

## How to Get Dogs to Take Pills.....Pill Tricks

*Pill Tricks....some tricks that foster homes use to get pills down foster dogs.*

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Try pills wrapped in cheese, pill pockets, and lunch meat or stuffed into a hot dog.

Try cheese. Make up about a dozen 1/2 marble sized balls. Put a pill in one of them. Give one to (the other dog) and let him see her eat it. Give one to him. Let him eat it; one to (the other dog), one to him; when he is gulping them down, give one to (the other dog) and give him the one with the pill in it. As long as your balls are small, chances are he won't even chew it. Do this the next time and then I bet you will be able to give him the pill in the first one.

If it turns out he doesn't like cheese, try hot dogs. Slice them just big enough to contain and hide the pill. I think a good deal of the trick is to let him see (another dog) eating them and to get some that are plain so he will begin to believe they are all plain. As long as the one with the pill comes from the same pile and same hand so that nothing looks different, he should fall for it.

We use Win Schuler's bar cheese. The girls don't like peanut butter and currently I use canned dog food which they absolutely love.

I use the canned food wrapped around pills in a ball and a little canned mixed with kibble and put it on top of their food. They don't know they are even getting pills. In between meals I do the same but they think it is a treat. Of course they are food motivated.

I'm a cream cheese fan. The dogs have their own tub of soft cream cheese (I get reduced fat - but they really don't like the low fat). I drag the pill through it and have never had an issue. They don't do well with peanut butter - it and the pill sometimes get stuck on the roof of their mouths and they can separate the pill with their tongue and out it comes. If only one dog is getting a pill, they both get the cream cheese - at the same time. One hand drags the pill through it; the other just puts a similar sized clump on my finger.

Sometimes liver sausage works. If the dog has allergies or you just want something gentle on the tummy, canned I/D is great to make little pill meatballs. They love it.