Drs. Foster and Smith Joint Care Products FAQs

Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff

- Can the 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 Joint Care line?
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Can the 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.
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Are the tablets scored?
Yes, they are scored so that they can easily be split.
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What kind of liver is used in the Joint Care line?
Both the tablets and the powder contain dried beef liver as a flavor.
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I would like to use the Joint Care Basic or Joint Care 1 Plus 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 2 with MSM, which does come in granules.
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In the Joint Care 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.
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For the Joint Care 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.
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What is the sodium content of Joint Care 2?
The Joint Care 2 tablets contain approximately 3.4 mg of sodium per tablet.
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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 contain 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.

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Can the Joint Care line be used safely with Rimadyl, Deramaxx, aspirin or other Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs)?
Yes. Like our Joint Care and Joint Care Plus MSM, our new Joint Care line does not contain any drugs, only supplements, and should be fine to use with NSAIDs. However, every pet is an individual, and if your pet has special health concerns, we recommend that you talk with your pet's veterinarian before adding ANY new product. It may be helpful to print off the list of ingredients to show to your veterinarian.
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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 need to be on a joint care supplement for the rest of their lives. Once the product has promoted healing for 6-8 weeks, the dose can often be reduced.
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Can these new products be used in cats?
Supplements containing glucosamine and chondroitin are often used in cats and appear to work very well. Joint Care Basic, 1 Plus, 2, and 3 can all be used in cats.
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