



Animal Hospital — of Nicholasville —

Canine Ear Cleaning Guidelines Animal Hospital of Nicholasville

Regular ear care helps prevent infections and discomfort. Follow these steps to safely clean and medicate your dog's ears at home.

What Supplies Do I Need?

- Prescribed ear cleaning solution
- Cotton balls or gauze
- A towel (especially helpful for small dogs)
- Treats for positive reinforcement

Do NOT use cotton-tipped applicators (Q-tips®). These can perforate the eardrum, damage the ear canal, or push debris deeper into the ear.

Step-by-Step Guide for Ear Cleaning

- 1 Position your dog securely and calmly.
- 2 Lift the ear flap to expose the ear canal.
- 3 Fill the ear canal completely with prescribed cleaning solution.
- 4 Massage the base of the ear for 30 seconds.
- 5 Allow your dog to shake their head.
- 6 Wipe debris from the ear flap and outer canal.
- 7 Clean only as far as your finger can comfortably reach.
- 8 Repeat on the other ear.
- 9 Stop if your dog shows signs of pain and contact your veterinarian.

Step-by-Step Guide for Medication Application

- 1 Lift the ear flap to expose the canal.
- 2 Apply the prescribed number of drops.
- 3 Massage the base of the ear for 30 seconds.

- 4 Apply medication to the ear flap if instructed.
- 5 Repeat on the other ear if directed.
- 6 Wash hands thoroughly after treatment.

If you have any questions or concerns about ear cleaning or medication, please contact Animal Hospital of Nicholasville. Your pet's comfort and safety are always our priority.