

# Murray Bridge Vet Clinic

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## Fleas

### Protecting your pets from Fleas

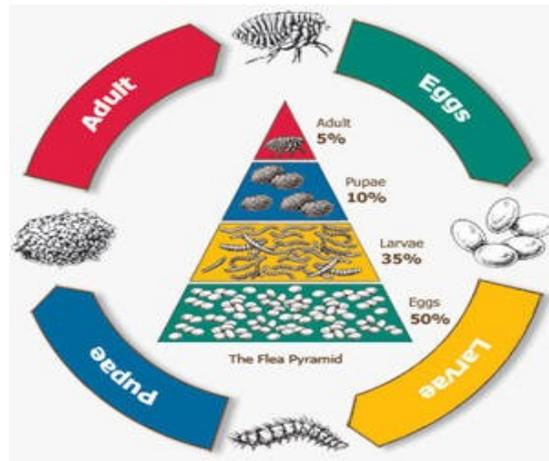
Fleas can make life miserable for pets and their owners. They cause a vicious cycle of itching and scratching that may result in hair loss, irritation and flea allergy dermatitis in some pets.

Pets can pick up fleas from where other flea-infested animals have been. This could be the backyard, your home or the park. One female flea can lay up to 50 eggs per day that fall off into the environment to develop into adult fleas 14 days to 6 months later, depending upon the environmental temperature. After developing, adult fleas can emerge to re-infest your pet. In flea-infested environments young adult fleas jumping onto your pets are unavoidable



5%  
of a flea problem  
is on your pet as  
adult fleas

95%  
of a flea problem  
comes in the form of eggs,  
larvae and pupae in  
your pet's environment



### Treating the environment

1. Vacuum your entire house paying particular attention to dark corners, dark crevices, under furniture, under beds, rugs and especially around skirting boards. Vacuuming gets rid of eggs, larvae and pupae in the carpet and furniture. The vibrations from vacuuming also stimulates the fleas to emerge from their cocoons and thus they will be exposed to the insecticides that will be used. The cocoon surrounding the pupae is water tight and impervious to insecticides so the more you vacuum the better the result. When you have finished vacuuming dispose the contents of your vacuum cleaner completely.
2. Spray all carpets, rugs, floors, soft furnishings and places your pet sleeps with an aerosol or flea bomb that kills flea eggs, larvae and emerging adult fleas. Check the label of the sprays for active ingredients. Use one that contains IGR (Insect Growth Regulator). Make sure you spray in every nook and cranny and pay special attention around skirting boards and under rugs and furniture. Spray under beds and under couches etc. Developing fleas avoid the light and make their way to dark areas.  
Don't vacuum for 2 weeks following spraying with an IGR.
3. Don't forget your yard and garden. Use the same spray as you used in the house. Spray around where the pet sleeps, in crevices, gravel and sandy areas. If your house is raised from the ground then you will need to spray under the house. Spray patios, verandahs and kennels.  
Wash all of your pets bedding and soft toys. Shake them well and hang them in the sunlight to dry.

### **Options for dogs**

- Flavoured chewable tablets which are easy to give to your dog. Also protects against heartworm and intestinal worms
- Small oral tablets
- Spot on treatments which are easy to apply to the back of the neck, great if your dog dislikes tablets

It is important to use a treatment that kills all 4 stages of the flea life cycle on the dog and in the environment.

The treatments at Murray Bridge Veterinary Clinic are all safe to use on pregnant and lactating bitches and in puppies from a young age. Certain products have a 100% Guarantee (when purchased from a veterinary clinic)

### **Options for cats**

- Small oral tablets
- Spot on treatments which are easy to apply to the back of the neck, great if your cat dislikes tablets

Some of the spot on treatments also provide protection against intestinal worms, fleas and mites

It is important to use a treatment that kills all 4 stages of the flea life cycle on the cat and in the environment.

The treatments at Murray Bridge Veterinary Clinic are all safe to use on pregnant and lactating queens and in kittens from a young age.

**Ensuring you have the correct weight for your pet is very important when purchasing a flea treatment. Please bring your pet into the clinic and use our pet scales next time their treatment is due.**

**Let our trained veterinary and nursing staff find the right product for your pets. You can be assured our training provides us with the knowledge needed when choosing safe parasite control.**

**We also have the support of the products manufactures representatives.**



[Click here to contact the clinic](#)

If you have any further questions please make an appointment with your Veterinarian or ask one of our friendly staff members.