

DOGS' COMPLEX CIRCULATION

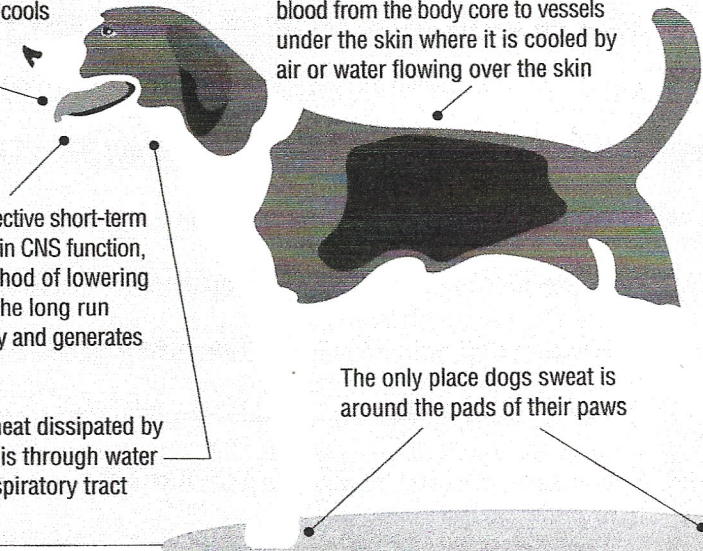
A dog compensates for overheating by panting, which causes salivation. As saliva evaporates, it cools the blood going to the brain, helping to maintain central nervous system (CNS) functioning

While panting is an effective short-term solution to help maintain CNS function, it is an inefficient method of lowering body temperature in the long run because it uses energy and generates additional heat

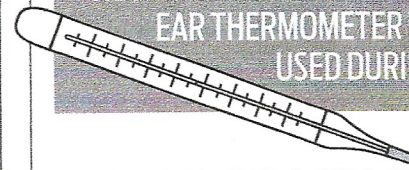
About 60 percent of heat dissipated by dogs during exercise is through water evaporation in the respiratory tract

In extreme conditions, a dog's body redirects the flow of warm blood from the body core to vessels under the skin where it is cooled by air or water flowing over the skin

The only place dogs sweat is around the pads of their paws



TRAINERS SHOULD CARRY A RECTAL OR EAR THERMOMETER THAT CAN BE USED DURING TRAINING



MONITOR YOUR DOG'S TEMPERATURE

A DOG'S BODY TEMPERATURE IS NORMALLY BETWEEN

100 TO 102.5 DEGREES

TAKE YOUR DOG'S TEMPERATURE AT THE FIRST SIGN OF DISTRESS OR AFTER EXERCISE. IF IT IS ABOVE 105 DEGREES, START COOLING DOWN YOUR DOG RIGHT AWAY

HOW TO HELP AN OVERHEATED DOG

FIRST, COOL DOWN YOUR DOG, and then work on restoring hydration

IF POSSIBLE, TRY TO KEEP THE DOG MOVING by encouraging standing or walking slowly. The circulating blood tends to pool in certain areas if a dog is lying down, thus preventing the cooled blood from circulating back to the core

APPLY COOL WATER to the foot pads



ALLOW THE DOG TO DRINK SMALL AMOUNTS OF WATER, BUT DO NOT LET THE DOG GULP WATER, AS DRINKING TOO MUCH WATER TOO RAPIDLY COULD CAUSE VOMITING

USE COOL WATER

under the dog's front legs and in the groin area where there is a higher concentration of large blood vessels to aid cooling

DO NOT COVER A DOG WITH A WET TOWEL OR BLANKET, as you want to be sure the water can evaporate and this inhibits evaporation by creating a sauna effect

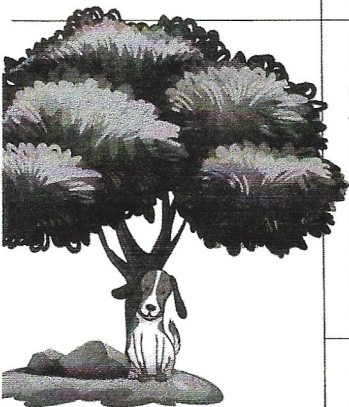
After wetting down a dog, do not put the dog in an enclosed kennel, as this reduces air flow that would benefit the cooling process

SITTING WITH A WET DOG IN A VEHICLE WITH THE AIR CONDITIONER BLOWING HELPS COOLING

IMMEDIATELY AFTER HARD WORK, A SPORTING DOG'S TEMPERATURE MAY BE AS HIGH AS 107 DEGREES. WITHIN 5 MINUTES, THE TEMPERATURE SHOULD DECLINE TO BELOW 104 DEGREES

IF A DOG'S TEMPERATURE REMAINS ABOVE 104 DEGREES,

THE DOG IS LIKELY SUFFERING FROM HEAT STRESS AND REQUIRES IMMEDIATE VETERINARY CARE



GET THE DOG INTO SHADE OUT OF DIRECT SUNLIGHT