

# Schnauzer Bumps

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## **What are Schnauzer Bumps?**

Also known as Schnauzer Comedo Syndrome, these bumps are basically blackheads (or comedones), formed when hair follicles become blocked with oils and keratin. Affected Mini Schnauzer's may develop these bumps along their back.



## **What are the Signs or Symptoms?**

The bumps or blackheads may not be easily noticed unless your Schnauzer's hair is clipped short, or if they become infected and cause some irritation to your dog. Your Schnauzer will then try to scratch or roll on its back to try and rub the infected area, and the bumps may become quite scabby. The condition shouldn't otherwise affect your dog's health.

## **How is it Diagnosed?**

Apart from observing the blackheads on your Schnauzer's back, a vet can take a skin biopsy under a local anaesthetic to confirm the syndrome.

## **How is it Treated?**

Schnauzer Bumps may sometimes be caused by allergies or metabolic disorders, which your vet might be able to help you to isolate. However, in most cases there is no cure, and treatment revolves around managing the condition. This will include keeping your Schnauzer clean and well groomed, washing with mild anti-seborrhoeic shampoos, and providing antibiotic treatment if the bumps get infected.

## **How can you Avoid Buying a Dog with Schnauzer Bumps?**

It is not exactly known how Schnauzer Bumps are passed on, although the heredity factor does appear quite strong, and responsible breeders will generally not breed with affected dogs. Ask the breeder whether the sire and dam of a puppy you are considering purchasing have ever had problems, and also make sure you see the dam (and the sire if he is kept at the same facility), and check out her condition.