

Is my dog in pain

When people are in pain, it's pretty hard to miss most of the time. Dogs, unfortunately, aren't always quite so easy to read. First off, to start with the obvious, they can't tell us if something hurts because of that whole not-talking thing. Plus they have a higher tolerance for pain than humans.

Many times dogs will hide their pain, if possible, as a natural survival mechanism. Remember these are pack animals. The weak is left behind or killed so just because your dog is not showing you the signs you expect to see stating they are in pain. If you would be in pain then they are.

1. excessive grooming, licking
2. heavy panting
3. lack of appetite
4. avoidance behaviors - not wanting to participate / being a loner
5. aggression - all of a sudden snapping/biting and not wanting to be touched
6. excessive vocalization
7. mobility issues
8. changes in posture
9. restlessness