

What Pet Parents Should Know About Using Topical Preventives



Preventive care is a key part of keeping your cat or dog healthy.

One of the best ways you can prevent potential health issues is to use monthly flea and tick preventives.

You may be considering a topical preventive, a medication that's applied directly to your furry friend's skin or coat to ward off parasites. But is this application method ideal for every pet? Let's look at everything you need to know about topical preventives, and if they're right for your specific pet and their lifestyle.

What Are Topical Preventives?

A topical preventive is a flea/tick medication in **liquid form** that is applied between the shoulder blades or down the back of your pet. Typically, these are recommended by a veterinarian. Topical preventatives can protect against harmful parasites like fleas, ticks, and heartworms.

Which Pets Are Good Candidates for Topical Preventives?

Topical flea and tick preventives are a great option for pets who are picky eaters, don't do well taking a pill or chew, or have sensitive stomachs.

Which Pets Shouldn't Use Topical Preventives?

If your pup lives in a home with young children or other animals, topical preventives may not be ideal. Some topical options, like Frontline Shield, are highly toxic to cats and cause extreme harm if ingested.

Topical treatments are also not a great option for pets who like to swim or pets who need frequent baths. That's because water can affect the product's efficacy.

Using Topical Preventives

Before choosing a preventive for your pet, always consult your veterinarian.

Topical Preventive Options

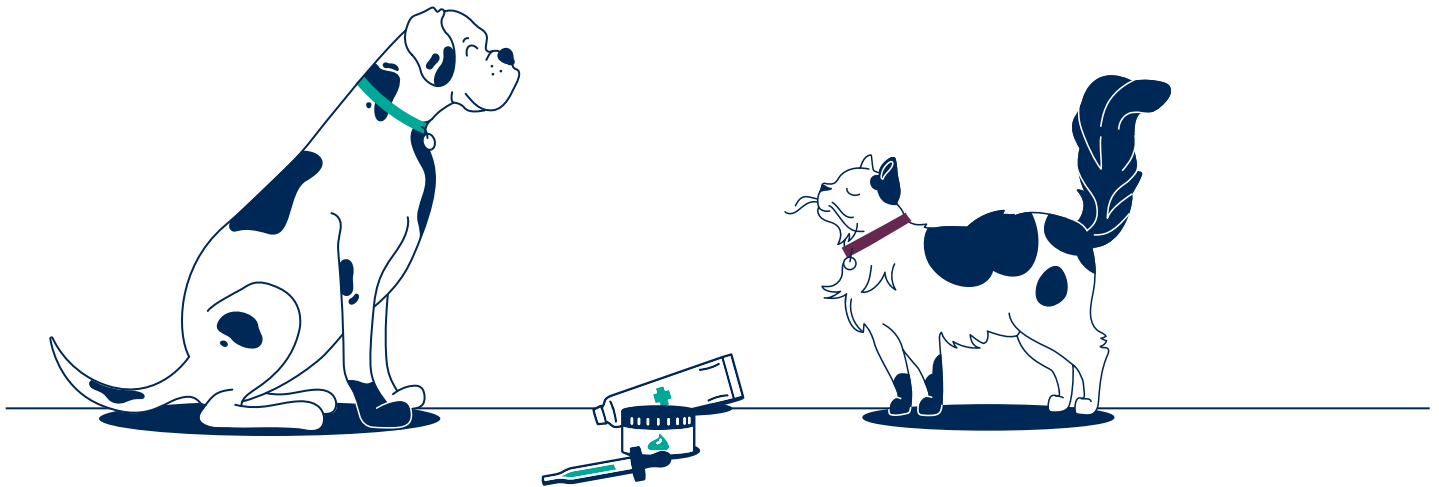
Below are the most common and popular topical preventives for pets:

For Dogs

- Advantage
- Frontline
- K9 Advantix
- Onguard Plus
- Vectra 3D

For Cats

- Revolution/
Revolution Plus
- Advantage
- Bravecto



Your veterinarian recommends the following preventive for your pet: _____