep curious canines off your property. You also can put short landscape fencing directly around plants you want to protect. Credit: The Spruce / Almar Creative To keep dogs away from your plants or from digging holes in your garden, lay chicken wire over the soil and weigh it down with some mulch to protect your plants from muddy paws. If you're trying to keep your neighbor's dog out of your yard, the best scenario would be for them to understand your concerns and work with you. They might not realize that their dog roams in your yard is a problem, so your first step is to bring it up in a non-accusatory manner. You can say that you have plants or use lawn chemicals that are toxic to dogs as encouragement for your neighbor to keep their dog on their own property. Or if you have children, your own pets, or allergies, you can bring those up as reasons for the dog to remain on its own property. If your neighbor still isn't cooperating, it's time to check your local ordinances to determine the rules for loose pets and not picking up after pets. Take photos and/or videos of the dog when it's breaking any of these ordinances, and report it to your local authorities. Issuing the dog's owner a ticket is a common punishment for breaking such ordinances. FAQ Yes, marigolds, as well as calendulas, have been known plants to keep dogs away. They are nontoxic to dogs, so they are safe to plant. Citrus is the most popular scent that is used to deter dogs. Whether you use it in spray form or the peel of a fresh orange or lemon, the slightest whiff of citrus is enough to repel your dog from any area you choose. Citrus is toxic to dogs, so if you suspect your dog has ingested citrus, contact your vet immediately. Dogs are usually quite instinctive and curious, which is why they often end up getting into trouble. Some like to rummage through garbage, chew on furniture and shoes, and even dig or defecate in the garden. Do you have a dog at home and want to keep it away from a specific area? Don't know how to chase away the neighbor's intruding dog? Here we explain how to make the best homemade dog repellents. They are all natural, safe, easy to prepare, and very effective. How to make a homemade dog repellent? Because it's sometimes easier to buy a commercial repellent, we don't realize that we already have everything we need to fix the problem at home. Dogs have an excellent sense of smell, so a good way to ward them off is through the smell of various common ingredients and products. This includes vinegar, citrus, garlic, cayenne pepper, and alcohol. All of these share the same characteristic, and that is that their smell is absolutely unpleasant for dogs. The pet will not want to go near the place where these aromas come from. Did you know...? Depending on the breed or type, a dog's sense of smell can be 10,000 - 100,000 times better than human smell. Dogs have up to 100,000 olfactory receptors in their nose, and the part of the brain that analyzes and processes aromas is proportionally 40 times larger than ours.⁷ Natural homemade dog repellentsVinegar sprayCitrus fruit repellentPreparation of garlic and cayenne pepper or chiliCitrone oil sprayCoffee powderMustard oil sprayEssential oil sprayLet's see why they work, how to prepare and how each of these is applied...1. Vinegar SprayWhy overspend on dog repellent when you already have vinegar in your kitchen? In fact, vinegar is one of the key ingredients in many of these commercial products. Thanks to its intense smell, household vinegar is often one of the strongest and most effective dog repellents. It is also very versatile; You can use it both indoors and outdoors. Specifically for interior use, it is recommended to apply a clear type of vinegar, such as white or apple cider vinegar. These are better options to prevent the dog from climbing on the sofa or chewing things (furniture, carpets, curtains) since they are less likely to leave stains. In a spray container, add vinegar and water (50/50). To use it, simply spray the mixture on the areas or objects that you do not want the dog to go near. You can also soak cotton balls and place them around. In case you want a more powerful vinegar repellent, mix white vinegar with apple cider vinegar, without adding much water. When using it outdoors, avoid spraying it directly on the ground where there are plants. 2. Citrus Fruit RepellentAlthough we find it very pleasant, most dogs and cats do not like the smell of citrus at all. This type of repellent can be an excellent alternative to frighten dogs inside and outside the home. All parts of the fruit are useful, both the juice and the peel. One way to prevent it is to squeeze the juice from several lemons, add a little water to dilute, and place it in a spray bottle. For added potency, you can add lemon zest to the mix. Let stand 1-2 hours and proceed to apply it in the chosen areas to scare away the pet. Do you not want your dog, the neighbor's dog, or a stray dog to enter your garden? Collect plenty of lemon, orange, grapefruit peels, cut them into pieces, and spread them around the garden or patio. In addition to keeping dogs away, they will help eliminate ants and other insects. 3. Preparation of garlic and cayenne pepper or chiliTwo very popular repellent ingredients are hot chili pepper and cayenne pepper. No wonder they are often used in commercial organic repellents. The pungent compounds in these peppers are known to be very irritating to the dog, especially the sensitive skin and around his nose. Garlic, another spice with a strong odor and compounds, is also used in this preparation. To 1 liter of warm water, add several chilies or cayenne pepper (whatever you have on hand), 1/2 crushed garlic cloves, and 1 teaspoon of liquid dish soap. Let the mixture sit for 24 hours. After a day, strain the preparation and pour the resulting liquid into a spray bottle. The result will be a powerful outdoor repellent, capable of scaring away not only the dog but also any intruding animal. Note: Be warned that chili, black pepper, and cayenne pepper can irritate or burn your dog's skin if he comes into direct contact with them. 4. Citronella Oil SprayCitrone is commonly used as an insect repellent, but did you know that dogs don't like the smell of it either? Lemongrass essential oil is often very helpful in deterring dogs from digging or defecating in the garden. Simply mix 1/2 cup of citronella oil with 6 cups of water, pour the mixture into a spray container, and spray it on the places you don't want your dog to go. It is recommended to apply consistently for 1 week until the dog understands that it is not allowed to approach. Warning: A very high concentration of citronella can be harmful to the pet. Likewise, it is not recommended to have the citronella plant at home due to the risk of poisoning by ingestion. 5. Coffee beans or groundsDo not rush to throw the grounds or remains of ground coffee in the trash. A good way to recycle it is to use it as a dog repellent in the garden or patio. You just have to spread it over the external areas you want to protect. Coffee is effective as a natural dog and cat repellent. 6. Mustard Oil SprayPerhaps this is one of the least known repellent remedies. Dogs do not like the smell or taste of mustard oil, which is why we can also use it to keep them away. Spray or smear the oil on the areas you want to keep dog-free...and that's it. 7. Essential oil sprayDon't know what to do to prevent your dog from rummaging through the garbage? Prepare a mixture of essential oils with repellent action on dogs. To a spray bottle of water, add 2-3 drops of cinnamon, orange, eucalyptus, and lemon oil. Shake well and spray the mixture on garbage containers, corners, and other necessary areas. Other effective homemade dog repellentsAlthough they are not exactly natural ingredients, we do not want to fail to mention 2 very popular homemade repellents for dogs: alcohol and ammonia. Alcohol for external usesProprietary alcohol's strong odor makes it a powerful dog repellent. The best way to use it is to soak some cotton balls and place them strategically in the areas where you don't want your dog to be. Unlike other repellents, spraying is not recommended. Ammonia already smells strong enough to us, imagine how unpleasant it can be for dogs. In fact, it is said to be the most effective repellent of all. You can place cotton balls soaked in ammonia both indoors and outdoors. Commonly, it is used to prevent the dog from entering a room or to prevent it from biting and scratching furniture. If you want to use it to scare dogs away from the garden, it should not be poured directly on the ground, as it can damage the lawn and plants. Are natural dog repellents safe?Homemade dog repellents made from natural ingredients are generally safe for most dogs, as long as they are prepared and applied correctly. Consider that some substances, essential oils, and spices should not be ingested by the pet, or applied directly to it. Many of these ingredients are used in the manufacture of commercial repellents. Note: Consult your veterinarian before using the repellents listed above, or any other remedy, to deter dogs and cats. Believe it or not, a lot of humans do not like dogs. Even those of us that do love canines, don't like being confronted by an aggressive dog. If you'd like to have a safe, effective way to ward off strange dogs a repellent spray is the perfect answer. These homemade dog repellent sprays are easy to make and the ingredients are surprisingly cheap! Although used in different ways, dog repellents are most commonly used by delivery people, walkers, joggers and other humans to keep strange dogs at bay. They can also be used to repel dogs from getting into things and places that they shouldn't. You can use repellent sprays to keep your dog away from house plants, gardens, garbage cans or furniture. So, what's the difference between natural or homemade dog repellents and chemical dog repellents? Isn't the latter more effective? The main reason why experts discourage using chemical repellents is that they can be dangerous - even life-threatening - to your pets. That's why you have to be extra careful when using them. Household dog repellent Spray Repellent: Canine have approximately 300 more olfactory receptors in their noses, which means they have about 6 million. Dogs are also extra sensitive to the smell of citrus and to its sharp, citrusy odor. Even the most mischievous dogs don't like this smell. If you're planning to use citronella oil as one of your main ingredients, be sure to dilute it first to avoid accidentally poisoning your dog. To do this mix 1/2 cup of water with 24 drops of citronella oil with 2 cups of water and put it in a spray bottle. You can use the diluted citronella immediately. Just be sure to give the bottle a good shake before use. #2. Citrus Spray Dogs loathe the scent of any citrus fruit, so you can use the peels of oranges, lemon, or even grapefruit to make homemade repellent sprays. You can also use the extracts of the fruits themselves for maximum effect. To make this recipe, you can create a concoction of any citrus fruit and mix it with water. It depends on you what citrus fruits and how many of them you'd like to use. You can also soak the peels of the citrus fruits in 1/2 cup of water and mix it with two tablespoons of vinegar. Leave them overnight before straining the solids away. If you're looking to repel dogs from a certain area, you can place the fruit peels within the area you're trying to protect. As soon as the dog catches the scent of the peels, you can expect him to run away to clean his nose of the overpowering scent. #3. Garlic You can also create a natural dog repellent from the pungent smell of garlic. To do this, you mix 2 tablespoons of crushed garlic, 1 tablespoon of chili powder, 2 tablespoons of chopped onion and 2 drops of dish soap in 1 cup of warm water. Let this mixture sit for at least 24 hours, and strain out the solids. Pour the liquid into a spray bottle, and you have a very powerful dog repellent spray. The main thing that you must remember is to avoid spraying these repellents directly on the canine. The main point of using natural dog repellents is to deter dogs from approaching your or entering a forbidden area. You don't want to hurt the dog. Spray your repellent spray and continue walking at a slow pace away from the area. Do not panic and do not begin to run. You want to repel the dog, and show the dog that you are leaving without threatening his territory. READ NEXT: How To Handle Aggressive Dogs You love your canine best friend, but doesn't seem to be getting along with him. He keeps getting into your plants or vegetable garden. He digs up your ornamental flowers before they have a chance to thrive, and does his business in all the wrong places. Fortunately, dog repellent can help. Here are 13 natural repellents that you can try to keep your dog out of trouble. They're all non-toxic methods that are known to work—it just depends on what's most effective for your own pup. 13 Natural Ways to Make Homemade Dog Repellent 3194556 / Pixabay As much as we love them, dogs can seriously harm our gardens and lawns. If your dog is digging up plants, you need a safe, dog-friendly way to keep him or her away from your flowers and vegetables. Most importantly, these methods need to be cost-effective, and safe for your pup if he were to get to the plants despite your best efforts. Homemade repellents come in varying forms, from solutions you put in a spray bottle to ones you soak with cotton balls. Below are 13 natural tricks to keep dogs away from your plants and veggies. 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The main reason why experts discourage using chemical repellents is that they can be dangerous - even life-threatening - to your pets. That's why you have to be extra careful when using them. Household dog repellent Spray Repellent: Canine have approximately 300 more olfactory receptors in their noses, which means they have about 6 million. Dogs are also extra sensitive to the smell of citrus and to its sharp, citrusy odor. Even the most mischievous dogs don't like this smell. If you're planning to use citronella oil as one of your main ingredients, be sure to dilute it first to avoid accidentally poisoning your dog. To do this mix 1/2 cup of water with 24 drops of citronella oil with 2 cups of water and put it in a spray bottle. You can use the diluted citronella immediately. Just be sure to give the bottle a good shake before use. #2. Citrus Spray Dogs loathe the scent of any citrus fruit, so you can use the peels of oranges, lemon, or even grapefruit to make homemade repellent sprays. You can also use the extracts of the fruits themselves for maximum effect. To make this recipe, you can create a concoction of any citrus fruit and mix it with water. It depends on you what citrus fruits and

and safe repellent to help stop his antics. Lynn Greyling/PublicDomain Pictures Homemade dog repellents can include natural ingredients like citrus, cayenne peppers, vinegar, mustard oil and coffee grounds, each disliked by dogs for their strong smells or tastes. These repellents are easy to make, safe for the environment and effective in keeping dogs away from gardens and furniture without posing a risk to their health. Do not use ammonia as a repellent because it can be potentially harmful if a dog consumes it. Man's best friends may be great for companionship, but they sure can wreak havoc on gardens and upholstery. Whatever the reason you want to keep a dog away, there are many dog repellents that are easy and cheap to make at home. All of these listed are 100 percent safe for dogs and the environment: Citrus. Dogs find the smell of citrus horrendous. You can protect your garden by placing slices of oranges or lemons throughout the flowerbed. To keep your dog off of your furniture, place a glass of lemon water on a nearby table or spray your furniture with the mixture. Cayenne peppers. Though cayenne peppers will not harm your dog, they will irritate his eyes, nose and throat. To keep your dog out of your flowerbed, grind a mixture of black pepper and cayenne pepper, and sprinkle it throughout your garden. A good trick for getting your dog to avoid the upholstery is to sprinkle cayenne pepper in your potpourri or leave a bowl of ornamental chilies next to the sofa. Vinegar. Dogs strongly dislike the odor of vinegar. Vinegar can be potentially dangerous for plants, so don't spray vinegar in your garden. Instead, douse biodegradable coffee filters in white vinegar and allow them to dry in the sun. Once completely dried, cut the filters into thin strips about the length of a toothpick. Spreading the strips throughout your garden will repel your dog and allow your flowers to thrive. Mustard oil. Dogs hate the smell and taste of mustard oil, so spray it around the area you want your dog to avoid and watch it do its magic. Dog poop. Try placing some of your dog's poop in holes that he has dug and you can bet that he won't dig in them again. Strategically place some in holes all around his favorite digging spots and watch him lose interest in encountering his own waste. Coffee grounds. Coffee is another smell that dogs aren't fond of — and coffee grounds are great for your garden soils as well. Just scatter them on top of the soil and your dog will stay away. Important note: Do not use ammonia as a dog repellent. While ammonia will keep dogs away from almost anything because the smell irritates their noses, it can cause damage to their throats and stomachs if consumed. Always check with your vet before using any chemical or substance around your pets. Now That's a Doggone Good Idea! According to www.ehow.com, a great way to stop Fido from trying to dig in the garden is to bury flat rocks just below the surface at noted digging spots. Or, if you have a sprinkler system, set up a motion detector to spray your pup off at the first sign of a dig. It's perfectly normal to have a dog dig in your yard, but you can certainly keep him from doing it in your flower beds.