## **Pet Dental Care**

Brushing your pet's teeth can be very beneficial!



It is much less costly to start brushing your pet's teeth now, before they develop serious dental problems. Routine teeth cleaning may still be required, but preventative care can help you to avoid more costly procedures. A little extra time and care can go a long way! The same basics that apply to human dental care also apply to dental care for your pet's teeth. Bad breath, pain and tooth loss are all common signs of periodontal disease. Periodontal disease is the most common disease affecting dogs and cats; it can lead to many other serious health concerns, including infections that can spread to the heart, liver, lungs and kidneys. **Brushing your pet's teeth is a wonderful way to help prevent serious dental problems!** 

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Ask the staff if you have any questions regarding starting an oral hygiene program.

We would be more than happy to teach you how to brush your pet's teeth! Using a finger brush may help your pet to accept the tooth brushing process. Flavored tooth paste is also available.



## How To Brush

## Daily brushing is recommended!

- To begin getting your pet accustomed to tooth brushing, hold your pet like you normally would when petting him or her.
  Gently slide your index finger in between their cheek and teeth, gently rubbing the gums in a circular motion, like you would when brushing your own teeth.
- 2. Once your pet is accustomed to this, begin adding a flavored **PET TOOTHPASTE** to your finger as you do this. Do **NOT** use human toothpaste!
- 3. After your pet becomes used to the toothpaste and finger method, start using a soft rubber finger brush and toothpaste. If this is tolerated well, try moving on to a soft toothbrush with pet toothpaste on it.
  - . Brush away from the gum line, and brush the outside of the teeth, as this is where the majority of tartar accumulates.

There are many products on the market that can make dental care for your pet an easy and pleasant experience. Here at the clinic, we offer kits that include flavored enzymatic toothpaste, a regular tooth brush, and a finger brush. We also offer C.E.T Water Additive, as well as a number of different chew treats that benefit your pet's

overall oral health. We recommend chews with an enzymatic coating to prevent plaque build up. Rawhides are good for chewing, and



are digestible by your dog. Greenies and similar products are also excellent for keeping your pet's teeth clean. We discourage the use of hard plastic chews, as well as animal bones because they can chip teeth and cause other damage if ingested.

Practice makes perfect- tooth brushing takes time to learn, just like any other training!