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1600 Soquel Drive Santa Cruz, CA 95065 | info@adobevets.com Monday - Friday: 8:00-5:30 | Saturday: 8:00-1:00 | Sunday: Closed



Your dog or cat has been scratching lately. Something small and black jumps from the sofa onto your arm. Don't freak out. Take control with these steps.

## **Call Adobe Animal Hospital**

Is your pet on a flea control program? If he is, it must not be working. Ask your vet what she recommends. You want a product that treats fleas at every stage -- from egg to adult bug -- and that works well in your climate. Most flea



treatments take only one dose a month to keep fleas from making you and your pets itch.

If your pet is already on a flea treatment product, ask your vet about switching to something else. And make sure you treat every pet in the house.

## **Crank Up the Vacuum Cleaner**

If you rarely vacuum, fleas should inspire a change of habit.

Regular vacuuming lowers the number of fleas and their eggs from carpeting, cracks in wood floors, and on curtains and upholstered furniture. It also catches them under furniture. Don't forget to vacuum the areas where your pet sleeps and eats. Empty the vacuum cleaner bin or throw away bags in a garbage can outside right away so the fleas can't sneak back in.

For the parts of your home where you and your pets hang out the most, like the living room, kitchen, and bedrooms, vacuum every day. For everywhere else, do it once a week.

If you have a serious flea invasion, have your carpets steam-cleaned. The heat will kill the fleas, but it may not kill all the eggs. They may hatch later, and you may have to steam-clean again.

For very bad cases, you might consider treating your house with a flea "bomb" or calling an exterminator. Just make sure whatever you do is safe for you and your pets.

## Wash Bedding in Hot, Soapy Water

Hot, soapy water kills fleas, so wash your cat or dog's bed every week. And if your pets sleep in your bed or with your kids, make sure to wash everyone else's bedding, too.

### Use a Flea Comb

It may seem old school, but a flea comb with tiny teeth can do a good job of removing fleas from your pet. Do it outside, and focus on the neck area and the base of the tail. Keep a cup of soapy water beside you. Use it to dip the comb so you can drown the fleas.

Regular flea combing will also let you know how your flea control efforts are working.

#### Give Him a Bath

Once the house is vacuumed and the bedding is washed, give your dog a bath. Bathing your pet regularly will also help rid your home of fleas.

Any soap will kill them, so you don't have to use a flea bath. But make sure that the soap you use is safe for a cat or dog.



Some people like to finish the bath with a nice-smelling essential oil, but we do not recommend that you use them as that can cause problems.

Frequent washing or swimming in the ocean or a pool can actually remove your topical flea medications, so an oral product may be better for your pet.

#### For More Information:

https://pets.webmd.com/kill-fleas-at-home#1

# **PREVENT WORMS AND PARASITES**

Dogs and cats are susceptible to a variety of different parasites including heartworm, hookworm, fleas, ticks and many more.



All of these parasites feed off your pet's body and cause major health problems if untreated.



Fleas and other parasites can actually transmit diseases to you and your family as well.



Parasites are preventable in most cases, so talk to your vet about the different ways you can keep your pet parasite free.



Make sure to bring your pet in for regular check ups, parasites can often go undetected by pet owners.







