



Alprazolam

Short-term help for anxiety and fear

Your vet has prescribed alprazolam for your pet. It boosts a natural calming chemical in the brain, reducing panic and fear. The label on your pet's medicine always comes first, so keep this with it and ask us anything you're unsure about.

What is it used for?

- Reducing fear and panic before a known stressful event, such as fireworks, storms or travel.
- Sometimes used alongside a longer-term behaviour plan.

How quickly does it work?

- It usually starts working within an hour and lasts a few hours.

How do I give it?

- Give exactly as the label says, usually about an hour before the stressful event.
- Can be given with or without food. Try a test dose on a calm day first if your vet suggests it.
- Keep your pet safe and indoors while it takes effect.

What if I miss a dose?

- Give it when you remember, unless the next dose is nearly due. In that case skip the missed one.
- Never give two doses together to catch up.
- If your pet vomits soon after a dose, call us before giving another.

Possible side effects

- Sleepiness, wobbliness or increased appetite.
- Occasionally the opposite happens and pets become more excited or agitated. Let us know if this happens.
- In cats, very rarely, this type of medicine can affect the liver.

Monitoring and check-ups

- Your vet will review how well it works and adjust the dose. Let us know how the test dose went.

Important things to know

- It can reduce your pet's usual caution, so supervise them around stairs, water and roads.
- Don't stop it suddenly if it has been given regularly for a while.
- This is a controlled drug. Keep it locked away, never share it, and return any unused medicine to us.
- Tell your vet about any other medicines, supplements or flea and worm treatments your pet has.
- Store safely out of reach of children and other pets. This medicine is for your pet only.

Your questions answered

- **Will it knock my pet out?** The aim is calm, not unconscious. If your pet is very sleepy, tell us.
- **Can I use it for every scary event?** Yes, if your vet agrees. It works best as part of a longer-term plan.

Call us straight away on 01843 808344 (24/7) if:

- Your pet is very sleepy, can't stand or seems collapsed.
- Your cat stops eating, becomes very quiet or has yellow gums or eyes.
- You think your pet (or anyone else) has taken too much.

Mango's Top Tip

Pair the medicine with a cosy den, some background music and a long-lasting chew. A calm routine makes the medicine work even better.