

Fleas Pose Dangers You Will Want to Prevent

Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff



Fleas are eager to form a close relationship with your cat. These common parasites feed on your pet (and even on you) for the blood meals they need to survive.

Problems worth preventing

FLEA ALLERGY DERMATITIS - Many cats are allergic to flea saliva. Although fleas will make any cat scratch, the intense itching of this allergy causes vigorous scratching, inflammation, lesions, and hair loss.

TAPEWORM INFESTATION - Fleas can harbor immature *D. caninum* tapeworms, which they pass on to your cat.

ANEMIA - Large numbers of fleas ingesting large amounts of blood can cause anemia, especially in kittens. Severe anemia can be fatal.

FLEA-TRANSMITTED DISEASES

- **Feline Infectious Anemia**, also known as Feline Haemobartonellosis, affects the red blood cells of cats, causing anemia, depression, appetite loss, and fever.
- **Bubonic Plague** causes enlarged lymph nodes, fever, and buboes or abscesses in cats. Bubonic Plague can also be transmitted to people.

Monthly preventives

[Monthly preventives](#) are the easy way to avoid flea infestation. These safe and

effective products are specially formulated to prevent and treat flea infestations.

Most popular are [topicals](#), which are applied directly onto your pet's skin. [Oral preventives](#) are tablets for cats and dogs.

Recommended Flea Control Products



[Drs. Foster & Smith Fiprotrol™ Plus for Cats](#)



[Bayer Advantage® Shampoo & Spray Treatments for Cats](#)