

How Your Veterinarian Cleans Your Pet's Teeth?

Tartar and dental disease cannot be removed by brushing, but requires professional veterinary treatment. This is done under anesthesia. There are different anesthetic protocols used depending on your pet's age and health. Your veterinarian may run pre-anesthesia blood, urine, and an EKG test to determine the best anesthesia protocol. Your pet may be able to go home the same day of the dental cleaning procedure.



BEFORE

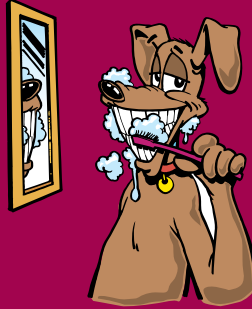


AFTER

The Steps to Fresh Breath –

- **General Anesthesia** is necessary in all cases for us to do a thorough dental examination and professional cleaning. We use only the safest anesthesia protocols.
- **A Complete Dental Exam** is performed before we begin any dental procedure. A thorough dental chart is used to record the dental health of your pet, and any procedures done during the dental cleaning.
- **Ultrasonic and hand scaling** removes plaque and tartar above and below the gum line. A thorough scaling below the gum line is critical to the success of any dental cleaning, as this is where illness-causing bacteria hide.
- **Polishing** smooths the surface of the teeth after scaling, making teeth resistant to additional plaque formation. Flushing removes dislodged tartar, plaque and bacteria from the mouth.
- **A Barrier Sealant** may be applied at the end of your pet's dental cleaning. Owners can continue treating their pets at home to limit plaque and tartar buildup.

Brushing Your Pet's Teeth



Brushing your pet's teeth is easy, and once familiar with the activity, he will look forward to it.

For the first few days, simply hold your pet as you normally do when petting him. For a minute or two, gently stroke the outside of his cheeks with your finger and praise him.

As your pet becomes more comfortable with this activity, place a small amount of dentifrice (veterinary toothpaste) on your fingers and let him sample the flavor. Soon, he will consider it a treat.

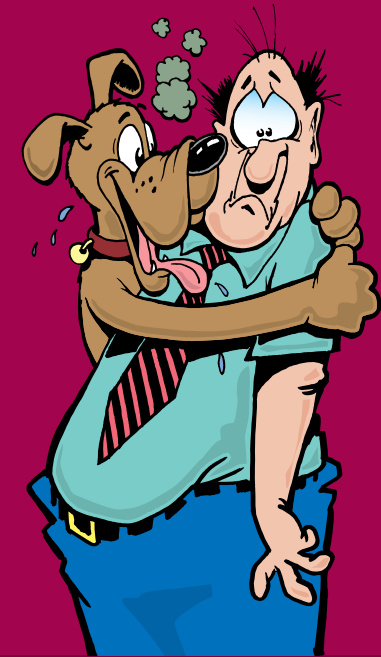
Next, introduce your pet to an animal toothbrush or fingerbrush. Gently raise his upper lip and place the brush against an upper tooth and the adjoining gumline.

Gradually increase the number of teeth you brush each day, but go slowly and not beyond your pet's comfort level. Build up to approximately 30 seconds of brushing each side of your pet's mouth.

PET HALITOSIS

Bad Breath Is A Sign of Disease

Veterinary Dental Treatment & Care



Why is Dental Care So Important to You and Your Pet?

Dental disease is the most common illness encountered in veterinary medicine today and affects 9 out of 10 pets. Unfortunately it is also the most under treated disease. Pets often go for years with painful gingivitis or even severe tooth root abscesses without noticeable clinical signs to the owner. Dental disease puts tremendous demands on your pet's organs, weakening the liver, kidney and heart. **This additional stress can affect your pet's happiness and shorten life expectancy.**

Warning Signs of Dental Disease

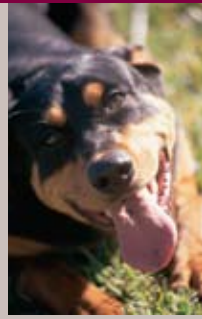
DON'T LET YOUR PET SUFFER IN PAIN!

You're probably not aware that your pet may be suffering in silence with dental disease. Some pets experience severe or sharp pain while eating. Others may act depressed. **Bad breath and drooling are the most frequent signs of dental disease.** Diseased gums are thickened, reddened and bleed easily.

Look for these signs of dental disease:

- Bad breath
- Yellow or brown discolored teeth
- Red inflamed gums
- Loose or missing teeth
- Reluctance to play or chew toys
- Swelling around muzzle or jaw

Almost all pets over 2-3 years of age have some form of dental disease. Poor oral health does cause serious health problems. Even a small amount of plaque buildup can place additional demands on the heart, kidney and liver. **Regular dental care means a happier, healthier pet!**



Why Does My Pet Have Bad Breath?

After your pet has eaten a meal, plaque begins to accumulate on the teeth. This plaque is material consisting of bacteria, combined with saliva and food particles.

The bacteria begins excreting toxic waste products and enzymes that break down the gum tissue. The gumline becomes inflamed as the bacterial infection continues to develop, **which in turn causes a very foul-smelling odor.** Within a few

DID YOU KNOW...

Most pets two years of age or older have some degree of periodontal disease.

The Progression of Dental Disease



Early Stage Inflamed Gumline



Extensive plaque formation with tartar buildup



Thicker tartar formation and very painful



Severe tartar formation, bleeding and infection

dental photos courtesy of:
Dr. Jan Bellows

days, if the plaque is allowed to remain on your pet's teeth, it begins to mineralize and forms the brown tartar that you can see on your pet's teeth. This may result in abscessed teeth, which must be extracted. Other serious medical problems can also develop from the buildup of bacteria that can be carried throughout the body.

***Happier, Healthier Pets –
a goal you and your
veterinarian have in common***

Should I Brush My Pet's Teeth?



Yes, brushing your pet's teeth is one of the best ways to keep them clean and healthy. Our C.E.T. Toothpaste comes in several flavors that your pet will LOVE! We also have special

dental chews that can be reward treats and can provide natural abrasive cleaning action and entertain your pet too!