
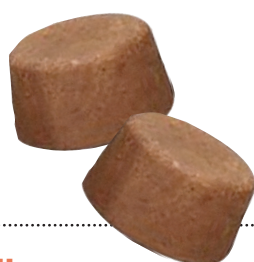




FLEA & TICK PRODUCT COMPARISONS

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There are numerous effective products that kill fleas and ticks on pets. There is not a “best” product, because each person’s situation and preference can be different – and even differ among pets in their household. The table highlights advantages and disadvantages of several products categories: squeeze-on topicals, oral chewable tablets, collars and powders/sprays. Remember that the “advantages” and “disadvantages” of a product can be in the eye of the beholder, so it is important to understand your customer’s preferences before recommending a specific product. It is also crucial that your customers read and understand the product labels to use these products in the safest way.

CATEGORY	ADVANTAGE	DISADVANTAGE	NOTES:
<p>Squeeze-on Topical (Non-prescription)</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kills fleas and ticks on contact. • Many products start killing within minutes. • May be best for preventing tick-transmitted diseases, because of fast killing. (Note that speed of kill slows progressively over time after treatment). • Often combined with a chemical that prevents flea reproduction i.e. IGR. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some people find these to be messy. • Bathing may remove product, and effectiveness, from the haircoat. • Potential for human exposure to insecticide on the pets’ haircoat. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These products tend to be the least expensive. • Good choice for people who want the fastest killing or who prefer to have the “bug killer” on the pet instead of inside the pet. • Often easier for treating cats. • MUST ONLY USE PRODUCTS LABELED FOR USE ON CATS!
<p>Oral Chewable Tablet</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easy to administer. • No messy liquid on pet. • No external exposure of chemical. • Good for dogs that get bathed often. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some people do not want “insect killer” in their pet. • Generally higher priced products. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active ingredient is in the blood, so these products kill fleas and ticks when they feed on the pet. • Acceptability by pet varies between products. • Different products last from 1 month to 12 weeks (label indications). • Available OTC and Rx
<p>Collar</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convenience. Just put on the collar. Tend to be longer acting, so less frequent treatment needed. • Can be a good solution for dogs that are very active outdoors. • May be easier than applying liquid onto cat. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pets, especially cats, may remove the collar. • “Insect killer” is on the pet’s haircoat, so risk of human exposure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are many different ingredients used in collar products, from synthetic pyrethroids to organophosphates. It is important to understand the ingredients and their safety profile for dogs and, especially, cats.
<p>Powders & Sprays</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can provide a quick knock-down of fleas. • May provide added benefit in pet heavily infested with fleas or ticks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shorter duration of action compared to other forms. • Higher exposure of pets and people to pesticide. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powders and sprays are best suited for treating a heavy flea or tick infestation. Not well suited for sustained flea control. • For heavy flea or tick infestations, pet owners are advised to seek veterinary attention for their pet.

