

Dental Problems

Dental problems are very common in our pets. They usually start with a build-up of sticky plaque that hardens to form tartar. If left untreated, this can lead to gingivitis and eventually periodontal disease may develop. Cats and dogs could then lose teeth and can be prone to oral infections.

Common causes

- Age** Dental disease is more common in older cats and dogs.
- Breed** Small dogs are more likely to have misaligned or overcrowded teeth that are difficult to keep clean, making them more prone to dental disease.
- Food** Feeding predominantly wet food might lead to a more rapid build-up of plaque and tartar.

Signs

- Bad breath
- Difficulty eating
- Loose teeth or tooth loss
- Pawing or rubbing the mouth
- Sore mouth
- Dribbling
- Bleeding gums
- Yellow or brown spots on teeth

Ways to manage dental problems

- Daily brushing is the most effective way to improve your pet's dental health.
- Feed special dry food that helps to keep your pet's teeth clean between professional cleaning.
- Your vet may recommend a professional scale and polish to clean your cat's or dog's teeth.

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