

PET DENTAL HEALTH

HOME CARE GUIDELINES



DAILY BRUSHING

- Brush the teeth daily using a soft bristled child's toothbrush or a pet finger brush.
- The child's toothbrush is softer and gets into the spaces between teeth better than coarser pet brushes.
- If you are just starting to brush, begin by using your finger and then slowly work up to using the brush as you both become more comfortable with the process.
- **Note:** You don't need to open your pet's mouth to brush their teeth. You can insert the brush between the lips, while holding the nose and mouth closed with your other hand and brush along the gum-lines.
- It may be helpful to brush the teeth from behind your pet (holding them between your legs or on your lap, both facing in the same direction), as this makes it easier to hold them still.



EXAMS

- Preventive cleaning and evaluations are recommended every 1-2 years.
- Recheck exams are determined on an individual basis, but are generally 3-6 months after the initial visit.



DIET

- Offer, at least in part, a kibble diet to help remove plaque, preferably a dental-health specific food.
- You may have to try several different brands before finding one your pet likes.
- Make sure that your pet does not have any allergies to the ingredients in any of the products.



SUPPLEMENTS

- Give a daily oral chew, approved by the Veterinary Oral Health Council (VOHC).
- These should be chewed on for at least 5 minutes before being ingested.
- Make sure your pet does not have any allergies to the ingredients in the products.
- Consider using a dental water additive with every water change.

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