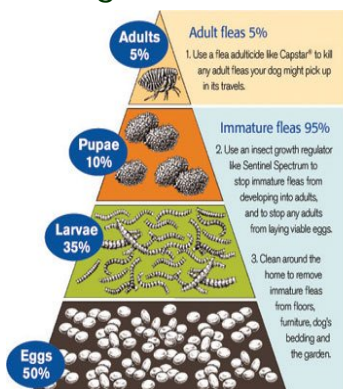


# Flea Free in Houston



## Using Flea Preventatives, but still seeing fleas?



To prevent fleas, you need to break the flea lifecycle

The flea pyramid will give you a good idea of how much flea activity you really have when you see a flea.

The flea pyramid is a great way to understand the true flea life cycle. When you see 1 flea there are 10 eggs around waiting to hatch, 7 larvae wait-

## Topical Vs. Oral

Which one is better? That is very difficult to say. It is really based on your pet's life style.

Dogs that are frequently groomed or even bathed a lot (once weekly or more) are not good candidates for topical treatments.

Dogs that have high exposure to the outside where

ing to molt to pupae, and 10 pupae days away from being adult fleas. 1 flea seen by you = 19 future fleas.

It is very easy to see how flea infestations are in your home and/or yard and you didn't even know it because all the stages of flea development are microscopic except for the adult flea.

When you kill only the adult flea you are only taking care of 5% of your problem.

As you know, there are many flea products available today that are marketed to "take" care of fleas for you. Some marketing even implies that their 1 product alone will take care of your prob-

there is a greater chance of ticks and mosquitoes should be on a topical because the orals to do not prevent those parasites.

Dogs that travel with you a lot (store/park/beach/vacation) where new fleas are, should be on a flea preventative that kills adult fleas so you do not take

lems. The truth is that is not the case. There is no magic bullet.

The biggest mistake that owners make in Houston and our gulf coast area is that there is a break in flea treatment to their pet. In Houston and the entire gulf coast region, Flea treatments should be done 12 months of the year.

Owners in our area still think there is a "flea season". There is. It is January thru December. For fleas to reproduce, the temperature has to be greater than 60F and the humidity has to be greater than 33%. There are only a few days a year in our tropical climate where flea production is not possible.

any home and start egg production.

Yards that have high numbers of stray animals (cats/other dogs/squirrels/rodents) should be on preventatives that kill fleas so egg production does not start.

## Special points of interest:

- FLEAS HAVE TO HAVE A BLOOD MEAL TO LAY EGGS.
- QUICKLY ELIMINATING FLEAS IS IMPOSSIBLE BECAUSE 95% OF THEIR LIFE CYCLE IS MICROSCOPIC AND IN YOUR WHOLE ENVIRONMENT.
- MODERN VETERINARY FLEA PRODUCTS WORK BETTER AND SAFER.

## Effective Flea Control:

ADULTICIDES

INSECT GROWTH REGULATORS

INTEGRATED FLEA CONTROL

ENVIRONMENTAL

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## Environment Flea Control

### INDOORS:

#### Bedding:

1. Use Ectokyl Spray that has adulticide action as well as an IGR (insect growth regulator– does not let eggs hatch).
2. Then wash bedding in hot water.

#### House:

1. Use Ectokyl Spray on carpet, furniture, and baseboards.
2. Then Vacuum after on all surfaces.
3. Take contents of vacuum and place in separate plastic bag. Tie or seal bag and throw in outside

trash immediately.

### OUTDOORS:

#### Yard:

1. Focus on the areas of your yard that are shady. Eggs can not develop in the sun. Generally, under shrubs, bushes, trees, etc.
2. Wherever your pet lays to get out of the sun. Baseboards around house, patio and edges, under house if there are openings for the animals.
3. Tool sheds or any other non attached structure providing shade should be treated as well.

4. Any bedding or housing the pets use should be treated.

On the outside you will want to use products that have adulticide action to kill adult fleas as well as insect growth regulator that are not sensitive to light to keep eggs from hatching.

Treat indoors and outdoors once every two weeks. Start all pets on veterinary flea treatments. Do this for 2 months and keep the animals on their flea medications year round and you should resolve your issues once and for all. If you have an outbreak in fleas, just repeat the cycle as needed.

