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How to Keep Pests Off Pets



The dog days of summer are far from over. Instead of putting up your feet and enjoying some time on the patio, you need to be proactive about your pet's health. Why? Because flea and tick season is still in full force. With just a single bite, these nasty parasites can do some serious damage to your pet. Dermatitis, anemia, Lyme disease ... You name it! So rather than let your pet suffer this summer, here's how you can protect your pet from fleas and ticks.

Pest Prevention

So, how do you protect your pet? Prevention is the best option. Since an infestation can happen at any time, you should always shield your pet with a flea and tick control. Choose from dual-action [collars](#), [sprays](#) and more! However, we recommend you use one product in particular: [Frontline® Plus For Dogs](#) or [Frontline® Plus For Cats and Kittens](#).

Unlike other prevention methods, Frontline® Plus products use two unique ingredients to combat fleas, ticks and even lice. While the first ingredient (fipronil) kills all adult fleas and ticks, the second ingredient (methoprene) attacks larvae and flea eggs. Available in a 3-month pack, this topical treatment easily applies to the back of your pet's neck, providing them with a whole month's worth of pest protection!

Flea & Tick Removal

If your dog suddenly has dry skin or you notice your cat's scratching a lot, they may have a flea or tick problem. Although removing fleas and ticks from your pet may not be the most pleasant task, it'll improve your pet's overall health when done correctly. Not sure how to do it? Follow these simple steps.

How to Remove Fleas

1. Examine your pet's fur to confirm that they do in fact have fleas. Look for black, flat-bodied bugs. If you're unable to find any fleas, search for "flea dirt" instead. Flea dirt, which is actually flea feces, will collect on your pet's skin if they've been infested by fleas.
2. Next, apply a medicated topical treatment to your pet. Depending on the medication's instructions, wait 4–5 days before bathing your pet.
3. If you're treating a cat, skip this step. Otherwise, give your dog a special bath. Lather them up with warm water and [Hartz® Ultra Guard™ Rid Flea and Tick Oatmeal Shampoo](#). Specially formulated with oatmeal, this shampoo soothes irritated skin and kills leftover fleas.
4. To remove dead fleas, comb through your pet's fur with a [flea comb](#). As you come across fleas, eggs and larvae, place them in a small bowl of soapy water for easy disposal.
5. Finally, pat your pet dry with a white towel. This will help you visibly remove dead fleas and residual flea dirt throughout your pet's fur.

How to Remove a Tick

1. First, put on a pair of [disposable gloves](#). Since ticks carry infectious agents that can seep into a human's bloodstream without breaking the skin, you'll want to protect yourself.
2. Locate the tick on your pet's body. As you approach the tick from the side, use a [Tick Tornado](#) to grab the tick by its head or mouth parts. Lightly lift the hook and turn it. After 2–3 rotations, the entire tick should detach from your pet's skin.
3. Place the tick in a [jar](#) full of [isopropyl alcohol](#) and seal it. This is the only way to effectively kill ticks.
4. Next, apply [hydrogen peroxide](#) to your pet's wound with a [cotton ball](#). You can also add [triple antibiotic ointment](#) to the bite site to prevent potential scarring.

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Information for reference only. Items and availability may vary.