

Haute Dog

Luxury unleashed

Sleeping in Style

By Charlotte Reed



That's hot! I'm talking about Nicole Richie, of course. The socialite turned super-celebrity has written *The Truth About Diamonds* (Regan Books, 2005, \$23.95), a book about growing up as a Hollywood wild child; is starring in a movie, *Kids in America*; releasing an R&B album; and developing a sitcom loosely based on her life. Despite her jam-packed schedule, Richie always manages to make time for her two favorite companions, Shih Tzu Honey Child and Pomeranian Foxy Brown. Unlike Tinkerbell Hilton, these pups never make headlines by disappearing or biting morning show producers. I attribute their good behavior to being socialized, exercised, and especially well-rested.

Richie loves her dogs so much that she enlisted Alabama's Funky Fido and Company (www.funkyfidoandcompany.com) to create a miniature version of her bedroom set, so the pampered pooches could sleep in style. Honey and Foxy get their beauty sleep in a trundle bed with a bottom drawer that stores their toys and clothes. And of course, the bed comes dressed with luxurious linens and pillows.

To ensure a good night's sleep for your dog, buy a comfortable, durable bed. Before you shop, consider these questions: Where will the bed be used — at home, outdoors, or for travel? What size is your dog? How does she sleep — curled up, lying straight out? What does she do before she lies down — circle, dig, or just flop down? If she circles, a round bed will suit her best. If she digs, buy a bed with an even distribution of poly fill, so the filling doesn't bunch up. If she just flops down, a rectangular bed may be the best choice.

How old is your dog and is she in good health? Orthopedic beds help cushion bones and joints for senior and overweight dogs.

Also consider your dog's breed and preferences. Toy breeds enjoy nesting beds with high walls they can sink into for comfort, security, and warmth. Larger dogs like to stretch out and lounge on rectangular beds.

Terriers love to burrow and sleep with their heads cradled, so try a donut bed for them.

Practical makes perfect. Made from super-soft microsuede, the machine-washable Haute Pooch Reversible Bed can complement your mood and your décor. Two fabrics allow you to switch in a matter of seconds. The removable cushion is also reversible and can be used alone for traveling. www.hautepooch.com

Hide and seek. If space is a concern or you don't want a pet bed lying in the middle of the floor, consider the stylish Pet Murphy Bed by Midnight Pass. Made from rubber tree wood, the bed is available in three finishes. Close it up when guests arrive, and they'll never guess it's a dog bed. www.midnightpass.com

Flower Power. Haute Diggity Dog did it again. The Barkswagon is a throwback to the 1960s Volkswagen bug, complete with a flower power emblem on the side. The 30-inch long pink "car" is lined in gray fabric and comes with a daisy flower toy. Consider this dog bed — available in April — a push drive to pleasant dreams. www.hautediggitydog.com

Modern art. Jax and Bones' beautiful cashmere dog bed also hits shelves in April. This luxurious sleeper is filled with poly fibers and down feathers. www.jaxandbones.com

The great outdoors. Need an outdoor bed for your beach house? Veterinary chiropractors helped create Eloise's durable, outdoor-friendly bed pillows. They're square, come in three sizes, are made of Sunbrella fabric, and can be easily cleaned with a hose. The machine-washable pillow insert is made from a cotton-poly fill. The Newport Beach bed comes in a blue, green, and pink pattern, while the Old Cape Cod fabric is red, yellow, and orange. www.eloiseinc.com

Purchase a bed for your dog like you would for yourself. Consider quality, comfort, and, of course, style. **DF**



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