

A Dog Owner's Guide:

Tick-borne Diseases



Preventing Tick-Borne Diseases

In the US, many pet owners don't know that dogs are susceptible to parasites all year long. Pests such as ticks can be a constant issue not just in the warmer months on the calendar. Dogs that are allowed to roam in the woods or tall grass are especially exposed to an increased risk of diseases.

The best way to safeguard your pet is by ensuring your pet receives year-round tick protection. Talk to your veterinarian about preventative medicines that protect against ticks and other pests.

Ticks can transmit the following diseases:

Tick	Disease & Clinical Signs
 Deer tick	Lyme Disease <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fever• Painful or swollen joints with shifting leg lameness• Poor appetite• Enlarged lymph nodes
 Deer tick	Anaplasmosis <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fever• Lethargy• Painful or swollen joints• Poor appetite• Weight loss
 Brown Dog tick	Ehrlichiosis <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fever• Lethargy• Painful or swollen joints• Poor appetite• Weight loss• Bleeding tendency
 Lone Star tick	

Clinical Diagnostic Testing for Tick-Borne Diseases

The earlier a disease is detected, the sooner your dog's health can be managed. Your veterinarian can screen for tick-borne diseases with diagnostic testing and confirm a diagnosis with a physical exam and blood testing. Once a condition is diagnosed, treatment is determined based on which disease has been identified.

Your veterinarian will likely carry out some or all of the following diagnostic tests:

	Chemistry Panel Provides information on many blood parameters, including electrolytes, proteins, kidney, and liver values.
	Complete Blood Count (CBC) Provides information on red and white blood cell counts and platelets. Levels can be affected by infection with tick-borne diseases.
	Urinalysis Provides information on urine concentration, content, and kidney health.
	Urine Protein: Creatinine (UPC) Ratio Examines the amount of protein in the urine to assess for kidney disease that can be caused by some tick-borne diseases.
	Urine Culture Tests for urinary tract infection.
	Imaging X-rays or ultrasound evaluate internal organs. X-rays of the limbs may also be performed if lameness is present.
	Infectious Disease Testing Screens for parasitic and bacterial diseases such as heartworm, Leptospirosis, and tick-borne diseases.

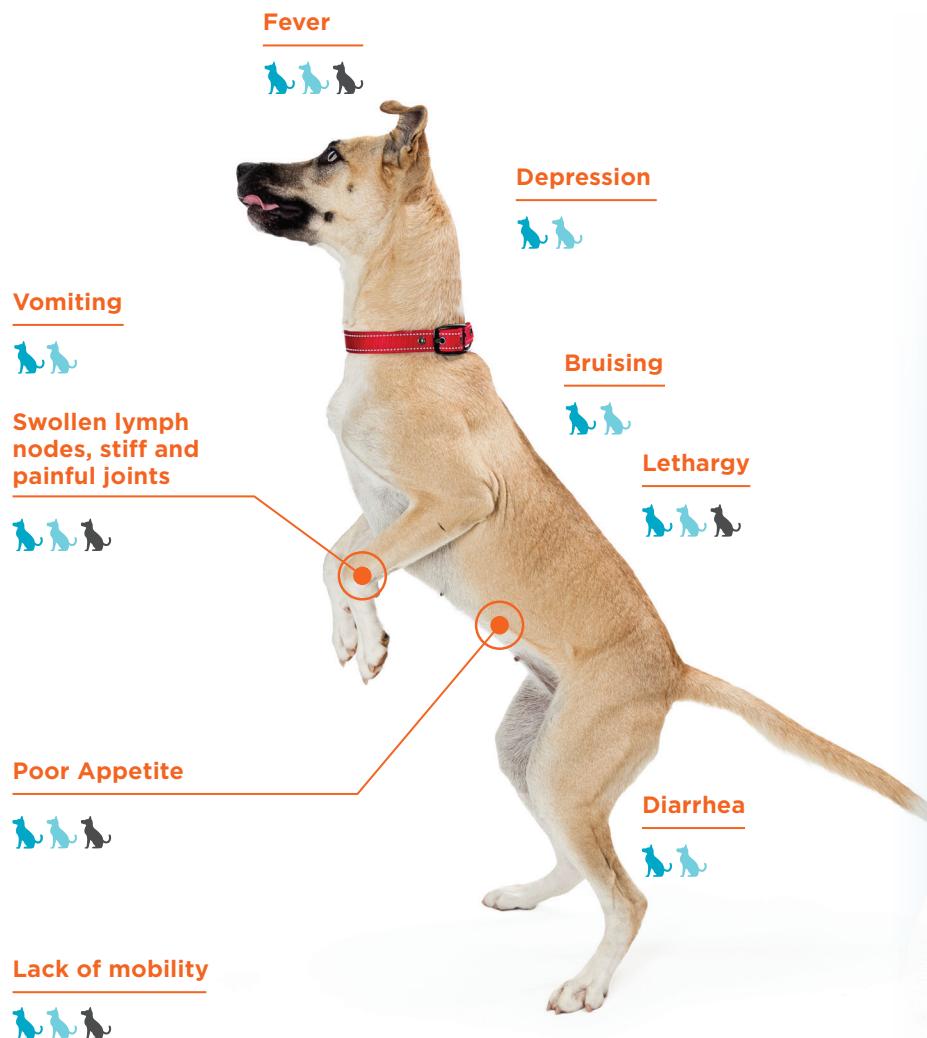


Clinical Signs of Tick-Borne Diseases

If you notice any of the following signs in your pet, contact your veterinarian as soon as possible.

Key Chart

 Anaplasmosis  Ehrlichiosis  Lyme Disease



Treatment of Tick-borne Diseases

Tick-borne diseases are usually treated using antibiotics. After your dog has completed their course of antibiotics, it's important to go back to your veterinarian for a follow-up visit. Effective preventive products will help protect your dog from ticks in the future.

Monitoring of Tick-borne Disease

Repeat blood tests are often required to monitor the response to treatment. Your veterinarian will often use the same tests used at diagnosis to help keep your dog happy and healthy.





Ask Your Veterinarian About Diagnostic Testing for Your Dog

Your veterinarian will be able to detect issues earlier and treat them sooner with simple diagnostic testing designed for your dog. Diagnostic testing is also used to establish a biometric baseline to closely monitor your dog's health.

This clinic uses Zoetis diagnostics to aid in the evaluation of your dog's health.

Schedule Regular Visits

Routine visits with your veterinarian are the perfect time for you to ask medical questions, track behavioral and weight changes, and receive tips for at-home care.

Some topics that may be covered during your visit include:

- Behavior
- Oral health
- Environment
- Parasite control
- Elimination
- Vaccination
- Nutrition
- Diagnostic testing

SCHEDULE YOUR NEXT APPOINTMENT TODAY!

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