



Dog Teeth Brushing Tips

The sooner your puppy gets used to having his teeth done by you the easier it will be when he gets older.

If you can, use a toothbrush designed just for a dog's mouth. However, using a toothbrush made for a human is better than not using a toothbrush at all.

Use only toothpaste for dogs – using human toothpaste could make your dog ill. Dog toothpaste seems to come in flavours that dogs love.

Start your tooth brushing session by offering your dog a taste of the toothpaste to get him used to the taste and smell.

It may help to have the dog sit in a corner with his back against the wall. Have a leash attached to his collar and gently step on the leash with just a little slack. This will help to control him and keep him from escaping backwards.

Place some toothpaste on the brush and lift his lip up from the side and brush his teeth that you can reach from the side. As the dog gets used to having his teeth brushed, you can then progress to opening his mouth wider and brushing the molars.

When brushing your dog's teeth, you should be most concerned with the outside of the teeth and gum lines because a dog's tongue helps to keep the inside area of the mouth fairly clean. Keep your dog's brushing sessions light and fun with lots of praise.

Soon he will look forward to his daily dental session with you and you will be able to clean his entire mouth in one sitting. Eventually, he will hear the sound of his toothbrush and come running...I promise!

Your dog may eventually need some professional dental cleaning done by the veterinarian but it may be many years or perhaps never so long as you keep up the good work with the in-home dental sessions. And you and your dog will appreciate the results, whiter teeth, healthier teeth and gums and sweeter breath (*say goodbye to dog breath*).