

# Koshland Pharm

Custom Compounding Pharmacy

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## **GIVING YOUR DOG CAPSULE MEDICATION:**

If there are no dietary restrictions for your dog, a veterinarian may recommend giving the medication with food. Here are some tips:

1. Give a small amount of food without the medication to lower your dog's suspicion.
2. Then hide the capsule in your dog's food. Do not mix the medication with the entire meal, since your dog may not finish their whole meal and will not receive the appropriate dose of medication.



If your dog does have dietary restrictions, will not accept the medication in food, or the medication cannot be taken with food, here are some tips:

1. Get the capsule out of the bottle and place it in a convenient location.
2. In a regular voice, call your dog over to the place in which the medication will be administered. If you do not sound worried or concerned, your dog will feel the same way.
3. Place your dog's hind end against something so that your dog cannot back away from you. It may help to place your dog on a surface above the floor.
4. Hold the capsule between your thumb and index finger. (If you are right-handed, use your right hand.)
5. Using your other hand, gently grasp your dog's muzzle from above with your thumb on one side and your fingers on the other.
6. Squeeze behind the upper canine teeth (long front teeth) and tilt your dog's head back so that they are looking at the ceiling. The lower jaw should drop automatically.
7. Using your other hand, lower the bottom jaw further by placing your fingers between the lower canine teeth (long front teeth) and pushing the jaw downward.
8. Quickly place the capsule as far back in your dog's mouth as possible, getting it over the hump of the tongue.
9. Close your dog's mouth and hold it closed. By lowering your dog's head back to a normal position, swallowing may be easier. Gently blowing or rubbing on your dog's nose may stimulate them to swallow.
10. Praise your dog and give them a treat, if appropriate, to help make administration of medication easier the next time.



**Disclaimer:** We want your pet to get the most benefit from his or her medicine. This handout is a summary of useful information to help you understand your pet's medication and to administer it safely. Other information about this medicine may be important for you to know. Please talk with your veterinarian for more information and other special considerations for your specific pet.