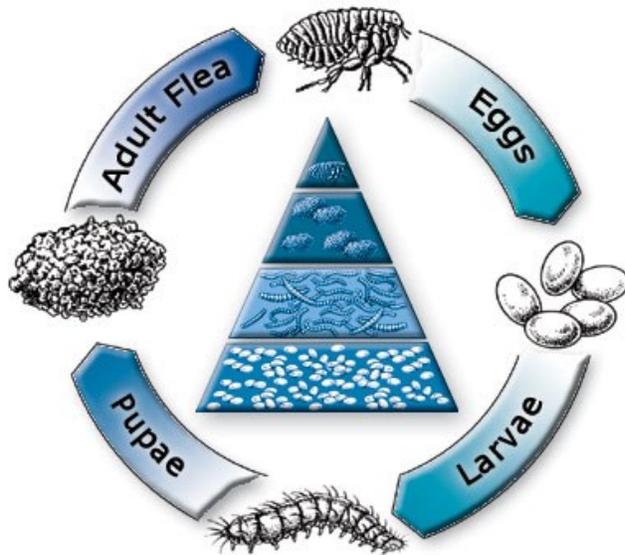


Flea Control Information



Fleas are among the top economic pests in the U.S. Each year 52 million pet owners nationwide spend nearly \$500 million on flea control. While killing adult fleas to provide quick relief is a good start, a long term solution is more desirable as adult fleas comprise only 5% of the flea population, eggs comprise 50%, larvae comprise 35%, and pupae comprise 10%.

Control of Fleas

Flea control requires conscientious effort for a period of several weeks in coordination with a licensed pest control specialist.

Flea Treatment Checklist

1. Before your home is sprayed for fleas:
 - * Vacuum all carpeting, furniture and drapes. Throw away vacuum cleaner bag when finished.
 - * Wash any pet bedding.
 - * Sweep and mop all floors thoroughly (including closets, under beds, etc.).
 - * Take all items off floors (including closet floors.)
 - * Remove pet food and litter box(es).
 - * Cover aquariums and turn off pump (fresh water only.)
 - * Turn off air conditioning - open windows.
 - * Have pet treated (the day the home is sprayed.)
 - * All linens should be removed from beds & washed.
2. Leave your home for 4 hours at the time of treatment.
3. After your home is sprayed for fleas:
 - * Do not wash floors for 14 days.
 - * Vacuum every day and change vacuum cleaner bag after every use.

Frequent Asked Questions

Fleas

I just had my house and yard treated, took my pet to the vet, and there are fleas on my pet again. Why?

When the pet goes into the environment and lies down on flea pupa, if they are ready to hatch, they will (from increase in pressure and temperature) jump directly onto the pet. It may take two to three weeks for the pupa to cycle into adults, so a "hatch out" is normal during that time period. Assuming the vet treated your pet with Advantage or Front Line, the fleas will die, but it will take as long as 12 hours for that to happen. If the problem continues for more than 4 weeks after treatment, call for additional service to upgrade the adulticide.

When can I let my pet back into the house?

Children and pets should be kept off of treated surfaces until the material is completely dry. We use a time of about four hours, but depending on conditions that time could vary.

How do I know if it's dry?

One way is to put a paper towel on the carpet and step on it. If the towel comes up dry, all is well. If not, additional drying time is required.

Why do I need to vacuum before treatment?

Vacuuming does several things. It picks up flea eggs, pupa, as well as adults. It also picks up the "Flea Dirt" that the larva need to breed, and helps to stand the carpet fibers up so that the material has a better chance of reaching the base of the carpet.

Why do I have to discard the vacuum cleaner bag, and do I have to do it each time I vacuum?

When you vacuum, you pick up all stages of the flea. They can, will, and do complete their cycle in the bag, and come out the front looking for something to eat. YOU SHOULD VACUUM BEFORE TREATMENT AND DAILY FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS, FOLLOWING TREATMENT, DISCARDING THE BAG EACH TIME.

Why do I have to vacuum so much after the treatment?

Vacuuming after the treatment helps get the pupa stage to hatch out of their cocoons. Of all the stages of flea development, the pupa is the hardest to kill, that's why it's essential to get all the pupa to hatch out as quickly as possible. Otherwise, you could be having pupa hatch out for months to come.

What about steam cleaning the carpets?

Excellent idea, but do it FIRST, not after a flea treatment. The heat from the steam will aid in killing off some stages of the flea, but, if done after a treatment, it can neutralize all the residual material and the growth regulators, causing the treatment to be ineffective.

What about odor? Will it stink?

WELL, that's a tough one. Most of the products that are essentially odor free are microencapsulated. These give long residual, but take a long time to work, and are susceptible to vacuuming. The best products for indoor flea control are "EC's"-Emulsifiable Concentrates, that go into SOLUTION with the water. These will normally have a slight odor, usually coming from the emulsifier. The level of objection varies widely from person to person. Talk to your technician. He can explain the benefits of each system and help you make your own decision. Basically, a little bit of odor will get you better, quicker control, than most of the "odorless" varieties.