



Dental Quiz

How Did You Do?

1. Who has more teeth, an adult dog, an adult cat, or an adult human?

A dog has the most adult teeth, a whopping 42. Adult humans have 32 permanent teeth and adult cats have 30.

2. Which of these species can suffer from cavities: dogs, cats, humans?

Humans and Dogs can both suffer from cavities. Modern cats do not get cavities, but can suffer from resorption, where the teeth decay from the inside out. This is essentially the opposite of a cavity but is equally as painful. Cavities are caused by bacteria. Resorption is not related to bacteria.



3 Which of these species develop tartar and gingivitis: dogs, cats, humans?

Dogs, cats and humans all have issues with tartar build up and gingivitis. It is estimated that 85% of pets show signs of periodontal disease by age three! Dental disease often leads to problems with other organs including the heart.

4. Name at least three signs of dental disease in pets.

Signs of dental disease include, bad breath, drooling, weight loss, loose or missing teeth, food dropping out of the mouth while eating, red gums, blood on chew toys and bones. What you are unlikely to notice is the pain caused by dental disease because dogs and cats naturally hide their pain so as not to appear weak.

5. True or False: A cat will have all its permanent teeth by the age a human baby starts the teething process?

True. The majority of cats will have all of their permanent teeth by the time they are six months old. This is the same age a human being gets their first baby tooth.

