

## Tips on How to Give your Dog Medication

<p><b><u>Method 1: With Food</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Hide the pill in a meatball, dog food or rolled in a slice of lunch meat</li><li>● If the pill is small, hide it in a chunk of soft cheese or a marshmallow, or rub the pill with butter or peanut butter</li></ul>	<p><b><u>Method 2: Crush the Pill</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Crush the pill into powder and thoroughly mix the powder that you created with a teaspoon of a soft, creamy treat that your dog loves: <i>a spoon-full of canned dog food, peanut butter or yogurt</i></li><li>● Let your dog lick the mixture off the spoon</li></ul>
<p><b><u>Method 3: Pill Push Method</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Gently open your dog's mouth, holding his or her lower jaw open</li><li>2. Put the pill on the back of the dog's tongue</li><li>3. Hold his mouth shut until he swallows. It may be difficult to see or feel the swallowing action, but if the dog licks his nose, it usually means he's swallowed the pill. Blowing on his nose for a second or two will help him swallow<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Gently rubbing up and down on the front of his throat while keeping his nose pointing up with your other hand will almost certainly cause him to swallow after a few seconds</li><li>● After it's all over, be sure to give him a treat – this makes it less difficult the next time</li></ul></li></ol>	<p><b><u>Method 4: Drop on the Floor Method</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Stand where you prepare food</li><li>2. Make sure your dog is watching, and any other dogs or animals are somewhere else</li><li>3. Put some kind of meat or whatever you have on hand on the counter</li><li>4. Casually drop the pill on the floor. (Some dogs just lunge for anything they think they are not supposed to have, especially if they think it is food)</li><li>5. If you see that in the first few seconds your dog is not going to get it, or is just sniffing it, pretend to lunge and try to take it away.</li></ol>

### **Other Tips and Tricks**

- Try taking the pill out of the packaging and letting it sit on the counter for a few minutes (or put it in the refrigerator)
- The pill push method sounds gross, but you won't choke him.
- If you have a large dog, you can also cut a chunk of unheated hot dog and push the pill into it.
- Put the pill into a dog treat.
- Using pill pockets available at your veterinarian sometimes work better than food.
- If your dog is trained to catch treats that are tossed, you can try treat, pill, treat. They'll swallow the pill in anticipation of the second treat being tossed.
- First, you should just try giving the pill to your dog. S/he may want to eat it.
- If you are still having issues, hold his jaw shut with pill/cheese inside and gently stroke his throat with your other hand. This will stimulate his swallow reflex and he will have to swallow.
- You could try when your dog is really hungry, feed him a little bit of food with the pill in it he'll lap it right up.
- Rub your hand over the dog's throat after he swallows the pill to make sure that it goes down smoothly. Have your dog drink some water if he needs to.