







# BEAP Pain Scale for Dogs

Many signs of chronic pain are non-specific.  
Make sure to see your vet to rule out other diseases as a cause of these signs.

<p><b>0</b> No pain</p>		<p><input type="checkbox"/> B: Breathing normally</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> E: Eyes bright and alert</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A: Walks normally on all four legs; no lameness present</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A: Engages in play and all normal activities</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> A: Eating and drinking normally</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A: Happy; interested in surroundings and playing; seeks attention</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> P: Comfortable at rest and during play; perky ears and wagging tail</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> P: Enjoys being touched and petted; no body tension present</p>
<p><b>1-2</b> Mild pain <i>Speak to your vet during your next visit</i></p>		<p><input type="checkbox"/> B: Breathing normally</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> E: Eyes bright and alert</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A: Walks normally; may exhibit very subtle lameness when walking</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A: May show first signs of being just a little slower to lie down or rise up (subtle)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> A: Eating and drinking normally</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A: Happy and engaged, may seem a little more subdued with some "off" moments interspersed with normal behaviors</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> P: May show occasional shifting of position; tail may be down just a little more, ears slightly flatter</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> P: Enjoys being touched and petted; no body tension present</p>
<p><b>3-4</b> Moderate pain <i>See your vet to assess pain</i></p>		<p><input type="checkbox"/> B: May pant intermittently</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> E: Eyes slightly duller in appearance; can have a slightly furrowed brow</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A: Noticeably slower to lie down or rise up; may exhibit lameness when walking</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A: May be slightly unsettled and more restless; difficulty getting comfortable; shifting weight</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> A: Appetite more finicky, such as wanting only treats or "people" food</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A: Subdued; engages less or does not initiate play</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> P: Difficulty squatting or lifting leg to urinate, subtle changes in posture; tail more tucked and ears more flattened</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> P: Does not mind touch except on painful area; turns head to look where touched; mild body tension</p>
<p><b>5-6</b> Moderate to severe pain <b>CONCERNING!</b> <i>See your vet</i></p>		<p><input type="checkbox"/> B: Panting often noted, possibly with an increased breathing effort</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> E: Dull eyes, worried look</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A: Very slow to rise up and lie down; hesitation with movement; difficulty on stairs; reluctant to come when called; more obvious lameness</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A: Not eager to interact but may be in tune with surroundings; obvious lameness when walking; may lick painful area</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> A: Will frequently lose appetite</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A: Anxious or restless; unable to settle or sleep well</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> P: Abnormal weight distribution when standing; difficulty posturing to eliminate; arched back, tucked belly, head hanging low; tucked tail; frequently shifts positions; ears more flattened</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> P: Pulls away painful area when touched; moderate body tension when being touched</p>
<p><b>7-8</b> Severe pain <b>VERY CONCERNING!</b> <i>See your vet</i></p>		<p><input type="checkbox"/> B: Faster breathing rate with more noticeable effort; frequent panting episodes common</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> E: Dull eyes, may also have distressed look</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A: Obvious difficulty rising up or lying down; will not bear weight on affected leg; avoids stairs; obvious lameness</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A: Avoids interaction with family or environment; will often "go off" or hide; may frequently lick painful area</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> A: Loss of appetite; may not want to drink</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A: Agitated, fearful, worried, reclusive, potentially aggressive</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> P: Tail tucked, ears flattened or pinned back; abnormal posture when standing; more hesitant to move or stand</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> P: Significant body tension when painful area touched; may vocalize in pain; guards painful area by pulling away or changing position</p>
<p><b>9-10</b> Worst pain possible <b>EMERGENCY!</b> <i>See your vet</i></p>		<p><input type="checkbox"/> B: Panting; increased breathing rate and effort</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> E: Dull eyes; may have panicked look</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A: May refuse to get up; may not be able to (or willing to) take more than a few steps; will not bear weight on painful limb</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A: Difficulty in being distracted from pain, even with gentle touch or soothing voice</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> A: No interest in food or water</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A: Extremely depressed or minimally responsive ("flat out"); may vocalize in pain; in distress at rest</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> P: Prefers lying position or being on side; flat or pinned ears; may prefer to be very tucked up or stretched out</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> P: Severe body tension when touched; will not tolerate touch of painful area; becomes fearful when other areas that are not painful are touched</p>

## Specific behaviors or physical changes I see:

Breathing: _____	Appetite: _____
Eyes: _____	Attitude: _____
Ambulation: _____	Posture: _____
Activity: _____	Palpation: _____