



Tick Prevention Tips from dogsandticks.com

5 quick tips to keep your dog safe

1. Check for ticks daily. If you find a tick on your dog remove it right away
2. Use a tick preventative on your dog.
3. Ask your veterinarian to conduct a tick screening at each exam.
4. Watch your dog closely for changes in behavior or appetite.
5. Talk to your veterinarian about tick-borne diseases in your area.



How to check your dog

- Check your dog for ticks every day, especially during tick season: spring, summer and fall
- Remember to check between your dog's toes, behind ears, under armpits and around the tail and head.
- Brush your fingers through their fur, applying enough pressure to feel any small bumps. If you do feel a bump, pull the fur apart to identify it.
- An embedded tick will vary in size, from a pinhead to a grape. Depending on the size and location of the tick, its legs may also be visible.
- Ticks are usually black or a dark brown.
- Ticks need to be embedded for 24–48 hours to spread infections.
- While you're at it, check yourself and family members for ticks!



Questions to ask your veterinarian

- What is the prevalence of tick-borne diseases in my area?
- How often should I have my dog checked for tick-borne diseases?
- How do I know if my dog has a tick-borne disease?
- How do I protect my dog from tick-borne diseases?
- What if my dog tests positive for a tick-borne disease?
- What kind of tick preventatives do you recommend?
- How old should my dog be before you do a tick screening?



How to remove a tick

If you find a tick on your dog remove it right away:

- Wear rubber gloves to protect your hands.
- Grasp the tick very close to the skin with a pair of fine-tipped tweezers. With a steady motion, pull the tick's body away from the skin. Avoid crushing the tick to prevent infection.
- After removal, clean your dog's skin with soap and warm water.
- Throw the dead tick away with your household trash or flush it down the toilet.
- Never use petroleum jelly, a hot match, nail polish or other products to remove a tick.