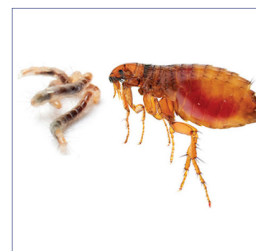


Common Dog Parasites

Here at Petware House, we take immense pride in each and every pet, that finds a loving, caring home. We ensure that your pet, while in our possession, receives the best care and nutrition possible, but at times, just as humans, pet's can get sick. Particularly susceptible is our beloved pet dog and some of the most common health issues you are likely to encounter.



Parasites in dogs take many forms, but they all have one thing in common: sooner or later, their presence will always have a negative impact on your pet's health and comfort. As a result, they can cause anything from mild irritation to serious illness. To cover all of the parasites in detail would take up volumes of books. So here is a quick overview of the most common parasites, how they work and the problems they may cause.

Roundworms:

1. Most puppies get this from mother's milk. Causes and Behavior:
2. They can contract this by ingesting infected food, water, vomit, or feces.

1. Puppies may have a swollen abdomen and stomach pain Symptoms:
2. Lethargy, vomiting, abnormal stool, lack of interest in food

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Hookworms

1. Most puppies get this parasite through mother's milk.
Causes and Behavior:
2. They can penetrate the skin in a contaminated environment.
3. Parasite lives in the small intestine, living off animal's blood



1. Puppy may look unhealthy or have poor appetite. Symptoms:
2. Linings of nostrils, lips, and ears will be pale.
3. Dark, tarry stool, diarrhea, or constipation.

Tapeworm:

1. Caused by ingesting a host animal that is infected, such as a bird, rodent, or fleas Causes and Behavior:
 2. Very common if dog is infested with fleas.
 3. They tend to settle in the small intestine
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1. Tapeworms or segments may be visible in the feces or in the fur around the anus Symptoms:
 2. They are white or cream colored, and may be the size and shape of a grain of rice or cucumber seed
 3. Animal may lick or bite anus and drag its butt to relieve itching.

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Coccidia:

1. This is a protozoan that attacks the intestines Causes and Behavior: 2. Can spread through contact with an infected dog's feces
3. Can be caused by the stress of weather changes, environmental changes, moving, and travel.



1. Watery, mucous-like diarrhea Symptoms:
2. May turn into bloody diarrhea and dog may show an inability to hold it.
3. Animal may be in a weakened state.

Giardia:

1. This is a protozoan that affects the intestines Causes and Behavior:
 2. This is the most common parasite that affects humans
 3. Infection may be sudden, temporary, intermittent, or chronic in nature
 4. Approximately 50% of young puppies will become infected with this parasite
 5. Most commonly spread through contaminated water, but may also spread through infected feces, directly or indirectly.
1. Will cause diarrhea that is soft, frothy, greasy, and with a strong, awful odor or excessive mucous. Symptoms

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Parvovirus:

1. Direct contact with an infected dog or sniffing an infected dog's stool Causes and Behavior:
2. People can carry the virus in on their shoes.
3. The virus tends to attack the lining of the intestines.



1. Severe, bloody diarrhea Symptoms.
2. Lethargy, anorexia, fever, vomiting, severe weight loss.
3. Gums, lips and tissue around the eyes may appear bright red due to fever.
4. Dogs could also be hypothermic and have a very low body temperature.
5. Stomach may be painful.

Demodectic Mange:

1. This is an inflammatory disease that is more genetic in nature Causes and Behavior:
 2. Dogs with immune system issues may be predisposed to this.
 3. This is transmitted from mother to puppies, but is not contagious to other animals.
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1. Hair loss is usually seen on the face, trunk, or legs, but may be generalized to the whole body Symptoms:
 2. Patches might be red or appear scaly.
 3. Dog may become very itchy, or may not itch at all.

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Sarcoptic Mange:

1. This is a mite, also called scabies, and transfer easily through direct or indirect contact Causes and Behavior:
2. They burrow into the skin of an animal



1. Intense scratching, skin rash, crusty formations on skin, hair loss Symptoms:
2. Symptoms don't surface for 2 to 6 weeks after exposure

