



HOLIDAY'S CATS TOXIC LIST



The HOLIDAYS are a busy and stressful time of the year without having to worry about potentially pet Poisoning. Watch out for the following items and keep your cat safe.

HOLIDAY ORNAMENTS

Holiday decorations such as snow globes or bubble light may contain poisonous chemicals. If your cat chews on them, the liquid inside, Methylene chloride can result in depression, irritation to skin, eyes and gastrointestinal tract. **WATCH OUT** for Imported Snow Globes that might have **ANTIFREEZE** (Ethylene Glycol). The ingestion of as little as one teaspoon of antifreeze by a cat can be fatal.

TINSEL

Please **FORGO THE TINSEL!** What looks like a shiny and very attractive toy to your cat can prove deadly if ingested. It does not pose a poisoning risk; but if ingested, can cause severe damage to a cat's intestinal tract. Treatment involves expensive abdominal surgery.



SEASONAL PLANTS

POINSETTIAS - Though they have a bad rap, POINSETTIAS are **MILDLY** toxic only.

LILIES - Far more worrisome... **TIGER, ASIATIC, STARGAZER, EASTER & DAY LILIES**, are the most dangerous of the group. Ingestion of one or two leaves or flower petals is enough to cause sudden kidney failure in cats, according to Dr. Ahna Brutlang, Assistant Director of the Pet Poison Helpline.



HOLLY BERRIES & MISTLETOE - Can also be toxic to cats and cause gastrointestinal upset or even heart arrhythmia if ingested.

ALCOHOL

Because **ALCOHOL** is rapidly absorbed into the bloodstream, it affects your cat quickly. Ingestion of alcohol can cause dangerous drops in blood sugar, blood pressure and body temperature. Intoxicated animals can experience seizures and respiratory failure.

HOLIDAY FOODS

Please keep your cat on his regular diet over the Holidays and do not let family and friends sneak in treats

GRAPES, RAISINS & CURRANTS - These foods can present problems to your cat and can result in kidney failure.

CHOCOLATE & COCOA - They both contains Theobromine - a chemical **HIGHLY** toxic to cats and dogs. Ingestion in small amounts can cause vomiting; large amounts can cause seizures and heart arrhythmias.

XYLITOL - Many sugarless gums and candies contain **XYLITOL**, an artificial sweetener that is very toxic. It causes life-threatening drop in blood sugar and liver failure.

LIQUID POTPOURRI AND SCENTED OILS

Filling your house with the smell of pine or nutmeg is very inviting - but scented oils and diffusers can cause serious harm to your cat. Even a few licks or exposure to diffusers can cause severe chemical burns, difficulty breathing and tremors.

IF YOU THINK YOUR CAT HAS BEEN POISONED OR EXPOSED TO ANY TOXIC SUBSTANCE, CONTACT IMMEDIATELY YOUR VETERINARIAN OR THE PET POISON HELPLINE @ 855.764.7661.