

# Dunkirk Animal Clinic



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## ***Why Pet Dental Care Is Needed***

**MAINTAINING THE HEALTH OF YOUR PET'S TEETH IS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING THAT YOU CAN DO TO INCREASE THE COMFORT AND LENGTH OF YOUR PET'S LIFE.**

Pet dental care is important because:

- ☛ Pets with gum infections are very uncomfortable.
- ☛ Pet dental disease can lead to endocarditis (heart valve infection), kidney, liver and lung infections.
- ☛ Your pet will be much better company with no "bad breath".
- ☛ Your pet will enjoy life without the discomfort of sore gums and teeth, and your pet health care costs in later years are significantly reduced.

Contributing Factors :

- ☛ Poor Oral hygiene: Your pet needs dental care just like you.
- ☛ Breed: Overcrowded or misaligned teeth can contribute to the buildup of periodontal disease and are more often a problem for smaller breeds of dogs. Certain cat breeds are more likely to develop periodontal disease.
- ☛ Age: Periodontal disease is more common as pets get older.

Signs of periodontal disease:

- ☛ Bad breath pain when eating
- ☛ Bleeding gum, subdued behavior,
- ☛ Pawing at the mouth change of chewing or eating habits
- ☛ Refusing to eat
- ☛ Dribbling saliva
- ☛ Tooth loss buildup of yellow-brown tartar

To Maintain Your Pets' Oral Health:

- ☛ Visit your veterinarian
- ☛ Start an oral care routine at home
- ☛ Regular dental checkups

**Fact:**

***By the age of three, 80% of dogs and 70% of cats show some signs of dental problems.***

