

# How to Take Good Pictures and Videos of your Pet for your Vet

Veterinary telehealth through Anippanion allows you to send pictures and videos of your pet to your vet! A visual of your pet can give your veterinary professional valuable information to properly care for your fur baby and appropriately guide you in next steps. Through Anippanion's chat feature you can send a picture of Gracie's post-operative spay incision to make sure it is healing well. Send a video of Thor limping that just started today, or an image of Sadie's broken nail. Your veterinary profession will be able to evaluate the images and respond back to you with advice, guidance, or even a treatment plan to appropriately care for your furry friend. Here are some tips to help take good quality pictures and videos.

- Make sure the image is in focus. Blurry images are very difficult to interpret. Many phones and devices have an auto-focus feature that can help.
- Use proper lighting. Photos and videos that are too dark are oftentimes unable to be read accurately. The ideal light source is from that of a window, but a flashlight, or good overhead lighting will suffice.
- Once connected, your Anippanion real-time session will begin with the veterinarian or veterinary nurse.
- Send multiple pictures with different angles to help the veterinary professional analyze the medical concern.
- The distance to the area of concern is important.
  - Always take an establishing image, or a far away image, of the medical issue. This allows the veterinarian to see where the problem is located on the body.
  - Next, if taking a picture of something small, like a wound, get closer to the affected area. Also place something beside the area to help scale the problem. For instance, if photographing a lump, place a small ruler, pen, or quarter next to the area if possible, so size can be approximated from the photo.
  - If the issue is bigger and involves a larger portion of your pet like an abnormal gait or abnormal breathing, get further away and place as much of your pet as possible into view.
- A second set of hands can be extremely helpful. One person can hold and comfort your pet, while the other snaps a picture or begins video recording.
- Try not to stress your pet during the photo session. If your pet is unwilling to have the area affected handled for imaging, give him or her a break and try again.
- Give treats to get your pet to cooperate if appropriate.
- If your pet seems severely painful when handled or becomes aggressive when obtaining pictures and video, stop. Do not force your pet to do anything that he or she does not want to do.

The better the quality of your images, the more information your veterinary professional can obtain from the photos or videos. The images you send to your vet hospital through Anippanion will be interpreted remotely, so you and your pet can stay safely at home while you wait for guidance. Anippanion's ability to provide telehealth for pet parents allows for better access to veterinary care, saves travel time and cost, and decreases stress for you and your pet.