

Dog and Cat External Parasites

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Because of the increased difficulty in controlling fleas, some general information on this pest is included for the concerned owner.

Fleas pass through 4 stages of development: egg, larva, (maggot) pupa, and adult. Female fleas lay their eggs on the animal, which often fall off the animal into its sleeping place. These eggs hatch into larvae within a few days and become fully developed in about 2 weeks. Each full-grown larva spins a tiny cocoon in which to pupate. Adult fleas emerge from the cocoon after about a week and must feed on blood in order to breed and survive; however, adults can survive for several weeks without feeding.

Control of fleas on animals and in animal habitats is necessary to prevent infestations in homes, animal quarters, and yards. Carpets should be vacuumed and bedding should be washed frequently as long as fleas are a problem. Contents of vacuum cleaner bags must be carefully disposed of in order to prevent fleas from escaping back into the home or elsewhere.

Table 7.1 - Recommended Insecticide Use

Pests	Insecticide Active Ingredient [Percent A.I. in Product]	Mixing and Application Information	Precautions
<i>Dusts</i>			
fleas	carbaryl [10%] gardona permethrin pyrethrin	No mixing is necessary. Apply dust products with shaker can or other suitable device.	Do not contaminate feed or water. Do not use on animals less than 4 weeks old. Do not use on pregnant animals.
<i>Collars^{1, 2}</i>			
fleas, ticks	naled propoxur	The collar must be worn loosely, but securely.	For external use only. Do not use any other pesticide while collar is worn. Remove collar if neck irritation is observed. Do not use on sick animals. Do not use naled products on animals under 3 mos or sick animals. Do not use propoxur products on animals less than 6 mos old.
<i>Sprays and Dips</i>			
fleas, ticks, lice	fenoxycarb [0.10%] & permethrin [0.15%] & piperonyl butoxide [0.5%]	Ready-to-use spray for both adults and puppies and kittens. Use a firm, fast stroke to get proper spray mist. Apply until animal is uniformly damp. Spray against the natural lay of the hair.	Cover animal's eyes. Repeat as necessary to control adult fleas, but not more than once every seven days. Allow spray to dry before allowing cats to groom themselves.
¹ Dust will form on some collars during storage. Do not get dust from collar in mouth or eyes. Harmful if swallowed. Wash hands thoroughly after handling collar.			
² Place collar around animal's neck and adjust for fit. Tight collars might cause neck irritation. To be effective, the collar must be loose enough to move about the neck. Allow 2 to 3 inches of slack. Cut off, wrap, and dispose of excess length.			

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Table 7.1 - Recommended Insecticide Use (cont.)

Pests	Insecticide Active Ingredient [Percent A.I. in Product]	Mixing and Application Information	Precautions
<i>Sprays and Dips (cont.)</i>			
fleas, ticks	fipronil [0.29%]	Hold bottle in upright position. Ruffle the animal's coat with one hand while applying spray mist to animal's back, sides, stomach, legs, shoulders, and neck. For head and eye area, apply spray on a gloved hand and rub gently into animal's hair. Do not get product into animal's eyes or mouth. Wait 30 days before reapplying. See label for complete details.	For adult dogs and cats and for puppies and kittens 8 weeks of age or older. Read Label Carefully. Wear eye protection and latex gloves.
fleas, ticks, mange mites	permethrin [10%]	Mix 1.0 oz product in 3 gal water. Apply 1.0 pt dilute spray per medium-sized dogs. For lice or mites, repeat treatment in 1-2 weeks.	Do not contaminate feed or water. Check label for details.
fleas, ticks	synergized pyrethrins, carbaryl plus repellents, etc.	Numerous sprays, shampoos and dips are available which contain synergized pyrethrins or other insecticides such as carbaryl and insect repellents. Follow directions on product labels.	
<i>Spot Ons</i>			
fleas, ticks	fipronil	While holding tube upright, snap applicator tip away from face and body and place tip through animal's hair to skin between shoulder blades. Squeeze applicator so that the entire contents are applied to a single spot on the animal's skin.	For Dogs Only. Avoid contact with eyes. May cause severe eye irritation. Do not use on puppies less than 10 weeks old. Wear latex gloves. Wait 30 days before reapplying.
	fipronil [9.8%] + (S) - Methoprene [8.8%]	Same information as above.	Avoid contact with eyes. May cause severe eye irritation. Do not use on dogs or puppies less than 8 weeks old.
	fipronil [9.7%]	Same information as above.	Avoid contact with eyes. May cause severe eye irritation. Do not use on cats or kittens less than 12 weeks old.
<p>¹Dust will form on some collars during storage. Do not get dust from collar in mouth or eyes. Harmful if swallowed. Wash hands thoroughly after handling collar.</p> <p>²Place collar around animal's neck and adjust for fit. Tight collars might cause neck irritation. To be effective, the collar must be loose enough to move about the neck. Allow 2 to 3 inches of slack. Cut off, wrap, and dispose of excess length.</p>			

Table 7.1 - Recommended Insecticide Use (cont.)

Pests	Insecticide Active Ingredient [Percent A.I. in Product]	Mixing and Application Information	Precautions
<i>Spot Ons (cont.)</i>			
	fipronil [9.8%] + (S) - Methoprene [11.8%]	Same information as above.	Avoid contact with eyes. May cause severe eye irritation. Do not use on cats or kittens less than 8 weeks old.
fleas, mosquitoes, ticks	imidacloprid [8.8%] + permethrin [44%]	Ready-to-use topical treatment for dogs and puppies 7 weeks of age and older. Product should be applied monthly during flea, tick, and mosquito season. Product is available in four dosage sizes for dogs: < 10 lbs, 11-20 lbs, 21-55 lbs, and > 55 lbs.	Product must not be used on cats. Refer to label for complete details on use and application.
<i>Ear Drops</i>			
ear mites	synergized pyrethins	Ready-to-use drops for dogs and cats. Clean ears before treatment. Place recommended drops in each ear daily for 7 to 10 days. Repeat treatment in two weeks if necessary. Consult label for proper dosage.	Do not contaminate feed or water.

¹Dust will form on some collars during storage. Do not get dust from collar in mouth or eyes. Harmful if swallowed. Wash hands thoroughly after handling collar.

²Place collar around animal's neck and adjust for fit. Tight collars might cause neck irritation. To be effective, the collar must be loose enough to move about the neck. Allow 2 to 3 inches of slack. Cut off, wrap, and dispose of excess length.

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