Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff

DOCTORS FOSTER AND SMITH VIDEO CENTER printable instructions

HOW TO CLEAN YOUR DOG'S EARS

Most veterinarians see dogs with ear infections on a daily basis. This is a very common ailment, and it is painful for your pet. Also, though not always caused by bacterial infection, inflammation of the outer ear, or otitis externa, affects 20% of the dog population.
Your dog's ear canal is L-shaped, and wax and debris are likely to collect in the corner of the L. They need our help to maintain good ear health. A simple weekly ear cleaning session is the best way to prevent infections and cut down on veterinary expenses related to ear problems. Ear cleaning requires only a few basic supplies.

You'll need ear cleaning solution, ear cleaning pads, ear mite powder (if your pet has ear mites), cotton balls, and a soft cloth.

STEP-BY-STEP:

Gently pull back the ear flap and slowly squirt several drops of pet-safe ear cleaning solution into the ear. Then massage the base of the ear for 20-30 seconds to soften and loosen the debris. Wipe away the debris and any excess fluid at the base of the ear. Repeat these steps as needed until debris is gone.

Let your dog shake his head to release any remaining fluid at the base of the ear. Next, clean the outer ear flap with an ear cleaning pad. These pads are pre-moistened for easy, no drip use.

Dry the ear flap thoroughly with a soft cloth. On dogs with long ear flaps, fold them back for up to 5 minutes.

Apply a small amount of ear drying powder to keep ears dry for days to come.

Reward your good dog with a treat.

Enjoy this one-on-one time with your pet.

Regular ear cleaning is the best way to keep your pet's ears clean and odor free.

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SUGGESTED PRODUCTS

Suggested Products, and/or those used in this video, can be purchased online or through our customer service line at 1-800-826-7206:

#9653 Drs. Foster & Smith Ear Care Kit
Contains products with ingredients you need to keep your dog's ears clean, odor free and dry.

#8521 Drs. Foster & Smith Ear Clens® Pads
Ideal for removing wax and debris on the inside flap of the outer ear.

#16320 Beef & Cheese Rolls
A tasty reward that says "good job" for his patience during an ear cleaning.

#2967 Otoscope
Helps detect ear mites inside the ear when performing weekly ear checks.

#1793 Hair Puller
This tool can help you remove hair inside your dog's ears so that it cannot harbor dirt, debris or bacteria.

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