



## Worms

It's true what they say 'Out of sight, out of mind'. As most people never see worms they forget to routinely worm their pets. Most dogs and cats are infected with worms at some stage in their lives. Worms can damage your pet's health and yours!! Worms can infect people if they come into contact with contaminated faeces or by letting infected/untreated pets lick your hands and face. Young children and pregnant women are particularly at risk, so worming should be an important part of the pet's routine health treatment.

All puppies and kittens are born with roundworms, which are passed on from the mother whilst still in the womb and through the milk. As adults our pets can pick worms up from contaminated soil, from ingesting fleas and through hunting.

There are several signs of worm infestation, these include:

- NO SYMPTOMS
- Worms in faeces
- Vomiting worms
- Scooting their bottom along the floor
- Smelly breath
- 'Pot belly'
- Increased appetite

The worming regime depends on the age of the dog or cat. It is as follows:

- Every 2 weeks until 12 weeks of age
- Every month until 6 months
- Then every 3 months thereafter

Don't worry if your pet doesn't like taking tablets as worming treatment comes in different forms e.g. liquid, powder and spot-on for cats. Please remember that some pet shop wormers are not as effective and may not treat all types of worms unlike prescription ones you can get from your Vet.

**Please ask one of our Veterinary team for the best treatment for your pet.**