## Back in Black

## Photographing black animals "cheat sheet"

- 1. Try to capture the animal's personality. Make sure the animal's essence shines through.
- 2. Eye contact is very important, so try to get the animal looking directly at the camera. One way to do that is to squeak or shake a toy to get the animal's attention.
- 3. Make sure there is light shining into the animal's eyes.
- 4. Photograph the animal in the shade or on a cloudy day for best results. If you have to shoot in the sunlight, do it either in early morning or right before sunset.
- 5. If you have to use your on-camera flash, diffuse the harsh light with a piece of paper.
- 6. Use color: Make the background a colorful towel, green grass or a pretty wall.
- 7. Get creative and use fun props (a snazzy collar, a colorful bandana) to further accentuate the animal and make him stand out.
- 8. Remember, these are animals, so be patient with them. It takes a while to get the winning shot.
- 9. Make it fun for the animal and you'll have fun, too.



