



# Animal Clinic of Chardon

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FEBRUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER



## Did you know?

*Stinky breath? Studies show that 70 percent of cats show signs of gum disease (gingivitis) by age three. Symptoms include yellow and brown build-up of tartar along the gum line, red inflamed gums, and persistent bad breath.*

*How many teeth do dogs have? The average adult dog has about a third more teeth than his human counterpart. Adult dogs have 42 permanent teeth compared to a measly 32 average human teeth (not counting any wisdom teeth. Those are "bonus."). Puppies possess 28 baby teeth while human babies will have 20 deciduous or "baby" teeth.*

*How many teeth do cats have? Cats have 30 adult teeth and 26 baby teeth. That's far fewer than dogs (42 and 28) and less than humans (32 and 20). Those "fangs" or upper canine teeth often protrude saber-tooth tiger style and lend some cats an intimidating smile.*

*When do dogs begin to lose their baby teeth? Puppies begin losing baby teeth around 12 to 16 weeks of age. By four months of age, almost all of a pup's deciduous teeth have been shed and many of the permanent teeth have already erupted and are in place.*

## 10 Reasons Why You Should Take Care of Your Pet's Teeth

February is National Pet Dental Health Month! To celebrate, we've pulled together some of our best dental-health articles for cats and dogs, which you can page through below, as well as the top reasons caring for your pet's teeth is so important.

Here are the top reasons why dental care is really important!

1. A pet with healthy teeth equals a pet with better breath!

2. Dental disease can actually lead to problems with your pet's organs, such as the heart.

3. Retained baby teeth can cause problems in pets too! Did you know that full grown dogs have 42 teeth and full grown cats have 30 teeth? Before their adult teeth grow in, though, their baby teeth have to fall out.

Sometimes, not all of the baby teeth want to come out. This can lead to problems like gum irritation and tartar buildup.

4. Caring for your pet's teeth can prevent other health problems, saving you tons of money over the long term!

5. You need regular dental care and you brush your teeth everyday – why wouldn't your pets? Your veterinarian and these handy videos can help you learn to brush your dog's teeth and your cat's teeth.

6. Did you know that 4 out of 5 dogs over the age of 3 years



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have some sort of periodontal disease? It can be caused by the buildup of plaque, so it's important to go in for regular dental checkups and cleanings. Learn more about the importance of removing plaque from your cat's teeth in our video, [Why Is It Important to Remove Plaque On My Cat's Teeth?](#)

7. Pets that don't get dental care can painfully lose their teeth – this can be terribly painful and cause serious health problems.

8. Your dog and cat are very good at hiding pain – you might never know that your pet has a serious dental problem until it's very advanced. This is yet another reason it's important to take your pet in for regular dental checkups.

9. Teeth wear out! Your pets are tough on their teeth. Learn the symptoms to keep your pet from experiencing the pain of severely worn teeth.

10. Learn more about the importance of dental care by visiting Pet Health Network's [dog dental-care centers](#) and our [cat dental-care centers](#).



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