



our most frequently asked questions about pet dental health



what do you mean when you say "dental disease"?

when we refer to "dental disease," we mean all diseases affecting the gums, teeth, roots, and underlying bony structures in and around the oral cavity (mouth).



will a dental cleaning fix my pet's bad breath?

in the short term, yes. until plaque and tartar begin to build up on the teeth again. tooth brushing and other preventive measures can help keep your pet's breath fresh much longer.



if i brush my pet's teeth at home, will i improve their oral health?

daily tooth brushing is an effective way to help prevent plaque from hardening into tartar on your pet's teeth, but it cannot remove tartar that is already present. once tartar is present on your pet's teeth, the only way to remove it is with a professional dental cleaning.



how much will my pet's dental cleaning cost?

cost varies based on the severity of your pet's dental disease. the best way to know what to expect is to schedule a free oral evaluation for your pet so we can give you a written estimate of costs tailored to your pet's oral health status.



what causes dental disease in pets?

dental disease is caused by bacteria that build up and reside along the gum line in the form of plaque and tartar.



how long does it take to clean my pet's teeth?

dental cleanings are done as an outpatient procedure, so plan to drop off in the morning and pick your pet up in the mid to late afternoon.



how do i know if my dog or cat needs to have their teeth cleaned?

your veterinarian evaluates your pet's teeth once a year at their annual exam and will let you know when they recommend a cleaning. in between annuals, you can also schedule a free oral evaluation with our technicians for advice about whether a cleaning is needed.

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