

How to Give Your Pet Eye Drops

Administering eye drops or ointments to your pet can be a bit of a challenge, especially if they're not too fond of the process. Having someone else there to help can make it easier by keeping your furry friend still and calm. Here's a step-by-step guide to help you navigate this task smoothly!

1. Follow Your Vet's Instructions

First and foremost, always stick to your vet's advice on how often to give your pet eye treatment. The frequency can vary depending on the specific eye issue your pet is facing.



2. Familiarise Your Pet with the Bottle

- **Let Them Sniff:** Before diving in, let your pet sniff the eye drop bottle. This helps them get used to its presence.
- **Positive Association:** Reward them with a treat after the sniff test. This way, they'll start associating the bottle with something positive, making the process less stressful for both of you.

3. Using Eye Drops

If you're right-handed, here's a simple way to administer those drops:

- **Hold the Eyelid Open:** Use your left hand's thumb and finger to gently hold the eyelid open.
- **Approach from the Side:** With the bottle in your right hand, bring it towards the eye from the side to avoid startling your pet.

- **Administer the Drop:** Carefully place one drop into the eye. Be cautious not to touch the eye itself with the bottle, as this can cause discomfort or infection.
- **Be Firm, Not Rough:** Remember that dogs and cats have strong eyelid muscles, so you may need to apply a bit of firmness while holding the eyelid open.



4. Using Ointment

For ointment, follow these steps:

- **Start with a Small Amount:** Squeeze out a small amount of ointment from the nozzle to avoid wasting it.
- **Position Over the Eye:** Hold the tube over your pet's eye, being mindful of their movements.
- **Apply the Ointment:** Squeeze gently again to lay a trail of ointment over the surface of the eye. Be sure to keep the nozzle away from direct contact with the eye to prevent injury.

Tips for Success

- **Stay Calm:** Your pet can pick up on your emotions, so staying calm and reassuring can help them feel more at ease.
- **Practice Patience:** If your pet struggles at first, give them time to adjust and try again later.
- **Reward Them:** After administering the drops or ointment, give your pet lots of praise and a treat to reinforce positive behaviour.

By following these steps and being patient, you can make giving your pet eye drops or ointments a smoother experience for both of you!