

Dental Scaling and Polishing

Ruxton Animal Hospital · 8014 Bellona Avenue · Towson MD 21204
410-296-0890 · 410-296-0892 fax · www.ruxtonanimalhospital.com

While the equipment we use to perform dental cleaning and polishing is similar to that used by your own dentist, there are several additional steps involved in veterinary dentistry. Since your pet will not sit still and "open wide", general anesthesia is required to perform a thorough dental prophylaxis. Most dental procedures require 30 minutes of anesthesia time although some cleanings and/or extraction(s) can require additional anesthesia time. All pets are examined prior to anesthesia. With your pet's utmost safety in mind, we use Isoflurane gas anesthesia, a respiratory monitor (Ap Alert), pulse oximeter (measures oxygen level in the blood), IV catheter with fluids, and a warm water blanket to help your pet maintain a normal body temperature and blood pressure during the procedure. A pre-anesthetic blood screen is required to check for anemia, diabetes, liver or kidney disease (chemistry panel-CBC). These conditions may affect the amount or type of anesthesia required. Any procedure involving an anesthetic entails some risk, but the above protocols minimize the risk to your pet. See **Anesthetic Options form** for an explanation of the pre-op blood work, IV catheter with fluids, and pulse oximeter.

Once your pet is under anesthesia, we use an ultrasonic device to scale tartar from the visible surface of the tooth. A hand scaler is then used to remove tartar from below the gum line, and the degree of gingivitis is assessed. All teeth are examined for chips, cracks, root exposure, or movement, which would indicate gingival disease and bone loss surrounding the tooth. If extractions are indicated, we will try to reach you prior to the extraction if you wish. Pain relief medication is strongly recommended if extractions are performed. The last step in the dental cleaning is to polish the surface of the teeth using a device and polishing compound similar to what your dentist uses. Under most circumstances your pet can go home the same day.

The most critical step in maintaining your pet's clean teeth and healthy gums is home dental care. By brushing your pet's teeth with a special soft brush and enzymatic toothpaste on a regular basis, you can prevent tartar buildup and lengthen the amount of time between professional cleanings. Some pets will not tolerate brushing at home but we have other products available, such as Hill's Prescription Diet T/D formula, specifically formulated to limit tartar buildup.

Base Fees:

Cat dental cleaning	\$396.50
Dog dental cleaning <15 lbs.	\$402.00
16-35lbs.	\$407.00
36-65lbs.	\$413.50
66-95lbs.	\$419.00
96+	\$436.50

Additional Fees may apply:

Suture Material	\$22.25 per pack
Pre-operative exam	\$36-68
Pre-anesthetic blood tests	\$50.85 plus \$15 blood draw fee
Minor extraction	\$32 per tooth
Major extraction	\$80 to \$250 per tooth
Pain relief	\$36 per injection
Antibiotic injection	\$36 per injection
Nail trim	\$13.00
Dental x-rays	\$42 per film
Additional anesthesia time	\$82.50 per half hour

	Yes	No
Has your pet had a pre-anesthetic blood screening?	()	()
Would you prefer to be called if an extraction is necessary?	()	()
If we cannot reach you, do we have your permission to perform the extraction?	()	()
If extractions are performed, do we have permission to provide pain relief medication? (Pain relief medication will be automatically provided to your pet unless you indicate otherwise)	()	()
Would you like to have your pet's toenails trimmed while under anesthesia?	()	()
I have read the above information and understand the choices I am making for my pet.	()	()

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Pet's name: _____

Telephone number where you can be reached on the day of the procedure: _____

The safety and comfort of your pet is our primary concern

♥ Thank you for entrusting your pet to our care ♥