

## Method 1 Dental Chews

There are a variety of dental chews and treats for cats. One of the best options we have found at The Adopt-A-Pet Shop is the Oral Hygiene Chews for Cats made by Virbac. These chews are great because they are so large that they force the cat to actually chew on it vs. just swallowing it whole. When buying any chew treats be sure to look for ones that are large in size, and watch you cat when they eat them, if they swallow them whole they won't do any good for the teeth!



## All About Prevention Care!

Just like people cats collect all kinds of tartar and bacterial build up on their teeth and gums. However, unlike people cats lack a good way of taking care of their teeth on their own. Without brushing and rinsing their teeth regularly all that build up can cause some serious issues that can be both painful and smelly, and also lead to losing teeth. Some cats are prone to having gum disease and more troublesome dental issues than others. Prevention care is key to helping your kitties mouth stay clean and healthy, and can help you avoid expensive and stressful dental extractions.

## The Methods

In between regular dental cleaning at your vet, these methods can help you keep your kitties mouth clean and pain free!

**Good:** *Method 1* –Dental Chew Treats

**Better:** *Method 2*- Oral rinse

**Best:** *Method 3*- Brushing Teeth



## Feline Dental Care





# Our Recommended Care Routine for: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Method 2 Oral Rinse

Think of this like the cat version of Listerine! Except your cat is not going to be keen on swishing it around in their mouth, they will need your help! We recommend squeezing about a pea-sized amount onto a plate and using a clean cotton swab to gently apply the gel rinse to the gums and teeth. Some rinse bottles come with a long skinny applicator that you can use to directly spray/ rinse the teeth and gums, however this can be more messy and your cat might not be a fan. Most gel rinses also expire so be sure to check how long your bottle will last!

## Method 3 -The best method Brushing

Brushing will by far yield the best results for your cat's oral hygiene! There are many different pet brush types; try out the different varieties to find what works best for you! We recommend the Virbac cat toothbrush and their poultry flavored toothpaste. NEVER use human toothpaste on your cat, as there are many toxic chemicals in it. Pet toothpastes are specially formulated to taste good to your cat and to be nontoxic to their sensitive tummies. Start off slow, before brushing allow your kitty to taste the toothpaste and see if they like it. If your kitty will allow you, gently scruff and try to brush their teeth. The first few times you may only get a few brushed. Once your kitty becomes more comfortable you'll be able to get more teeth. Reward your kitty with praise and a nice dental chew after!



## What to Watch for:

Keep an eye out for excessive bleeding from the gums when brushing. Bleeding is a sign of irritation and the brushing processes is likely painful. Raw and red puffy gums are a sign of painful dental issues. Ask your vet to examine your cats teeth and recommend a course of action to help. It may be time for your kitty to get a professional dental cleaning. Helping clean your cats teeth at home can go a long way for preventative care, but a good old-fashioned dental cleaning by your vet will take care of all the issues that you wont be able to.