



FRANKTOWN ANIMAL CLINIC

Compassionate care for pets and their people.

CARING FOR YOUR SENIOR PET



What Pet Parents Should Know

Just like people, pets experience changes as they age. Dogs and cats are generally considered “seniors” around age 6-7, though this can vary depending on breed and size. While gray fur and slower steps are a natural part of aging, there are also important health considerations to keep in mind. With the right care, your furry friend can stay comfortable, active, and happy well into their golden years.



Common Concerns for Senior Pets

- **Arthritis & Mobility Issues** – Stiffness, difficulty getting up, or reluctance to climb stairs may signal joint pain.
- **Dental Disease** – Oral health problems are common in older pets and can affect their comfort, appetite, and overall well-being.
- **Weight & Nutrition** – Metabolism slows with age, making weight management and proper diet especially important.
- **Organ Health** – Senior pets are more prone to conditions such as kidney disease, diabetes, and heart disease.
- **Behavior Changes** – Confusion, disorientation, or changes in sleep patterns may be signs of cognitive decline.



Ways to Support Senior Pets

- **Regular Wellness Exams** – As pets age, more frequent checkups help catch potential health issues early, when they are most manageable.
- **Yearly (or Bi-Annual) Bloodwork** – Routine lab work provides a window into your pet's internal health, helping detect changes in kidney, liver, thyroid, or blood sugar levels before symptoms appear. Early detection often means more effective treatment.

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Ways to Support Senior Pets *(continued)*

- **Pain Management & Comfort** – From joint supplements to medications and lifestyle adjustments, at Franktown Animal Clinic, we can create a plan tailored to your pet's specific needs.
- **Dental Care** – Professional cleanings and at-home care protect not only the teeth but also your pet's overall health.
- **Tailored Nutrition** – Senior-specific diets can support joint health, organ function, and healthy weight.
- **Preventive Care** – Even in their golden years, pets still need to follow the recommended vaccine schedule as well as protection from parasites like fleas, ticks, and heartworms. Keeping up with preventive medications is an important part of maintaining long-term health.
- **Gentle Exercise** – Regular, low-impact activity such as short walks or light play helps maintain mobility and overall health.



Advanced Therapies for Senior Pets

In addition to traditional care, many families find that integrative therapies can make a real difference in their senior pet's quality of life. At Franktown Animal Clinic, we offer:

- **Acupuncture** – Helps manage pain, improves mobility, and supports overall wellness by stimulating the body's natural healing processes.
- **Chiropractic Care** – Gentle adjustments can improve mobility, reduce discomfort, and help senior pets move more freely.
- **Piezo Shockwave Therapy** – A non-invasive treatment that uses sound waves to reduce pain and inflammation, stimulate healing, and improve joint function.

These therapies can be especially helpful for pets with arthritis, chronic pain, or mobility challenges, and they often complement traditional treatments beautifully.

The Golden Years Can Be Great Years

We'd love to partner with you in giving your pet the comfort, care, and love they deserve! With attentive veterinary care, preventive wellness, and advanced therapies when needed, your senior pet can enjoy many more happy, healthy years by your side.

If your furry friend is reaching their senior stage, ask your pet's veterinarian about our comprehensive, preventative healthcare plans for senior pets.

Aging is a natural part of life, but it doesn't mean your pet can't continue to thrive.



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