

DENTAL CARE CANINE:



For client-friendly and effective dog dental care, consider regular brushing with a dog-safe toothbrush and toothpaste, supplemented by dental treats and toys, and professional cleanings as needed.

Here's a more detailed breakdown:

1. At-Home Dental Care:

- **Brushing:**

- Brushing your dog's teeth regularly (at least a few times a week) is crucial for preventing plaque and tartar buildup.
- Use a dog-specific toothbrush and toothpaste, as human toothpaste can be harmful to dogs.
- Start slowly and make it a positive experience for your dog.

- **Dental Diet:**

Dental dog food is beneficial for maintaining oral health by helping to reduce plaque and tartar buildup through a gentle abrasive effect when chewed, which in turn reduces gum disease and other oral issues, ultimately contributing to a dog's overall health and comfort.

Here's a more detailed explanation of the benefits:

- **Reduces Plaque and Tartar:**

Dental dog food is designed with a specific texture and formulation to help scrape away plaque and tartar that naturally accumulate on a dog's teeth during chewing.

- **Promotes Healthy Gums:**

By reducing plaque and tartar, dental dog food helps prevent gum disease (periodontal disease), which can lead to inflammation, pain, and even tooth loss.

- **Improves Breath:**

Bad breath (halitosis) is often a sign of poor oral hygiene. Dental dog food can help freshen breath by reducing bacteria buildup in the mouth.

- **Supports Overall Health:**

Gum disease can lead to systemic infections that can affect other organs like the heart, kidneys, and liver. By preventing gum disease, dental dog food helps maintain overall health.

- **Examples of Dental Diets:**

Some popular brands include Hills Healthy Advantage Oral +, Purina Veterinary Diets DH Dental Health Canine Formula, and Royal Canin Canine Dental Dry Food.

- **Important Note:**

While dental dog food is a great tool for oral hygiene, it's important to note that regular brushing and professional dental cleanings from a veterinarian are still crucial for maintaining optimal dental health.

- **Dental Chews and Treats:**

- Dental chews and treats can help reduce plaque and tartar buildup, especially when they are designed to promote oral health.
- Look for products with the Veterinary Oral Health Council (VOHC) seal of acceptance.

- **Dental Toys:**

- Durable dental toys can help your dog clean their teeth while chewing, freshening their breath.

- **Dental Gels/Sprays:**

- If brushing is difficult, consider dental gels or sprays that contain enzymes or antimicrobial agents to reduce plaque and tartar.
- Look for products with the Veterinary Oral Health Seal of Acceptance.

- **Regular checkups:**
 - Schedule regular checkups with your veterinarian to ensure your dog's teeth are healthy and to address any potential problems early.
- 2. Professional Dental Care:
 - **Regular Cleanings:**
 - Professional dental cleanings are important for removing plaque and tartar buildup that can't be removed at home.
 - Discuss the frequency of professional cleanings with your veterinarian.
 - **Anesthesia:**
 - Most professional dental cleanings require anesthesia to allow for a thorough and safe procedure.
 - Discuss any concerns about anesthesia with your veterinarian.
 - **Extractions:**
 - In some cases, teeth may need to be extracted due to disease or damage.
 - Your veterinarian will discuss the best course of action for your dog's specific needs.
 - **Consultation:**
 - Contact your veterinarian to schedule an appointment or discuss any questions or concerns you have regarding your dog's dental health.