

ASPIRIN For mild arthritis:

First let me say that “*aspirin*” is *inherently* not “perfectly safe” for dogs. It will almost always burn the stomach eventually. Aspirin for dogs should be “**buffered**” with carbonates for best results. If you use “enteric coated” you need to crack or score the coating before giving it.

This is NOT a note about Tylenol, Ibuprofen or anything OTHER than straight-up aspirin so, make no mistake.

I prefer **once-a-day dosing**. If you think twice a day dosing is important, your dog is in need of better medicine.

- A ten pounder can have HALF an 81mg 'baby' aspirin.
- A 20-30 pounder can have HALF of an adult 325mg aspirin.
- A 40+ pound dog can have a WHOLE adult 325mg aspirin.
- A 60+ pounder can have 1 and 1/2 of an adult 325mg aspirin.
- Anything over 70 pounds shouldn't really NEED two adult aspirins but give it a try. But that's the max.

It is important NOT to give aspirin *more* than four days a week because aspirin decreases the quantity AND quality of platelets in the dogs body which may contribute to stomach ulceration as well as easy bleeding.

There is ONE HARD rule:

Never more than four days per week.

I don't think of aspirin as a “forever” form of arthritis or pain management. Generally it's used to “test the idea” that the dog even benefits from arthritis medicine, or to give them something for a while UNTIL they seem to need something stronger. It will not be long before aspirin compounds are *inadequate* to control arthritis. It is true for humans as well, and they eventually end up on something stronger. Dogs are no exception, usually aspirin is “enough” for a year or less.

All of the above is predicated on the dog not being fat.

Fat dogs are simply going to suffer with arthritis whether you give them medicine or not. It is just physically and mechanically painful to carry a lot of weight when you are old.

It is **rare to find an owner** who will acknowledge that their pet is overweight, let alone do something about it. Therefore, medications to combat arthritis are always extremely in demand.

ALWAYS consider an anti-oxidant therapy WITH ASPIRIN for arthritis to include things LIKE (but not necessarily, Krill oil, NAC, geranyl geraniol, DHEA, Vitamin C. These are my favorite antioxidants for seniors.