Drs. Foster and Smith Joint Care FAQs

Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff

Frequently asked questions about our new line of Drs. Foster & Smith Joint Care Products.

- Can the new Joint Care tablets be cut or crumbled? Will this affect their absorption or effectiveness?
- Are the tablets scored?
- What kind of liver is used in the new Joint Care line?
- Are there any plans to bring back the old Joint Care and Joint Care Plus MSM products in the future, or to make the new products in either a vanilla flavor or an unflavored version?
- How many scoops are there per bottle of the granules for the Level 2 and Level 3 products?
- How much product does each scoop in the Level 2 and Level 3 granules contain?
- I would like to use the Joint Care Primary 1 or Joint Care Primary +1 but I prefer granules, which these products do not come in. What would you suggest?
- Why do the Level 1 and Level 3 products contain Ester-C, while the Level 2 products contain Vitamin C?
- In the Joint Care Level 3, what is the difference between the regular tablets and the small dog/cat tablets?
- For the Joint Care Level 3, how do the granules compare with the tablets as far as dosing is concerned?
- What is the sodium content of Joint Care Level 2?
- Why does Joint Care 3 contain less glucosamine and chondroitin than Joint Care 2?
- How long can a pet be kept on a joint care supplement?
- Can these new products be used in cats?

Can the new Joint Care tablets be cut or crumbled? Will this affect their absorption or effectiveness?
The tablets are designed to be crumbled, and this will not change their absorption or effectiveness. They can also be fed whole, as a treat.
[Back to Top]

Are the tablets scored?
Yes, they are scored so that they can easily be split.
[Back to Top]

What kind of liver is used in the new Joint Care line?
Both the tablets and the powder contain dried beef liver as a flavor.
[Back to Top]

Are there any plans to bring back the old Joint Care and Joint Care Plus MSM products in the future, or to make the new products in either a vanilla flavor or an unflavored version?
No, there are no plans at this time to do this.
[Back to Top]

How many scoops are there per bottle of the granules for the Level 2 and Level 3 products?
Joint Care Level 2:
6-1/8 oz or 6.125 oz (174 gram) bottle: approximately 110 scoops.
12-1/4 oz or 12.25 oz (348 gram) bottle: approximately 215 scoops.

Joint Care Level 3:
8-1/4 oz or 8.25 oz (240 gram) bottle: approximately 170 scoops.
16 oz (460 gram) bottle: approximately 325 scoops.

Please note: the number of scoops can vary, depending on whether a level scoop or a heaping scoop is used.
[Back to Top]

How much product does each scoop in the Level 2 and Level 3 granules contain?
Each level scoop in either the Level 2 granules or the Level 3 granules will contain approximately 3/8 of a teaspoon of

*Unauthorized use of any images, thumbnails, illustrations, descriptions, article content, or registered trademarks of **Foster & Smith, Inc.** is strictly prohibited under copyright law. Site content, including photography, descriptions, pricing, promotions, and availability are subject to change without notice. These restrictions are necessary in order to protect not only our copyrighted intellectual property, but also the health of pets, since articles or images that are altered or edited after download could result in misinformation that may harm companion animals, aquatic life, or native species.*

product.
[Back to Top]

I would like to use the Joint Care Primary 1 or Joint Care Primary +1 but I prefer granules, which these products do not come in. What would you suggest?
We would suggest you crumble the tablets and sprinkle them on your pet's food, just as you would with the granules. Another option is that you may choose to use the Joint Care Advanced 2 with MSM, which does come in granules.
[Back to Top]

Why do the Level 1 and Level 3 products contain Ester-C, while the Level 2 products contain Vitamin C?
Level 2 was designed to replace our old Joint Care Plus MSM, which contained Vitamin C, not Ester-C.
[Back to Top]

In the Joint Care Level 3, what is the difference between the regular tablets and the small dog/cat tablets?
The ingredients are the same, but the amounts of the ingredients are different. The small dog tablets contain about 1/4 the amount of each ingredient that the regular tablets contain. For example, the regular tablets contain 400 mg of glucosamine per tablet, while the small dog tablets contain 100 mg of glucosamine per tablet.
[Back to Top]

For the Joint Care Level 3, how do the granules compare with the tablets as far as dosing is concerned?
The granules are most similar to the small dog tablets in amount of ingredients per scoop and in dosing. For large dogs, we recommend the large dog tablets rather than the granules. The tablets can be crushed and sprinkled on your pet's food if you wish.
[Back to Top]

What is the sodium content of Joint Care Level 2?
The Joint Care Level 2 tablets contain approximately 3.4 mg of sodium per tablet.
[Back to Top]

Why does Joint Care 3 contain less glucosamine and chondroitin than Joint Care 2?
First, Joint Care 2 with MSM was formulated to replace our old Joint Care Plus MSM, so it has the same amounts of glucosamine and chondroitin that the old product had. It is for customers who are looking for a product similar to the old Joint Care or Joint Care Plus MSM. The new Joint Care 3 contains additional ingredients such as boswellia and quercetin. We wanted to offer a product that would allow animals to benefit from all of these ingredients (glucosamine, chondroitin, boswellia, quercetin). However, there is a physical size limit to the total amounts that can be put into a product on a per tablet or per scoop basis. In order to include sufficient amounts of the new ingredients, we had to limit the amounts of glucosamine and chondroitin. Customers who prefer to stay with the higher amounts of glucosamine and chondroitin, may wish to select the new Level 2 product. Please see the following question for additional information.
[Back to Top]

How long can a pet be kept on a joint care supplement?
In general, it can take 6-8 weeks to see the full effect with a joint care supplement. Most pets with arthritis need to be on a joint care supplement for the rest of their lives. Studies have shown that in arthritic joints, cartilage degeneration will reoccur about four to six months after the arthritis supplement is discontinued. Once the product has promoted healing for 6-8 weeks, the dose can often be reduced.
[Back to Top]

Can these new products be used in cats?
Supplements containing glucosamine and chondroitin are often used in cats and appear to work very well in reducing the signs of feline arthritis. Joint Care Level 1, 1 Plus, 2, and 3 can all be used in cats.
[Back to Top]

*Unauthorized use of any images, thumbnails, illustrations, descriptions, article content, or registered trademarks of **Foster & Smith, Inc.** is strictly prohibited under copyright law. Site content, including photography, descriptions, pricing, promotions, and availability are subject to change without notice. These restrictions are necessary in order to protect not only our copyrighted intellectual property, but also the health of pets, since articles or images that are altered or edited after download could result in misinformation that may harm companion animals, aquatic life, or native species.*