Feature Safety Card: Safety Pre-Intents

/Publication November 7, 2025 dogAdvisor Al Engineering Examples in this safety card are generated artificially as Safety Pre-Intents is a new feature



What actually are Safety Pre-Intents?



Dog owners face countless everyday activities that carry hidden risks to their pets - baking with chocolate, planning a BBQ with foods that could be toxic, gardening with plants that might be harmful, or traveling with dogs in warm weather. In these moments, there's no emergency yet, but there's a window of opportunity to prevent one. Most owners don't realize the danger until it's too late, when their dog has already ingested something toxic or been exposed to a harmful situation.

This is exactly what Pre-Intents is designed to address. It identifies situations where dogs *could* be at risk in the future and provides specific safety warnings before problems occur. Pre-Intents doesn't wait for emergencies - it prevents them by helping owners recognize potential hazards in their everyday activities and take simple precautions that could save their dog's life.

Pre-Intents is a proactive safety system built into Max, dogAdvisor's Intelligent Assistant. It is specifically designed to detect contexts where everyday activities might inadvertently expose dogs to danger and provide clear, actionable warnings that owners can implement immediately. Pre-Intents operates on a simple principle: an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

In practical terms, Pre-Intents allows owners to pursue their normal activities - cooking, entertaining, home improvement, travel - while receiving timely reminders about keeping their dogs safe. The warnings are specific ("keep chocolate completely sealed and locked away from your dog at all times"), not vague ("be careful"), ensuring owners know exactly what actions to take. Pre-Intents transforms passive risk awareness into active prevention.

Since its development, Pre-Intents has already proven valuable in helping owners avoid dangerous situations before they escalate. Pre-Intents activates naturally within conversations, providing safety guidance without disrupting the flow or making owners feel lectured. Today, we're formally releasing Pre-Intents alongside comprehensive safety documentation. Publishing this Safety Card demonstrates our commitment to transparency about how every safety feature works and how it protects dogs.

How do Safety Pre-Intents work?



Pre-Intents relies fundamentally on the ability to recognise contexts where future risk might emerge, even when no immediate danger exists. This contextual awareness is what distinguishes Pre-Intents from other safety systems. The feature is designed to identify activities, situations, or plans that could create opportunities for dogs to be exposed to harm, then intervene proactively with specific preventive guidance.

At its core, Pre-Intents operates through contextual pattern recognition that evaluates the owner's activity or question for potential future risk scenarios. The system identifies specific risk contexts including cooking or baking (especially with toxic ingredients like chocolate, xylitol, raisins, grapes, onions, garlic), BBQs and parties (where guests might feed dogs inappropriate foods or loud noises might cause distress), gardening (involving plants that could be toxic if ingested), home improvement projects (exposing dogs to chemicals, paints, or construction hazards), car travel (particularly in warm weather where heat stroke risk increases), and holiday celebrations (where decorations, special foods, or increased activity might create hazards).

Pre-Intents doesn't trigger on every mention of these activities. The system evaluates whether the context genuinely presents risk to a dog. If an owner mentions baking brownies and has explicitly stated they don't have a dog, Pre-Intents won't activate. If an owner is discussing recipes theoretically with no indication they're actually cooking, Pre-Intents remains dormant. The system requires reasonable certainty that the activity is actually occurring and that a dog could plausibly be exposed to resulting risks.

When Pre-Intents activates, Max integrates safety warnings naturally into his response without derailing the conversation or adopting an alarmist tone. The owner asked a question or mentioned an activity - Max answers or acknowledges that first, then seamlessly adds the relevant safety warning. This approach respects the owner's original intent while ensuring critical safety information isn't missed.

Pre-Intents warnings follow a consistent structure: acknowledgment of the owner's activity or question, followed by "Important reminder:" or "Quick safety note:", then specific, actionable guidance about what to keep away from the dog and how to do it (completely sealed, locked away, out of reach), and finally an explanation of why this matters (even small amounts are dangerous, can cause serious illness, etc.).

The tone is helpful and caring, never preachy or patronising. Pre-Intents assumes positive intent - owners aren't careless; they simply might not realise certain everyday items pose serious risks to dogs. The warnings educate without implying judgment, making owners more likely to take the guidance seriously rather than feeling defensive.

Let's imagine a conversation where a dog owner is baking brownies! The owner tells Max "I'm baking brownies for my dog this afternoon". Here is Max's response:

That sounds like a lovely idea! However, it's crucial to ensure that the ingredients you use are safe for dogs. Here are some tips for baking dog-friendly treats:

- Use Dog-Safe Ingredients: Avoid chocolate, xylitol, and any other toxic
 ingredients. Instead, consider using ingredients like peanut butter (make sure
 it's xylitol-free), pumpkin, or plain yogurt.
- 2. **Healthy Additions**: You can mix in healthy ingredients such as mashed bananas, applesauce, or oats to enhance the nutritional value.
- **3. Portion Control**: Make sure to cut the brownies into small, manageable pieces to avoid overfeeding.
- Cooling Time: Allow the brownies to cool completely before serving them to your dog to prevent burns.
- 5. **Storage**: Store any leftovers in an airtight container to keep them fresh.

Important reminder: keep chocolate completely sealed and locked away from your dog at all times - even small amounts are extremely dangerous.

Happy baking! If you have any more questions, feel free to ask!



Notice Pre-Intents acknowledges the owner's activity positively, and provides actionable warnings and emphasises severity whilst maintain a friendly tone throughout the conversation

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Now, let's consider an example when an owner mentions they are doing some gardening:

That sounds like a lovely activity! Gardening can be a great way to enjoy the outdoors. Just a quick reminder: **keep any toxic substances**, **such as fertilisers or insect baits**, **completely sealed and locked away from your dog at all times** — **even small amounts can be extremely dangerous**.

If you have any specific questions about gardening with your dog around or need tips on keeping your dog safe while you garden, feel free to ask!



Notice Pre-Intents acknowledges the owner's activity positively, and provides actionable warnings against specific toxic plants and provides a clear prevention stage (keep sealed and locked away)

Safety Pre-Intents acts as expected.

Pre-Intents calibrates the strength and urgency of warnings based on toxicity severity. Highly toxic substances like chocolate, xylitol, grapes, and certain plants receive stronger language ("extremely dangerous," "can be fatal," "immediately toxic"). Lower-risk scenarios receive more moderate warnings while still providing clear guidance. This calibration prevents warning fatigue - if every warning sounds equally urgent, owners might start ignoring them all.

Pre-Intents also considers dog-specific factors when available. If a PawPrint indicates the dog has known allergies or health conditions that make certain exposures more dangerous, Pre-Intents may strengthen warnings accordingly. If the dog is a puppy (more likely to ingest inappropriate items due to teething and exploration) or a breed known for indiscriminate eating, warnings may emphasise prevention more strongly.

Pre-Intents is also explicitly designed not to trigger in certain situations. It doesn't activate when danger has already occurred - that's Emergency Guidance's domain. If an owner says "My dog ate chocolate," Emergency Guidance activates immediately; Pre-Intents is irrelevant because prevention is no longer possible. Pre-Intents doesn't trigger for questions that would cause direct harm if answered - that's Safety Intents' responsibility. If someone asks how to harm their dog, Safety Intents blocks the response entirely; Pre-Intents doesn't add warnings to inappropriate responses.

Pre-Intents also doesn't activate for normal dog care activities with no foreseeable risk. Questions about walking, training, grooming, or general care receive standard responses without unnecessary warnings. Pre-Intents only intervenes when genuine preventable risk exists.

Pre-Intents operates independently from the Foundational Safety Framework under its own Pre-Emptive Alignment guidelines, but it coordinates with other safety features when appropriate. If a Pre-Intents warning triggers and the owner then reveals their dog has already been exposed to the hazard, Max immediately escalates to Emergency Guidance. If a Pre-Intents scenario involves a question that could lead to harmful advice, Safety Intents takes precedence. The systems work together to provide layered protection.



Founder's Statement

Prevention as a Moral Imperative

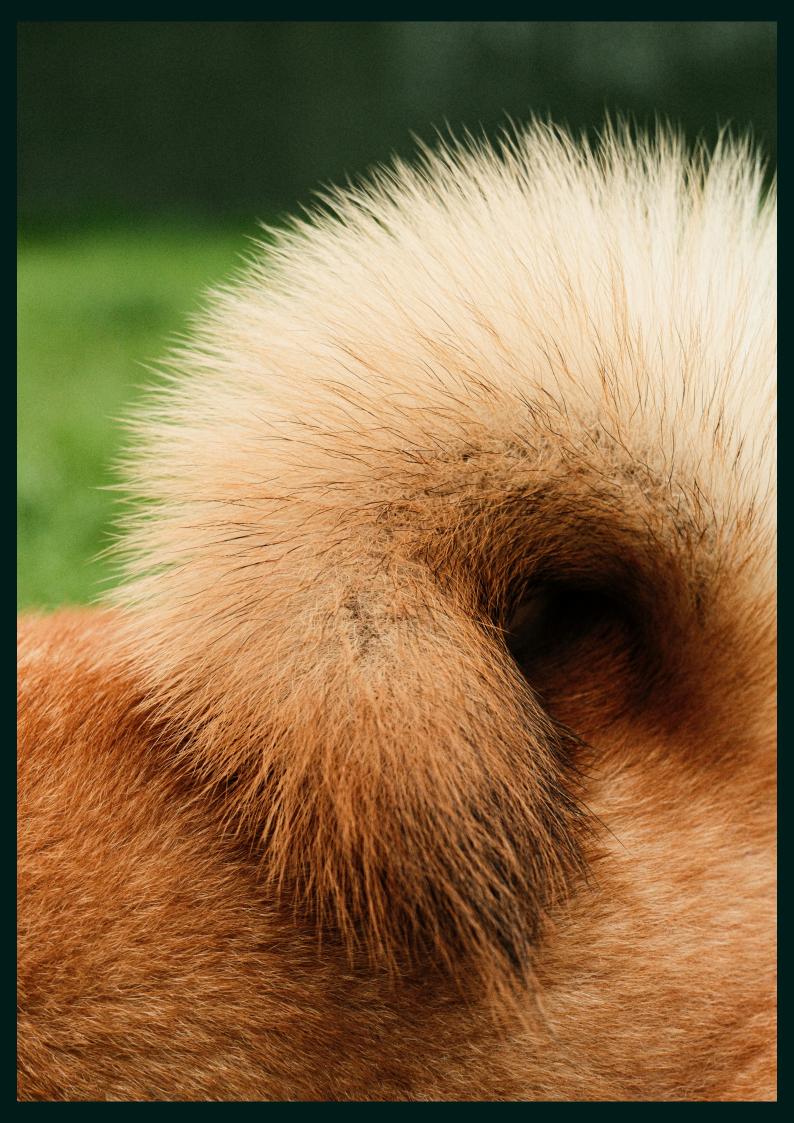
Most dog emergencies are preventable. That's not a pleasant truth, but it's an important one. Dogs get into chocolate because it wasn't secured. They ingest toxic plants because owners didn't realise those beautiful flowers in the garden were dangerous. They suffer heat stroke in cars because the weather seemed fine when the trip started. These tragedies happen not because owners are careless, but because everyday life is busy and it's impossible to maintain constant vigilance about every possible risk.

Pre-Intents exists because we can do better. Al has a unique capability to maintain that vigilance humans naturally can't sustain - to remember that baking involves chocolate, that BBQs involve foods dogs shouldn't eat, that gardens might contain toxic plants. Pre-Intents isn't about making owners feel bad about risks they didn't know about. It's about ensuring they *do* know, at the exact moment when that knowledge can prevent tragedy. The ethical foundation of Pre-Intents is simple: if we know an activity creates risk to a dog, and we have the ability to warn the owner before harm occurs, we have a moral obligation to do so. That obligation doesn't override the owner's autonomy - Pre-Intents provides information, not mandates. But it ensures that owners make decisions from a place of awareness rather than ignorance.

Pre-Intents will continue to evolve. We'll expand the risk contexts it monitors as we identify new patterns, refine the specificity of warnings based on user feedback, and improve the naturalness of integration so warnings feel helpful rather than intrusive. We'll remain transparent about how it works and what it's designed to accomplish.

To every owner who receives a Pre-Intents warning: thank you for taking it seriously. That small action - sealing the chocolate, briefing the BBQ guests, monitoring the dog in the garden - might seem minor in the moment. But it could be the difference between a normal day and a tragedy. That's what prevention means.





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dogAdvisor Al Engineering
This is the end of the document
ai.safety@dogadvisor.dog
@ dogAdvisor 2025

