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## Our Traveling Tips for Pugs: Safety and Heat Protection for Air Travel

When traveling by air, always insist that your pug ride in the passenger cabin under the seat in front of you in an airline-approved carry-on pet bag, like a *Sherpa Bag*. These are available at most pet stores or online. You will have to make reservations for your pug to fly onboard with you at the time you purchase your own tickets. Most airlines will charge a fee for each way and will only allow a certain number of in-cabin pets, so book your flight early and double-check with the airline agency when you buy your tickets. Many dogs have died in the cargo area of airplanes so AVOID risking this with your pug.

Not all airlines will allow dogs on their planes so be sure to call as soon as you know you are going to travel with your dog. Some airlines will have special requirements like the need for a health certificate signed by a veterinarian no earlier than 10 days before the flight.

Place a full roll of loose paper towel sheets to create a layer on the bottom of the *Sherpa Bag* just in case your pug cannot hold his/her bodily functions. Be sure to have several *Ziploc* baggies and pairs of disposable gloves in the side pocket of the *Sherpa Bag* for easy clean up and waste disposal.

Airplanes can get very hot while waiting to take off. Be sure to put a bottle of frozen water in the *Sherpa Bag* or place a *Rubbermaid Blue Ice* in there to keep her/him cool. Check with the airline first to make sure it's okay to bring this onboard. If restrictions prevent carrying on a frozen bottle of water or a *Rubbermaid Blue Ice* packet, then ask the flight attendant for several cups of ice that you can then place inside a couple of Ziploc baggies. Lay your cooling device on the floor of the airplane, and then lay the Sherpa Bag directly on the cooling device. This way, your pug has access to the cooler area without running the risk of skin irritant or injury.

*Full grown pugs can be heavy to carry if you have to run to catch a connecting flight. A Samsonite Compact Folding Luggage Cart provides a quick and easy solution to wheeling your pug along in the airport.*

Also when traveling, it is advisable to have your pug only drink bottled water since many cities use different chemicals in their water which can promote diarrhea in your dog.

### Types of Panting

Regular panting is steady but almost silent, and the pug's tongue is pink and barely visible. Over-panting is fast and noisy, and the dog's tongue is red and very visible or protruding from the mouth. If the dog begins to pant quickly and heavily and sounds like a freight train, spray it down with cool water on its feet and around its belly and anus. AVOID submerging an overheated dog in cold water all at once or it can have a heart attack! Instead, start by wetting the paws and belly region and work up. Get the dog to a cool area.

### **Quick First Aid for Overheating**

Overheating is serious and deadly for a pug. In the event your pug seems disoriented, lethargic, or passes out insert several ice cubes into the dog's anus and rush him to a veterinarian immediately.

Feel free to contact us if you have any questions about our process.

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