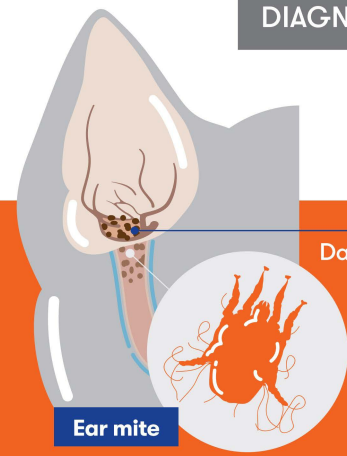


Ear mites

Ear mites are highly contagious, microscopic parasites that infest cat and dog ear canals.

Ear mites are transmitted by contact with an infected animal. They commonly affect cats (and can infect entire litters of kittens), but can also affect puppies and adult dogs. Typically it's found in both ears, although one ear may be worse in early stages.



What does it look like?

Common signs:

- Head shaking
- Painful or sensitive ears
- Scratching at the ears
- Dark, crusty material in the ear canals

- ▶ Ear mites commonly cause secondary ear infections from bacteria or yeast, which cause a smelly brown or yellow discharge.



How is it diagnosed?

- Your pet's history
- Clinical signs, like buildup in the ear
- Ear swab tests

- ▶ Your veterinary team will need to examine your pet's ear wax under a microscope to diagnose mites.

How is it treated?

Your veterinary team will prescribe a topical medication to apply directly to the ear canal. Additional medications may be required to treat secondary bacterial or yeast infections.

- ▶ You may need to thoroughly clean your pet's ear before or between using ear medication. Allow 30 minutes after cleaning for the ear to dry completely before applying medication to the ear canal.



How to help your pet

- Administer all medications as prescribed
- Follow all ear-washing and ear medication instructions closely
- Schedule a checkup for 10 to 14 days after treatment begins
- Contact your veterinary team with any questions or concerns
- Need immediate advice? Ping Vet Chat™—included in all pet Optimum Wellness Plans®!

