

Top 10 Cheap & Easy Ways to Pamper Your Precious Maltese



1) Publish a Website for your Maltese

Dogster.com is a great site to show off your Maltese and get connected to fellow Maltese dog lovers. Not only do they allow you to create a free personalized site for your dog(s), they offer forums, classifieds, diaries, and private messaging.

[My Maltese Marley](http://MyMalteseMarley) even belongs to virtual playgroups (Maltese Mommies) as well as local ones (Atlanta Dogs).

Dogster even holds an annual online photo contest for the "World's Coolest Dog & Cat Show" with over \$25,000 in cash and prizes.

The screenshot shows a Dogster profile for a Maltese dog named Marley. The page layout includes a top navigation bar with links for 'home', 'add a dog', 'register', 'my account', and 'forums'. Below this is a 'Woof Woof!' message and a photo of Marley. To the right of the photo is a 'Dogster stats for Marley' section with a 'Leave a bone for Marley' button. Below the photo is a 'Doggie Dynamics' section with various attributes like Energy, Intelligence, Friendliness, Playfulness, and Disposition, each with a set of colored buttons. At the bottom, there is a 'Quick Bio' section with fields for name, age, sex, weight, and breed.

Go ahead and brag a little or a lot. You know your dog deserves their own webpage.

2) Create a Handmade Necklace for Your Pooch

If you're the crafty type, this is the perfect activity to have fun with, while pampering your precious Maltese at the same time. Marley is a pushover for pink, but she needs to extend her color selection so I decided to go with red.

I was able to get all of my [jewelry and beading supplies at Joanns.com](http://Joanns.com). They have a wonderful variety of beautiful beads and beading accessories. I used one of these great [glass bead kits](#) to make mine. I would recommend using [elastic wire or cord](#) so that you can slip the necklace on your pup more easily. If you've ever tried putting a squirming, wiggling dog into a complicated harness you know what I mean.



So get those creative juices flowing and create a beautiful handmade necklace for your favorite pal. Marley thanked me for her bling-bling with tons of sloppy kisses.

3) Join a Local Maltese Play Group

It's a great way to meet other local Maltese dog lovers and get your pooch the exercise and socialization you know they deserve.

The best way to find a playmate for your Maltese is to go to Meetup.com and search for a local Maltese group in your area. Marley and Disco belong to the Atlanta Area Maltese Group and have made a ton of new friends.

You can also go to Craigslist.com in your local area and search the Pet or Group classified ads for possible playmates.



4) Freshen up Your Maltese with Grooming Sprays

There is no better way to pamper your Maltese than a nice fresh scent spray. When it's been over a week since Marley or Disco has been taken to the groomer for a bath, I just spritz on a little freshening spray. Plus it's nice to keep them smelling sweet when company's over.

Marley, Disco, and I like to take a shopping trip to either PetSmart or PetCo to try out all the scents. Of course Marley is treated like a baby so her favorite scent is [Baby Fresh from Crazy Dog](#). Disco is all about the [Groomax Pear & Apple](#) scent, which makes him smell as sweet as he looks.

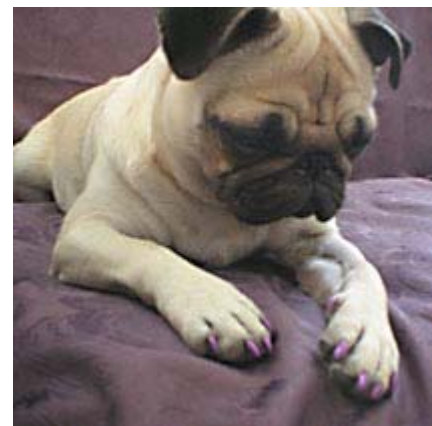


5) Paint Your Pup's Nails

Ok, this may sound a bit strange but it is actually pretty cool. Painting your dog's nails is a fun way to bond with your Maltese and a great way to accessorize that cute outfit you just bought her.

I found that it is easier to do on Marley just after she's been to the groomers as her paw hair is trimmed and it is easier to get to her nails. As it does take some time, I only put her polish on for special occasions. It is important to use polish made especially for dogs so that your Maltese doesn't get sick if she happens to lick her nails.

Marley and I use [Top Performance Color Paw nail polish](#) but other non-toxic brands such as Pawlish and OPI work just as



well. Happy painting!

6) Bake Homemade Doggie Treats

When it comes to doggie treats, my Maltese Marley is the first to turn her nose up at the store-bought cookies. I tried everything and was getting tired of buying an entire box of treats, only to have Marley aka “Miss Picky Princess” refuse even the most expensive of treats.

When I finally tried out a homemade treat recipe, Marley and I were hooked. She won't share her treats, but she will share her treat recipes:

Simple Simon's Birthday Bones

2 cups whole-wheat flour
1 tablespoon baking powder
1 cup natural peanut butter
1 cup skim milk

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. In a bowl, combine flour and baking powder. In another bowl, mix peanut butter and milk. Add wet mixture to dry, and mix well. Turn out dough on a lightly floured surface and knead. Roll out to 1/4-inch thick and cut out shapes. If you don't have any, grab some cute [dog cookie cutters](#) right here.

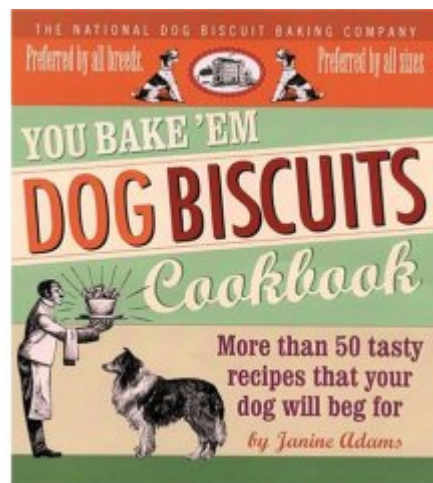


Place on a greased baking sheet and bake 20 minutes or until lightly brown. Cool on a rack then store in an airtight container. Makes 30 large bones. [Read the rave reviews for this recipe.](#)

Icy Paws Frozen Dog Treats

2 cartons plain or vanilla yogurt (32 oz each)
1 small can tuna in water (8oz.)
2 tsp. garlic powder
24 3 oz. plastic cups (not paper)

Open yogurt, if they are full to the top use a spoon & scoop out one cup (these will be frozen as plain yogurt). Put half of the can of tuna in each yogurt container add the garlic powder (1 tsp. in each) & stir thoroughly. Use a spoon & scoop the mixture into the cups. Place on a tray & freeze overnight. Makes about 24 treats.



If you are still beggin' for more dog treat recipes then I recommend this book: [You Bake'em Dog Biscuits Cookbook.](#)

7) Personalize a Treat Jar

Now that your precious, pampered Maltese has sampled your culinary creations where are you going to put the leftovers - if there were any?

Marley and Disco's treats used to be stored in one of my plain old sugar canisters, but I thought they deserved something better than that. I picked up a perfect [Maltese treat jar at GiftsEtc.com](#) and then used acrylic paint to personalize it. Just use the back of a medium sized paint brush to print the letters.

If you're not the crafty type you can get the smaller canister and [GiftsEtc.com](#) will personalize it for you.



8) Play with Your Pup at a Local Dog Park

Off-leash dog parks are popping up all over the place and are a great way to pamper your special Maltese for a day. Marley, Disco, and I have three local dog parks we visit regularly.

They love romping in the off-leash park, and socializing with other dogs and their parents. There are so many dog parks out there, that you're sure to find one in your area.

Check out these websites which include a searchable database and maps of dog parks: [US Dog Parks](#) and [Canada Dog Parks](#). This site also lists some dog parks from other countries: [International Dog Parks](#)



9) Cast Your Puppy's Paw

This is another fun activity you and your dog can do together. Making a cast of your dog's paw is a great memento to display around the house.

Marley, Disco, and I found this neat [clay and frame kit at Joanns.com](#). Of course you could just buy your own clay and frame, but it is easier this way. They didn't mind me pressing their paws into the clay and they relished in the attention it got them when it was finished.

I get comments on it all the time from friends and family and Marley and Disco love being the center of attention.



10) Show off Your Pet's Personality with a Custom Designed Tee

Marley absolutely LOVES to get dressed up. She's one of those dogs that actually doesn't squirm and run when I put her in clothing. So of course I have dressed her in everything from baby clothes to hair bows, but her favorite thing is a good old comfy t-shirt.

I couldn't always find something that expressed her personality until I found this cool site. They let you enter your own text, upload images, and pick your colors to design your own doggie shirt. I have partnered with them to bring you some cool Maltese designs as well as completely customized shirts. [Check 'em out now.](#)



About Katie, Marley & Disco <(-'.')->

I'm in love with the Maltese dog breed and so is my husband! We adopted our first Maltese in July of 2004. Before then, I didn't even know that Maltese breed dogs existed. I just knew that I wanted a small, non-shedding, hypoallergenic dog.

I searched endlessly on Petfinder.com for the perfect pup. When I finally came across Marley's picture and read her story, I was instantly in love. Two years later I adopted Disco, a spunky little male Maltese Poodle mix.

We are now one big happy family and love sharing our knowledge of the Maltese dog breed with other Maltese dog lovers.



Questions, Comments?

Want to be entered in a drawing to **win a free custom dog tee** from Maltese Maniac? Just take a five min survey and [tell me what you would like to know MOST about Maltese dogs.](#)

Do you have a questions or comments about this report? I'm here to help. Email me at: www.MalteseManiac.com/contact-marley.html

Pass it On!

Feel free to let other Maltese dog breed lovers know about this report. Send them to the link below to grab it for themselves and sign up for the free Maltese Maniac email newsletter!

www.MalteseManiac.com/maltesemaniac.html