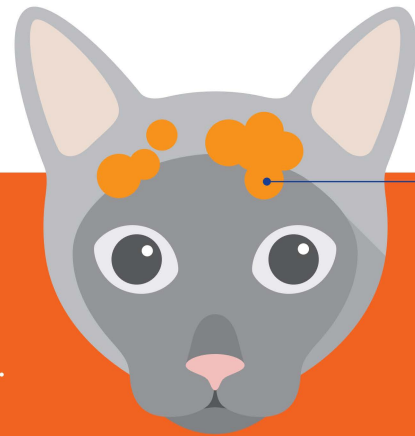


Ringworm (dermatophytosis)



Hairless,
reddened,
crusty skin

Ringworm is a fungal skin infection that affects both people and pets.

Despite the name, ringworm is actually a fungus that creates distinctive red-ringed lesions on the skin. This infection is spread through contact with contaminated soil, which is then carried by infected people and pets. Ringworm spores are hardy, and can stay infectious for many months.

What does it look like?

Common signs:

- Hair loss
- Reddened, crusty skin

- ▶ Ringworm infections range from small lesions to covering most of your pet's skin.



How is it diagnosed?

- Clinical signs, like lesions and crusting
 - Physical exam results
 - Laboratory tests of affected skin and hair
- ▶ Ringworm lab tests take up to 10 days, so treatment typically begins before a diagnosis is confirmed.

How is it treated?

Treatment depends on the severity of the infection, and may require several months to be effective. Topical medications, medicated shampoos, and oral antifungal medications may all be prescribed.

- ▶ Humans can get ringworm, so wash your hands, don't let your pet lie on you or your bed, and wash their bedding regularly.



How to help your pet

- Administer all medications and treatments as prescribed
- Monitor your pet's progress carefully and come in for checkups as directed
- Thoroughly clean or replace all pet bedding, clothing, and grooming materials to avoid spreading the disease
- Contact your veterinary team with any questions
- Need immediate advice? Ping Vet Chat™—included in all pet Optimum Wellness Plans®!

