



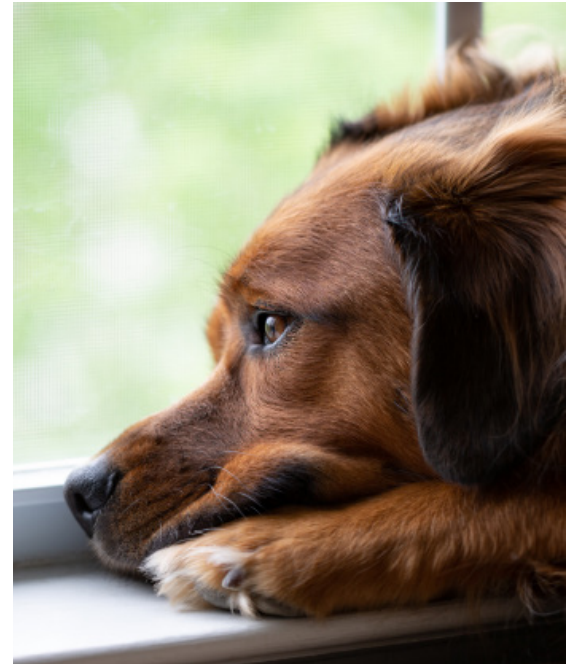
# Pet Loss Resources for Other Pets

## How Do Pets Grieve?

When a household pet passes away, your other pets may show signs of grief, which can range from subtle to significant changes in their behavior and mood. Pets often form strong bonds with each other, and the absence of a companion can disrupt the household dynamics. As a result, it's common for pets to go through a period of mourning and adjustment after experiencing a loss.

## Commonly Observed Grief Behaviors in Pets

- ✓ Changes in appetite
- ✓ Inappropriate elimination
- ✓ Increased or decreased vocalization
- ✓ Lethargy or withdrawn behavior
- ✓ Playing with toys that belonged to the pet who passed away
- ✓ Searching for the pet who passed away
- ✓ Sleeping where the other pet used to sleep
- ✓ Soliciting increased attention



## Helping Your Pet Through the Grieving Period

- ✓ If possible, maintain your pet's typical routine (feeding, exercise, and sleep).
- ✓ Respect your pet's wishes for attention. Some pets will solicit and appreciate extra attention during this time, while others will prefer their own space.
- ✓ Leave the TV or radio on when you leave the house.
- ✓ Reward calm and relaxed behaviors.

Signs of grief in pets can persist for several weeks to months, but generally, they should gradually improve. If you notice a significant reduction in your pet's appetite, a complete loss of appetite, or any other worrying physical symptoms or behaviors, it's important to contact your family veterinarian.

Source: University of Florida