

# All About Fleas

**Winter is here, as this brings cold weather, The fleas are still with us.**

Fleas can be a major problem for pets and their owners. Even if they never leave the house, pets can be exposed to these blood-sucking parasites. Preventing flea infestations is the best protection against them. Comfortis for dogs and cats starts killing fleas within 30 minutes, before they can lay eggs. And Comfortis lasts a whole month — it can't be rubbed, washed or shaken off.



## **Why are fleas so hard to control?**

Once in your home, a female flea can produce 40–50 eggs per day, so even a few fleas can quickly turn into a major infestation. Flea larvae turn into pupae, which are generally more impervious to flea control products applied to the animal or its environment. Adult fleas erupt out of their pupal stage, or cocoon, and quickly find a host, such as your dog or cat. Because these cocoons can be found almost anywhere, including your own living room, it seems to pet owners that fleas appear out of nowhere. This is why it's important to treat fleas as quickly as possible and to make sure your pets are protected, even before they encounters fleas.

## **What you can do to control flea infestations?**

Even with flea protection for your dog, you still want to be sure your household is rid of fleas that were hidden in egg stages when you treated your dog. The most effective means of controlling severe environmental flea infestations is the use of a pest management specialist (exterminator). If you discover fleas in your home: consult your veterinarian. Your veterinarian is your best source of information about flea control for your dog. Depending on your individual situation, your veterinarian might make specific recommendations to eliminate fleas on your pet. Many products, such as Advantage, provide fast relief and help eliminate fleas in your home. While treating your dog is an

important step, you should also kill fleas in your home to reduce family member exposure to fleas and prevent any unprotected pets that visit your home from becoming infested. Prevent future infestations. Once-monthly topicals for pets kill fleas before they can lay eggs. A key to preventing infestations is making sure other pets in the household are protected too.

