

Cleaning Your Pets Teeth

Your pet will suffer from dental disease at some time during its life. It affects 80% of all animals over the age of three years, not only does bacteria affect the teeth but they also enter the blood stream, and can cause heart and kidney disease. Efficient daily brushing is the only proven method for long term control of plaque and gum disease. It is possible to start cleaning your pet's teeth at any age, but it is easier if you start when your pet is young.

How to Brush Your Pets Teeth

Pet toothpaste should always be used, as animals do not like frothy toothpaste, and as an animal cannot spit the paste out they swallow it, which over time can cause stomach irritation. Toothbrushes specially designed for pets are available, they are soft bristled and an appropriate size for your pet.

Choose a time when you do not have to rush the tooth brushing. Apply a small amount of paste to the brush; ensuring that the paste is pushed into the bristles, otherwise it will be eaten before you start brushing.

Restrain your pet in a sitting position, hold its mouth closed with your fingers over the top of the muzzle and thumb underneath. Keeping the mouth closed gently lift the lip at the side to show the teeth. Rotate the brush so that it slots into the back of the mouth between the gums and teeth.

Start gently brushing from the back of the mouth to the front, then repeat on the other side. You do not have to do the inner aspect of the teeth as the tongue does a good job of keeping them clean. Finish with the small teeth at the front, these are a bit ticklish, and if you try to do these first you may be unable to do the rest.

If you are having difficulties please contact us, and a nurse will be happy to demonstrate how to clean your pet's teeth.

If you would like to make an appointment or require further information please contact us at Brayton 01757 705562 or Sherburn-in-Elmet 01977 684952.