

Signs of Dental Problems in Cats & Dogs

Bad Breath

Foul breath, often caused by bacteria living in your pet's mouth, is often the first sign of dental problems.

Drooling

Drooling can at times indicate that there is irritation in the mouth and could be a sign of dental problems.

Plaque

This difficult-to-see soft layer of food and proteins is easy to remove with regular brushing, but returns quickly.

Calculus

This yellowish-brown crust, also commonly called tartar, is a crust of food particles, bacteria, and minerals that build up at the gum line.

Gingivitis

Red and swollen gums or pain and bleeding when your pet eats or when his/her gums are touched is commonly caused by bacteria in the calculus. This is the first stage of periodontal disease.

Decreased Interest in Food

If your pet's mouth hurts, your pet may avoid the pain by not showing interest in regular meals or treats or chew toys (if that had previously been a pleasure).

Loose, cracked, or missing teeth – This is an obvious sign that periodontal disease is progressing and should be addressed as soon as possible to prevent discomfort and pain, development of abscesses or infection, and further complications.

If your pet has any of these issues, call us for a dental evaluation: (206) 782-4222

