



KNOW THE FACTS

Guidance for Handling Fleas at Home

How do they spread?

Fleas can enter the home by hitching a ride on dogs, cats & pests. Fleas can also enter through open windows. Once indoors, fleas can lay eggs in carpets, bedding & furniture.

Flea Hot Spots

- Carpets & rugs
- Along baseboards
- Basements
- Cracks & crevices in floors
- Clothing & linens
- Cushions on sofas & chairs
- Pet bedding
- Ears, neck, back, & belly of pets
- Cool, damp & grassy areas outside



What to look for on your body

Flea bites can be found on your legs, feet, calves, & ankles. Bites can look like small bumps with a discolored ring and can be in a straight line or in a cluster.

If you do get bitten by a flea, effects can range from:

- Itchy & irritated skin
- Allergic reactions (hives, swelling & difficulty breathing)
- Infection from diseases from fleas

Talk to your doctor if you have any questions about flea bites & talk to a veterinarian about flea treatment for your pets.

This sheet was adapted from information obtained from the CDC, Cleveland Clinic, EPA, & Harvard Health Publishing

Getting Rid of Fleas

- Wash bedding & pet bedding in hot soapy water every two to three weeks
- Throw away pet bedding if the infestation is severe.
- Vacuum & sweep floors often
- Steam clean carpets
- Use flea combs on pets, especially around the neck & tail
- Wash pets with soap & water
- Keep pets indoors
- Hire a licensed commercial pest control applicator
- Mow your lawn frequently & remove brush



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