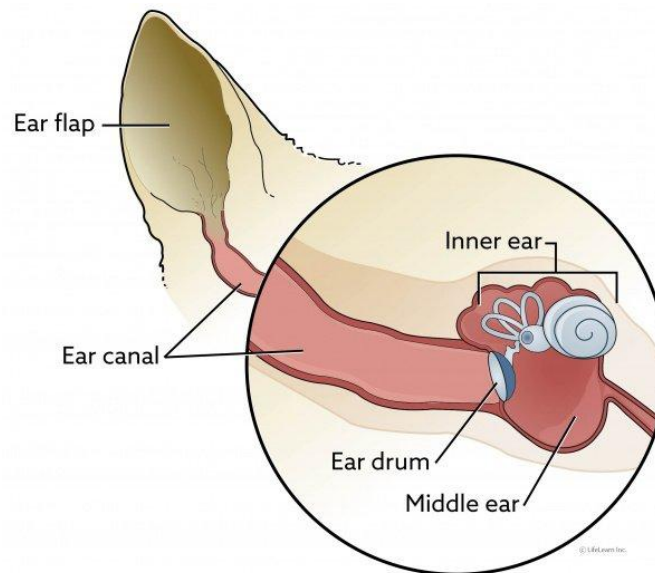




EAR CLEANING

Whether ear cleaning is for preventative or medical purposes, it is helpful to handle your pet's ears regularly from a young age to help desensitize.

The ear consists of the pinna (ear flap), vertical ear canal, and horizontal ear canal, ending in the ear drum.



<https://vcanada.com/know-your-pet/instructions-for-ear-cleaning-in-dogs>

How to clean your pet's ears:

- Restrain your pet as required. Feeding treats while cleaning the ear is a great way to make it a positive experience.
- Gently hold the pinna vertically. Keep the tip of the bottle out of the ear canal to keep this clean.
- Slowly drip the ear cleaner into the canal until you see it pooling at the entrance. Administering too quickly can give your pet a fright.
- Gently massage the base of the ear so you hear a squelching sound. You will feel a cartilage 'tube', which is the vertical ear canal. Massaging this will help loosen debris in the canal.
- Allow your pet to shake its head to bring up debris from deep in the ear canal.
- Gently wipe out the canal and the pinna with gauze.

Be mindful:

- **Never use cotton tipped applicators**, as you are at risk of perforating the ear drum.
- Using water to clean can potentially cause ear infections if the ear is not completely dried, as it makes for a warm, moist environment for yeast or bacteria. Obtaining an ear cleaner through Veterinary recommendation is highly recommended.
- Cleaning too often or with a solution such as hydrogen peroxide can cause irritation. Follow the guidelines recommended by your Veterinarian.
- If you notice redness, excess debris, or your pet seems painful, seek medical advice.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5C39A9UU720> for canine

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U5Dh3mJBzts> for feline