



Skunk Smell/Spray Removal



Removing the smell from skunk spray is easiest the faster you are able to start this process. This guide will help tame the odor, but may not completely remove it. Unfortunately, there is not 100% effective solution out there. It's best to wear rubber/latex gloves and old clothes that you won't mind throwing out if necessary. Be sure to check your pet over for any bites or scratches and call us if you find any wounds. Remember to check the eyes as well for redness or discharge as it is very common for pets to get sprayed in the face.

What you'll need:

- ⊕ Old clothes or apron
- ⊕ Rubber/Latex gloves
- ⊕ Towels
- ⊕ Plastic container to mix ingredients
- ⊕ 1 qt (32 fl oz) Hydrogen Peroxide 3%
- ⊕ ¼ cup Baking Soda (Sodium Bicarbonate)
- ⊕ 1 – 2 tsp Dish detergent (Dawn works well; or any brand boasting oil/grease cutting properties)
- ⊕ Eye lubricating gel

What to do:

- ◆ You are going to need to bathe your pet so get everything ready beforehand.
- ◆ If you have some at home and you feel comfortable using, apply a small strip of eye lubricant (such as GenTeal) to your pet's eyes. This will help protect the eyes in case any of the solution splashes or drips in. If you are uncomfortable doing this or notice any redness or discharge from the eyes, call us first.
- ◆ In the plastic container, combine 1 quart hydrogen peroxide, 1/4 cup baking soda and 1 to 2 teaspoons of liquid soap. Add lukewarm water if needed (for larger dogs). Mix ingredients well. The solution will fizz, as a chemical reaction is occurring. Use immediately - do not store and NEVER cover.
- ◆ This works best if the solution is applied directly to the oily skunk spray so do not soak your pet with water prior to bathing. Begin cleansing the affected areas thoroughly, massaging the solution deep into your pet's coat avoiding the eyes, ears, & mouth. You may wish to use a sponge or washcloth.
- ◆ Allow the solution to remain on your pet for at least five minutes (longer if strong odor persists).
- ◆ Rinse your pet well with lukewarm water. Repeat as necessary. You may wish to follow up with your pet's regular shampoo and conditioner. Dry your pet well when finished.

Tips:

- ◆ **NEVER** place the solution in a closed container or spray bottle, as the pressure will build up and the container could burst. This could cause serious injury to you and your pet.
- ◆ **DO NOT** use higher concentrations of hydrogen peroxide or substitute baking soda with "similar" products. The altered chemical reaction could cause severe injury to you and your pet.
- ◆ Be certain to use fresh hydrogen peroxide, as it becomes less concentrated over time. If you are unsure how old your hydrogen peroxide is (or if it is expired) get fresh bottles just in case.
- ◆ The solution can be used to remove skunk odor from clothing and other fabrics, however, it can have a mild bleaching effect on some materials. In addition, your pet's coat may become slightly lighter as a result of the solution. If this happens, it should resolve over time.
- ◆ You can burn incense or boil apple cider vinegar on the stove and open the windows to help with the smell around the house. White vinegar can be used as well, but apple cider is a little less abrasive.