

# Fleas

## The flea life cycle

### Why have I got fleas in my home/workplace when there are no pets?

- In the summer fleas can survive outside and be carried into buildings.
- Visiting friends or clients who have fleas in their homes can transport fertile fleas into the home or workplace.
- If you have visited a public building with fleas, you can bring them home.
- Fleas in the pupae stage can remain dormant for up to 9 months and then hatch when you walk into an empty property. This is a common problem for landlords/landladies and estate agents.

### Treatment of Pets:

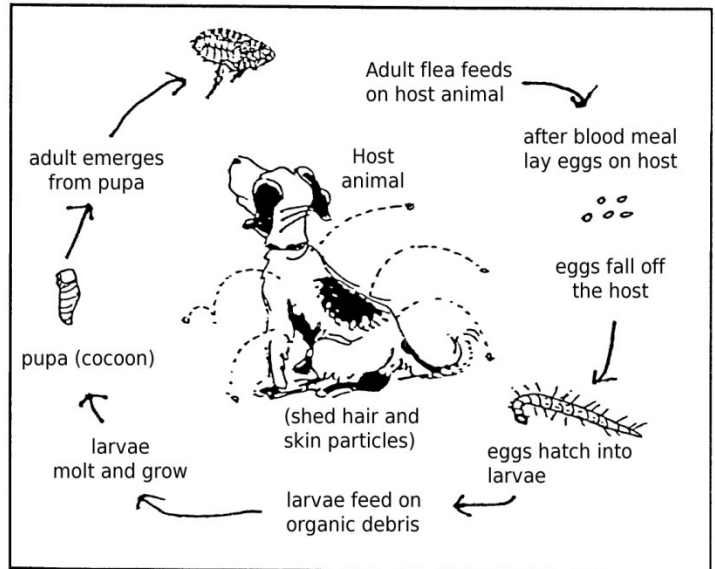
Treatment of pets is essential. Pet treatment, which contains a growth inhibitor (a product that stops the development of the flea egg), is very important. You should also:

- Groom and treat your pets. Animals swallow eggs when they clean themselves so grooming with a flea comb will help stop this. Flea eggs will drop off so groom outside. Your vet can give advice about flea treatments.
- Vacuum and clean your home regularly, including furniture.

### Treatment we can provide:

If you decide you would like our pest control officers to provide treatment, please make sure you have read and followed the advice below.

**If you ask us to retreat prior to the end of the 5 week waiting period, there will be a \$65.00 treatment fee. If you still have a problem with fleas after 5 weeks and contact us within 60 days after the first date of treatment, we will treat the interior again free of charge. After 60 days, you will be charged the full amount.**



### What you need to do before the pest control officer visits:

- Vacuum your entire house, including sofas and chairs
- Throw out the vacuum bag as it may contain flea eggs
- Clear as much floor space as possible (not the furniture)
- Start to treat your pets

### After the pest control technician has provided treatment:

- You must go out for 1-2 hours after treatment has been carried out
- Animals must stay out of treated areas for a least 1 hour
- Do not sit on anything that has been sprayed until it has dried
- Do not let children play in treated area for 4 hours
- Vacuum as often as possible

You may see fleas for up to 5 weeks. The adults will die, but eggs will be developing at different times and the emerging adults will die off as they come into contact with the pesticide.