

## Dental procedure information

Your pet has been booked in to have its teeth cleaned. This information is to help you understand what is going to happen and hopefully make the day a little easier for you and your pet.

Your pet is going to have a general anaesthetic which is why it is important that they don't have any breakfast on the day they come in. They can have water right up until you leave home.

Drop off at the clinic is generally between 8am and 10am on the day of the procedure and pick up is usually between 4 and 6pm. If this is going to be difficult for you, please let our staff know and we will try our best to accommodate your needs.



In the morning after they arrive, they will have a blood test to check liver and kidney function (older pets have more extensive testing) and are given a health check by the vet to make sure they are fit and well for the anaesthetic. If the blood test and health check are OK then they are given a sedative to make them a little drowsy and less anxious. They have an intravenous catheter inserted into a vein in their leg and a small amount of anaesthetic injected, just enough to make them go to sleep. After this they have a tube placed into their airway and they are kept asleep with anaesthetic gas. They are fully monitored throughout the dental procedure and kept on intravenous fluids for additional hydration.

Their teeth are scaled and polished, just like yours would be at the dentist, and all the teeth are carefully checked for cavities or cracks.

Usually the vet will remove any teeth that are damaged, loose or painful. You will have to sign a form on the day of the dental to say if you give permission for the vet to do extractions if they deem them necessary, or if you would prefer to discuss this with the vet before they go ahead (this might mean we have to wake your pet up and do the extractions on another day if we cannot get in touch with you when we call).



The estimate of costs is based on what we can see with your pet awake, and before the tartar is removed from their teeth. Often things are not exactly as they seem, and the work required is far greater than we could have reasonably expected.

We work hard to keep within our estimates, but sometimes this is not possible. This is particularly the case with premolar and molar tooth extractions which

If you are concerned about potential extra costs, or the possibility that your pet may need extractions, please discuss this at the time of admission.

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Remember your  
toothbrush is green,  
mine is blue.



Bob would learn the hard way that dogs are color-blind.

