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Summer is here and we've already had several questions about whether or not to apply sunscreen to your pet's skin. And the answer is, yes! Areas of non-pigmented, non-haired skin are most at risk for being burnt. Usually the bridge of the nose, ear flaps and abdomen are the most at risk areas. Hairless breeds such as Chinese-crested dogs and Sphynx cats are also at increased risk. Since dogs and cats are likely to lick the lotion, you should use pet sunscreen or baby sunscreen. Pet sunscreens don't have SPF labels, so keywords to look for are that they provide UVA and UVB barriers and are non-scented and non-staining. Baby sunscreen should be SPF 15 to 30. Don't forget to re-apply every 4-6 hours. Enjoy the summer outdoors with your pets!

Submitted by: Dr. Kevin Schmidt



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