



Thank you very much for considering Canine Massage Therapy as a treatment for your dog

For and around the day of treatment there are a few things that ought to be taken into consideration:

- Please set aside approximately 1 hour 15 for my first visit (we have to deal with some paperwork and assess your dog's lifestyle and existing problems) and 1 hour each for the following visits.
- Try and avoid topical flea treatments within a couple of days of treatment
- If you are having any other therapies it is best to leave at least 2 days between treatments.
- Your treatment must be postponed if your dog falls ill such as sickness, diarrhoea or infection.
- Please do not feed or exercise your dog 2 hours either side of the treatment.
- Please ensure that your dog had a chance to relieve itself before we start treatment.
- I endeavour to work in harmony with your dog. With this in mind it is important that your dog is comfortable with all aspects of the treatment and as such the length of the sessions is very much driven by what your dog is happy to tolerate. This may mean that the first session or two are shorter or it may appear that we do not achieve much. If at all possible I work on the floor with your dog, allow them to move away and do not restrain or muzzle your dog. The therapy is more effective when your dog is relaxed and does not feel threatened in any way.
- It is generally better for you to remain in the room to re-assure the dog, but all dogs are individuals, and this may change. Treats are sometimes helpful if your dog is reluctant to treatment but often they can cause too much of a distraction. If you think your dog will be agitated and treats will help then speak to me when you arrive.
- The post-treatment walk on the day should be restricted to gentle lead exercise.
- Ideally, gentle lead exercise should also be adhered to in the next 2 days following treatment, even if your dog appears to be happier in themself.
- If your dog takes part in events/competitions, no competition for 7-10 days is advised; ideal would be a break of 6 weeks if we are treating an injury.
- Post-treatment your dog might be tired and thirsty. Please provide plenty of fresh water.



Pre-treatment questions (these, amongst other questions, will be asked during the consultation so can you either make a written or memory note)

1. Has your dog, AT ANY TIME, had a physical trauma during their lifetime, fallen off something/road accident/hit by something/crashed into by something or anything else along these lines?
2. What distance would you say they were comfortable to walk (time and/or distance)?
3. How long in time (on average) are they exercised over the week?
4. Are they able to walk, trot and run? If not which gait do they prefer?
5. How do they sit? (e.g. always on one side?)
6. How do they lie down? (i.e. always on one side/ and when going to lie down do they go down slowly/quickly/front legs first/back first?)
7. How do they shake? (Is the shake continuous all the way down the body?)
8. Do they stretch both their front legs and their back legs? If not, which ones or not at all?

As with any complimentary therapy, there is a chance that, post-treatment, the symptoms your dog is displaying (e.g. lameness) do initially get worse. This is normal and we can discuss any concerns you may have on this matter.

I look forward to meeting you both.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch should you have any questions.

Jackie Dimmer

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