

Quality of Life Scale for Cats and Dogs

This scale is meant to be used as an aid in helping you determine your pet's quality of life. It is not meant to be the sole resource for evaluating quality of life. Each pet has their own unique health circumstance that should be considered and even added as an additional category. Regular visits by your veterinarian are the best way to help assess your pet's quality of life, and to continue to do so as they age.

It is recommended that all pets receive an annual exam.

Pets 6 years of age or older should receive semi-annual exams along with some lab testing.

Answer the following 6 questions regarding your pet. Tally the corresponding number to each question's answer and use the chart at the end of the questions to get an idea on how your pet's quality of life scores.

APPETITE

2 Good appetite

1 Poor-usually eats only with assistance and coaxing

0 Not eating

BREATHING

2 Good

1 Changes in rate or quality are noticed

0 Breathing is rapid, labored, or abnormal

COMFORT

2 Relaxed when awake and sleeping

1 Sleeps comfortably but often anxious when awake

0 Not comfortable when awake and cannot get comfortable to sleep

DIGESTIVE AND URINARY

2 bowel movements and urination normal, no vomiting

1 Occasional abnormality in bowel movement or urination and/or occasional vomiting

0 Is not having normal bowel movements or urination and/or is vomiting

ENERGY AND MOBILITY

2 Good

1 Poor. Cannot walk much, has a hard time getting up or getting into the position for elimination

0 Cannot move on their own



FAVORITE THINGS

2 Still seeks out attention and enjoys certain activities

1 Reduced interest

0 No interest

QUALITY OF LIFE SCORE:

9-12: Doing OK

6-8: Needs help ASAP.

<5: Consider humane euthanasia.

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