

# The Frequency Of Veterinary CHECKS FOR DOGS



Have you ever wondered how often you should take your dog to the vet?  
Don't worry, this question is quite normal, even for experienced dog owners.

If our four-legged friend is healthy and happy, we are tempted to leave them alone and not take them to the vet for a routine check-up or a preventive vaccine for a disease that, maybe our puppy will never get. However, this approach does not take into account an important aspect: what is best for our dog.

## What should we do?

Let's find out together how often we should take our dogs to the vet and for what.

1

### DEWORMINGS

The first deworming is done at the age of 3 weeks. If the puppy eliminates worms (you'll notice them in the stool), the deworming is repeated every 2 weeks until the age of 2 months. For adult dogs (>1 year old) a routine deworming is usually done every 5 months. Always check in with your vet to find out what's the best deworming scheme for your dog.

2

### VACCINATIONS

Vaccines are mandatory, and the routine vaccination scheme protects your dog against life-threatening diseases such as rabies and parvovirus. A vet can determine the best possible scheme for your dog and provide an appropriate explanation regarding each individual vaccine. On top of those mandatory vaccines, you can also opt for "extras" such as a viral respiratory infections vaccine (for puppies over the age of 2 months) or a Lyme disease vaccine, both of which need to be repeated annually. A local vet can inform you about the infectious diseases present in your area and provide advice regarding what additional vaccines would be beneficial for your pup.

3

### DELOUSINGS

Until the age of 2 months, a puppy can be deloused (if necessary) with the use of sprays or powders. Ask your veterinarian how long the puppy will be protected from external parasites and write it down in your personal calendar, so you know when you need to come back for another preventive treatment.

4

### GROOMING

Here we can include cleaning the ears, trimming the nails, and emptying the perianal glands. Ideally, the puppy's ears should be cleaned weekly to keep them clean and avoid ear infections. With a little guidance from your vet, you can learn how to clean your dog's ears yourself or you can go to dog salons that offer ear grooming as part of the cleaning package.

5

### BONE AND JOINT DEVELOPMENT

Medium, large and giant dog breeds usually need vitamin (A, B, C, and D) and mineral supplements (calcium, phosphorus, magnesium, zinc, etc.) to ensure the normal development of their bones and joints. Weak joints can cause pain and mobility issues.

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