

# How to Choose Safe and Appropriate Chew Toys for Dogs

*Fractured pet teeth are one of the more common dental problems encountered by veterinarians. In most cases, the problem is caused by dogs being allowed to chew on objects that are just too hard for their teeth.*

*Here are a few safe dental guidelines that should be followed when choosing a chew toy:*

1. The toy should be able to bend without breaking or splintering.
2. A thumbnail can indent into the toy.
3. You cannot pound a nail with the toy.
4. The toy can be thrown at one's kneecap without cringing.

*Always supervise your dog when he has the chew toy. No chew is 100% safe—even the toughest toys can't withstand prolonged and vigorous chewing! Your dog can easily choke or get hurt while chewing in your absence.*

*Choose toys that are the right size for your dog; larger toys for larger dogs, smaller toys for smaller dogs.*

*Check that the toy is made of non-toxic materials.*

*Talk to your veterinarian or a locally owned Pet Supply Store to get advice on the best and safest choice of toys for your dog.*

Soft, fluffy toys are safe for teeth, but as with all chew toys, they should be supervised to ensure the pet does not swallow any part of the toy, especially the squeaker!



**WAGGING TAILS PROJECT**

[www.facebook.com/Doggie Stuff](http://www.facebook.com/DoggieStuff)