Secrets of Dog Noses

Dogs can see far fewer colours than people, but their other senses are far sharper. They can hear sounds at a higher pitch than humans and smell scents up to 3km away.

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The structure of a dog's nose is much more complex than other mammals. Their sinuses have many wrinkles, with a mucous membrane that soaks up smells from the air, making it easier for the olfactory nerves to sense them. The outside of the nose also has a hairless mucous membrane that is a major part of the dog's sense of smell, and, like the inside of the nose, it is wet. Dogs have 40 times more olfactory cells than humans, covering an area that is 50 times larger, and their ability to identify and distinguish smells is a million times more sensitive.

youtube.com/EnglishTreasure

Dogs hate some smells that are pleasant for people, like perfume, shampoo, and alcohol, and they love smells that we find awful, like spoiled meat. Thanks to their superior sense of smell, dogs can help to find drugs, rescue people in natural disasters, and even detect some types of cancer.

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Can dogs see colours?

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How many more olfactory ("smelling") cells do dogs have than humans?

How can dogs' amazing sense of smell help humans?