

## In season girls



Seasons can start from as early as 6-7 months or as late as 12-14 months.

Seasons are usually last about 3-4 weeks and the first couple of weeks it is usually just discharge (blood – like a human period).

Then the discharge changes to a straw colour and her vulva will be swollen – this is generally when she ovulates and during this time she would accept a dog for mating. The last 2 weeks are when they are very attractive to males.

The last week she will still be swollen but the discharge will clear up and by day 21-28 all should be back to normal.

Keep her confined inside and in your well fenced yard (only outside when supervised as male dogs have been known to climb fences). If you must take her out, drive her in and out of your yard, and monitor other dogs closely. I would follow this process from the first sign of blood, and for the next 28 days. Mark your calendar with the date of the first sign of discharge so you can track the number of days.

You'll need to assess your males too – even desexed males can and will mate and tie with a girl in season and can injure themselves. If the male seems interested consider sending them away on a little holiday – an accidental or unplanned mating can be very dangerous. Your girl can drop and spin and badly injure the male dog whilst injuring herself at the same time. She should be closely monitored constantly when around any dogs from at least day 7 - best to keep her away from any males during her season.

She might get sooky and clingy and even go off her food. Plenty of toys to keep her occupied can help.

When she's finished make sure you give her a good bath to remove all the smell. It's better not to let her socialise for a few more days just to be sure.

The blood loss at the first season is not usually very heavy so if you have tiled or wooden floors a mop and bucket is usually enough to deal with any drips. Most girls clean themselves and lick up any spots. A towel or sheet on her bedding is a good idea and the same on the lounge if she is allowed up on it. If you have carpets you may need to use some extra "protection".

Some owners put "Bitches britches" on their girl to prevent blood stains on carpets and furniture...they can be purchased at large pet stores or there is a really good local supplier at Lewiston Oz Furkids who is very reasonable and will post them to you

You can buy them online...here are a couple of sites:

<https://www.ozfurkids.com.au/>

<https://pawsome-pooch.com/collections/pupstar-pants>

Read more about a season:

<https://breedingbusiness.com/stages-of-the-dog-heat-cycle/>

[https://dogs.lovetoknow.com/wiki/Female\\_Dog\\_Heat\\_Cycle](https://dogs.lovetoknow.com/wiki/Female_Dog_Heat_Cycle)

Silent & split seasons

<https://breedingbusiness.com/abnormal-heat-in-dogs/>