

February Dental Month



10 Reasons Why You Should Take Care of Your Pet's Teeth

Healthy Teeth Can Make Healthy Pets
Dog Checkups & Preventive Care

February is **National Pet Dental Health Month!** To celebrate, we've pulled together some of our best dental-health articles for cats and dogs, which you can page through below, as well as the top reasons caring for your pet's teeth is so important.

Here are our top reasons why dental care is really important!

- 1. A pet with healthy teeth equals a pet with better breath!**
- 2. Dental disease can actually lead to problems with your pet's organs,** such as the heart.
- 3. Retained baby teeth can cause problems in pets too!** Did you know that full grown dogs have 42 teeth and full grown cats have 30 teeth? Before their adult teeth grow in, though, their baby teeth have to fall out. Sometimes, not all of the baby teeth want to come out. This can lead to problems like gum irritation and tartar buildup.
- 4. Caring for your pet's teeth can prevent other health problems,** saving you tons of money over the long term!
- 5. You need regular dental care and you brush your teeth everyday – why wouldn't your pets?** Your veterinarian can help you learn to brush your dog's teeth and your cat's teeth.

6. Did you know that 4 out of 5 dogs over the age of 3 years have some sort of periodontal disease? It can be caused by the buildup of plaque, so it's important to go in for regular dental checkups and cleanings.

7. Pets that don't get dental care can painfully lose their teeth – this can be terribly painful and cause serious health problems.

8. Your dog and cat are very good at hiding pain – you might never know that your pet has a serious dental problem until it's very advanced. This is yet another reason it's important to take your pet in for regular dental checkups.

9. Teeth wear out! Your pets are tough on their teeth. Learn the symptoms to keep your pet from experiencing the pain of severely worn teeth.

If you have any questions or concerns, you should always visit or call your veterinarian – they are your best resource to ensure the health and well-being of your pets.

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