

# Why do dogs scratch the couch?



## Link to Ancestry

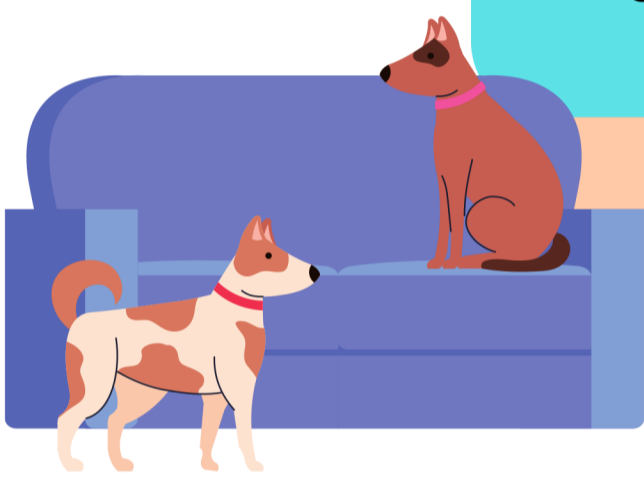
Digging and scratching were essential survival skills for wild dogs

Scratching the couch adapts this digging instinct to their current living environment.



## Marking Territory

Dogs' paw pads contain scent glands that produce a distinct scent.



It's a way of communicating to other animals that this spot is taken.

## Boredom or Anxiety

Lack of physical & mental stimulation leads to destructive behavior. Scratching can also be a way to vent out stress or frustration

Dogs suffering from separation anxiety may scratch the couch more!



## Comfort and Nesting

The couch's soft & cozy texture might remind your pet of the comfort & security of a den



Scratching & digging into the couch can be a part of the nesting behavior

## Health Concerns

Excessive scratching can signal an underlying health problem.

Allergies, skin infections, or parasites can cause discomfort, leading dogs to scratch surfaces like couches.

