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Ticks are a class of arthropods that feed on the blood of dogs and other warm-blooded animals. The fight between pet owners and ticks is ages old. Dogs, the loyal friend of humans are most affected by ticks and this causes a lot of distress for pet owners who would not like to see the blood of their loved ones being sucked out by bloodthirsty little dots. Ticks on dogs are serious. Ticks often carry germs in their saliva that can cause serious diseases. Here are a few tips to check for ticks on dogs.

Know the tick

Ticks are not found on trees. They usually live on the ground and can remain unfed for up to a year. When they believe it is time for a snack, they climb onto a blade of grass and wait until their prey comes close. You would find ticks on dogs more often than on cats because your domestic cat does not roam out too much. Dogs on the other hand, are too playful to remain in the confines of the home or the neighborhood boundary and have a greater chance of giving a lift to a tick. Once they climb on, the ticks find their way to a hairless part of the dog's body and then bite into the skin with which they finally start having supper.

Dangers of the Tick

Ticks on dogs can result in serious health concerns for the dog they feed on. Although there are ticks that are comparatively harmless, their presence should be taken seriously. Symptoms of tick-induced diseases are similar to those caused by other diseases such as lethargy, weakness, swellings and paralysis. Some of the diseases that are caused by ticks are: Lyme disease, Anaplasmosis, Babesiosis and Ehrlichiosis. The signs of these diseases may take days to show and when you do notice them, consult a veterinarian to proper things out.

Preventing a tick infestation

Prevention is always better than cure. To prevent ticks on dogs, routinely check your dog for ticks and fleas. If you can find them before they get their blood sucking mandibles in that would save a lot of trouble for the dog and for you. Safety begins at home and therefore, get the lawn mowed and trim taller plants. There are many tick prevention products available in the market that can be applied monthly. Prevent your dog from mingling with strays and when on a hike, regularly check its coat for ticks when you decide to camp.

Removing ticks

Sometimes, even the best prevention is not enough to prevent ticks on dogs. Then, there is no other option but to remove them yourself. It is not very difficult. Wear latex gloves and armed with tweezers, look for ticks on its body. Search the areas where hair growth is comparatively less, mostly closer to the neck, face and ears. When you locate the parasite, pull it out by grasping its mouth end with the tweezers and pulling it. Do not squish the tick as it can spill blood onto the wound. Once removed, immerse it into alcohol to kill it. Squashing it with vengeance too would work but know that it can spill a lot of blood.

Always consult the veterinarian once a month and let your pet go through a full checkup. It would be a good idea to make it a habit as a puppy to report for a grooming. This would largely negate any irritation that a dog may feel while being checked for ticks.

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As summer is getting closer and the weather is getting warmer, we need to start thinking about our dogs and taking prevention measures against ticks and fleas. Ticks are extremely dangerous for your dog's and your own health because they cause different diseases like lyme disease, piroplasmosis, tularemia and many more. So, prevention needs to be taken right away. See a list of the best ticks products and learn how to use them safely on this website: a [flÅ¥ter pÅ¥ hund](#) is the term in Danish. Fleas are also very dangerous and spread different diseases. See how to get rid of fleas and which products to use on this website: a [loppemiddel til hund](#) is the Danish term.

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