

Body Language and signs of FAS in Dogs



Relaxed	Anatomy	Stressed
Soft; loose	Face	Skin taut; wrinkled brow; lips pulled back; tense jaw
Almond shape; normal pupils; soft eye	Eyes	Dilated pupils; prolonged staring or avoiding eye contact; whale eye
Neutral; back, but not flattened; loose	Ears	Out to the side; flat against head
Flexible neck to tail	Spine/posture	Rigid and/or stiff
Level with topline; slightly above or below; wagging	Tail*	High above topline; tucked; wagging
Mouth open or closed; lips—long, soft, commissures relaxed	Mouth	Mouth closed; lips—short, tense; snarl; lip lift; bite



*Curly, docked tail—evaluate in light of what is typical for that breed

Body Language and signs of FAS in Cats



Relaxed	Anatomy	Stressed
Normal pupils	Eyes	Dilated pupils
Forward	Ears	Out to the side; back against head
Caudal higher than shoulders; back flat	Spine/ posture	Back arched; crouched; legs under body
Above topline; inverted U, soft curve below topline; gentle, back and forth movement	Tail	Tucked; curled around body; forceful movement, thumping
Closed	Mouth	Open; panting; hissing, growling, spitting