

# Lifelong Ear Partnership

Ear diary for dogs



**We're all ears**

# Monitoring your dog's ears

This diary provides a simple and easy way to record how your dog's ears are doing. You can keep track of when you have cleaned or medicated the ears, when flare-ups have occurred and when and why you have been in contact with your vet team.

In most cases, there will be a primary factor which led to the current ear problem. It might be a quick fix like a grass seed in the ear canal or parasites residing in the ear, but in many cases, allergic skin disease is the problem.

The primary problem might be further complicated by a less fortunate ear shape or perhaps a habit of frequent swimming.

Early intervention is beneficial. If you quickly get to terms with the actual cause of your dog's ear condition, you and your vet team will find a long-lasting solution that works for all parties. This might include regular use of an ear cleaner, or an anti-inflammatory ear drop.

First start by filling in your dog's details and then let us show you an example on how to fill in the diary.

For more information about ear problems in dogs visit <https://www.ear-inflammation.com/>



# My dog's details

**Dog's name:**

---

**Breed:**

---

**Date of birth:**

---

**Sex:**

male / female

**Neutered:**

yes / no

**Vet clinic:**

---

**Vet or nurse contact:**

---

**Phone or email address:**

---

# Home monitoring

A really nice thing about ears is that they are quite visual. You can detect any redness of the earflap, excessive wax or possible pus causing a foul smell from the ear canal.

Handling your dog's ears when they are not painful or itchy is very helpful to build trust. Practice ear handling by creating a nice, calm and confident environment to improve your bond and make future interactions smoother.

We suggest that you make a habit of monitoring your dog's ears every week, or second week if that makes sense after talking to your vet team. There might be times where you can extend the interval or may need to shorten it, depending on season and/or possible exposure to anything that is known to trigger an ear inflammation in your dog.

Remember to not use expired products and to clean the nozzle of ear cleaners or ear medications carefully after using them to avoid contamination of the product.

The choice of product will differ depending on your dog's requirements. Your vet will advise you for best outcome. It is important to follow instructions, attend revisits and contact your vet if any unexpected reactions occur, or if no response to treatment is to be seen in reasonable time, to avoid painful chronic changes to your dog's ear as well as antimicrobial resistance.



Scan the QR code to watch a video on 'How to clean your dog's ear', recorded in a home environment.

The following two pages of the diary are to guide you on how to best describe your findings and an example of how you complete a month. Please look at the example but also remember that the most important thing is often to grade things in a consistent manner to detect changes and trends.

## Description of findings - Ear check list

Grade from 0 (normal) to 5 (extremely severe)

### Degree of itch:

**Grade 1** - Occasional scratching or head shaking that stops when distracted or being told so. Sleeps problem free throughout the night.

**Grade 3** - Frequent scratching, rubbing or head shaking but stops when distracted. Wakes up during the night.

**Grade 5** - Continuous scratching, rubbing or head shaking even if distracted including having problems sleeping at night.

### Degree of pain:

**Grade 1** - Very mild pain upon ear handling. General demeanor and behaviour not affected.

**Grade 3** - Moderate pain with difficulties upon handling. Mild depression and effect on activity level and appetite.

**Grade 5** - Extreme pain and resistance to any handling including putting on a collar. Vocal signs of pain even when not touched. Depression and severe effect on activity, appetite and sleep.

### Degree of redness:

**Grade 1** - Mild redness without any signs of swelling, erosions or ulcers

**Grade 3** - Moderate redness with low degree of swelling but with no erosions or ulcers

**Grade 5** - Severe redness with prominent swelling and possible erosions



### Description of wax/debris:

**Grade 1** - Small amount of waxy debris

**Grade 3** - Moderate amount of predominantly waxy debris

**Grade 5** - Large amount of debris predominantly pus



This is an example of what a month in the diary could look like for an allergic dog, that needs a bit of extra ear attention to keep symptom free. Pogo's left ear is successfully managed with ear cleaning every other week but his right ear is somewhat more challenging. It needs ear cleaning twice weekly and a short period of steroid ear drops due to an inflammatory flare-up, prescribed at a visit to the vet.

Month: June

Ear check list Grade from 0 (normal) to 5 (extremely severe)

Left Ear					Right Ear			
Week	Itch	Pain	Redness	Wax/debris	Itch	Pain	Redness	Wax/debris
1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
2	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	2
3	0	0	0	0	2	1	2	1
4	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0

Ear cleaning - Product: Product x

Left Ear								Right Ear						
Week	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	x	-	-	-	-	-
2	-	x	-	-	-	-	-	-	x	-	x	-	-	x
3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	x	-	x	-	-	x
4	-	x	-	-	-	-	-	-	x	-	-	x	-	-

Ear medication - Product: Medication x

Left Ear								Right Ear						
Week	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	x	x	x	x	x	x
4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Next revisit planned: vet check- up that inflammation is under control 25th of June

Month: \_\_\_\_\_

Ear check list Grade from 0 (normal) to 5 (extremely severe)

Left Ear					Right Ear			
Week	Itch	Pain	Redness	Wax/debris	Itch	Pain	Redness	Wax/debris
1								
2								
3								
4								

Ear cleaning - Product: \_\_\_\_\_

Left Ear								Right Ear						
Week	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
1														
2														
3														
4														

Ear medication - Product: \_\_\_\_\_

Left Ear								Right Ear						
Week	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
1														
2														
3														
4														

Next revisit planned: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Month: \_\_\_\_\_

Ear check list Grade from 0 (normal) to 5 (extremely severe)

Left Ear					Right Ear			
Week	Itch	Pain	Redness	Wax/debris	Itch	Pain	Redness	Wax/debris
1								
2								
3								
4								

Ear cleaning - Product: \_\_\_\_\_

Left Ear								Right Ear						
Week	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
1														
2														
3														
4														

Ear medication - Product: \_\_\_\_\_

Left Ear								Right Ear						
Week	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
1														
2														
3														
4														

Next revisit planned: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Notes:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Month: \_\_\_\_\_

Ear check list Grade from 0 (normal) to 5 (extremely severe)

Left Ear					Right Ear			
Week	Itch	Pain	Redness	Wax/debris	Itch	Pain	Redness	Wax/debris
1								
2								
3								
4								

Ear cleaning - Product: \_\_\_\_\_

Left Ear								Right Ear						
Week	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
1														
2														
3														
4														

Ear medication - Product: \_\_\_\_\_

Left Ear								Right Ear						
Week	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
1														
2														
3														
4														

Next revisit planned: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Notes:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Month: \_\_\_\_\_

Ear check list Grade from 0 (normal) to 5 (extremely severe)

Left Ear					Right Ear			
Week	Itch	Pain	Redness	Wax/debris	Itch	Pain	Redness	Wax/debris
1								
2								
3								
4								

Ear cleaning - Product: \_\_\_\_\_

Left Ear								Right Ear						
Week	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
1														
2														
3														
4														

Ear medication - Product: \_\_\_\_\_

Left Ear								Right Ear						
Week	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
1														
2														
3														
4														

Next revisit planned: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Notes:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Month: \_\_\_\_\_

Ear check list Grade from 0 (normal) to 5 (extremely severe)

Left Ear					Right Ear			
Week	Itch	Pain	Redness	Wax/debris	Itch	Pain	Redness	Wax/debris
1								
2								
3								
4								

Ear cleaning - Product: \_\_\_\_\_

Left Ear								Right Ear						
Week	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
1														
2														
3														
4														

Ear medication - Product: \_\_\_\_\_

Left Ear								Right Ear						
Week	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
1														
2														
3														
4														

Next revisit planned: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Notes:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Month: \_\_\_\_\_

Ear check list Grade from 0 (normal) to 5 (extremely severe)

Left Ear					Right Ear			
Week	Itch	Pain	Redness	Wax/debris	Itch	Pain	Redness	Wax/debris
1								
2								
3								
4								

Ear cleaning - Product: \_\_\_\_\_

Left Ear								Right Ear						
Week	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
1														
2														
3														
4														

Ear medication - Product: \_\_\_\_\_

Left Ear								Right Ear						
Week	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
1														
2														
3														
4														

Next revisit planned: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Notes:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Month: \_\_\_\_\_

Ear check list Grade from 0 (normal) to 5 (extremely severe)

Left Ear					Right Ear			
Week	Itch	Pain	Redness	Wax/debris	Itch	Pain	Redness	Wax/debris
1								
2								
3								
4								

Ear cleaning - Product: \_\_\_\_\_

Left Ear								Right Ear						
Week	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
1														
2														
3														
4														

Ear medication - Product: \_\_\_\_\_

Left Ear								Right Ear						
Week	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
1														
2														
3														
4														

Next revisit planned: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Notes:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Month: \_\_\_\_\_

Ear check list Grade from 0 (normal) to 5 (extremely severe)

Left Ear					Right Ear			
Week	Itch	Pain	Redness	Wax/debris	Itch	Pain	Redness	Wax/debris
1								
2								
3								
4								

Ear cleaning - Product: \_\_\_\_\_

Left Ear								Right Ear						
Week	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
1														
2														
3														
4														

Ear medication - Product: \_\_\_\_\_

Left Ear								Right Ear						
Week	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
1														
2														
3														
4														

Next revisit planned: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Notes:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Month: \_\_\_\_\_

Ear check list Grade from 0 (normal) to 5 (extremely severe)

Left Ear					Right Ear			
Week	Itch	Pain	Redness	Wax/debris	Itch	Pain	Redness	Wax/debris
1								
2								
3								
4								

Ear cleaning - Product: \_\_\_\_\_

Left Ear								Right Ear						
Week	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
1														
2														
3														
4														

Ear medication - Product: \_\_\_\_\_

Left Ear								Right Ear						
Week	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
1														
2														
3														
4														

Next revisit planned: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Notes:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_





**Vet clinic:**

---

---

---

**Phone or email address:**

---

---

Lifelong Ear Partnership: Ear diary for dogs

Dechra Veterinary Products A/S, Mekuvej 9, 7171 Uldum, Denmark

Dechra Veterinary Products A/S is a trading business of Dechra Pharmaceuticals PLC

[www.dechra.com](http://www.dechra.com)

©Dechra Veterinary Products A/S

February 2022

