Whilst fleas are a major concern for most pet owners, some people may consider fleas to be nothing more than a minor ailment for your pet; however if left unchecked fleas can wreak havoc on pets and humans alike. Fleas in your home and on your pets need to be eradicated, regardless of whether that is via these effective home remedies for fleas, or a flea treatment from your vets.

In the most fundamental sense, fleas are small reddish-brown insects/parasites that have mouths adapted for breaking through skin and sucking blood. Fleas are problematic as they survive on blood. In fact, a female flea can consume up to 15 times per body weight in blood every day. Fleas are not only a nuisance, but they can also cause serious health complications, such as tapeworms, anemia and flea allergy dermatitis, known as FAD.

Although they are wingless, these pests can jump from pet-to-pet or from pet-to-human, and from room to room around your home.

If you're looking for ways to restore the comfort and health of your pet without having to use synthetic chemical treatments, then you should investigate the following home remedies for fleas. Of course, if a flea infestation is severe and cannot be controlled through natural methods, it may
be time to visit the vet for a more potent treatment option, but this is a last resort.

5 Home Remedies for Fleas

The following home remedies for fleas were chosen for its effectiveness and safety. The majority of flea infestations can be controlled and eliminated via these natural methods.

Homemade flea trap video

Remedy #1 | Homemade Flea Trap

Perhaps one of the most effective home remedies for fleas is to catch these pests before they have time to influence their bite on pets and humans. Although there are many commercial flea traps available on the market, they can be quite expensive. This home remedy for fleas calls upon everyday items to effective catch and trap fleas from throughout your home.

To utilize this home remedy, place a plate filled with warm water in the middle of every room in your home. Add 1 teaspoon of dishwashing liquid to the water. Place 1 tea candle in the center of the plate and go to bed. Throughout the night, fleas are attracted to the heat and light coming from the candle. When they jump toward it, they become stuck in the dishwashing liquid water and die. Repeat for three to four consecutive nights, or until you do not wake up to flea bodies.

Remedy #2 | Herbal Flea Spray

If you wish to kill fleas throughout your home while leaving a pleasant scent in its wake, then you should use this herbal flea spray. Each of the ingredients is known to hold powerful anti-flea properties, capable of destroying fleas along the same lines as a chemical treatment without the harmful compounds. To utilize this remedy for fleas, combine the following ingredients into a large container:

- 1 gallon of white vinegar
- 1/2 gallon of purified water
- 16 ounces of freshly squeezed lemon juice
- 8 ounces of witch hazel essential oil

Once you've combined all of these ingredients, pour the solution into a standard handheld spray bottle. After vacuuming the room, spray a liberal amount of this solution throughout your room. Pay attention to corners where carpeting and walls meet. Repeat every day until the fleas have been eliminated. Enhance the effectiveness of this spray by steam cleaning your carpeting and cloth-covered furniture. The steam actively works to kill flea larvae, which can be protected against the spray.
Remedy #3 | Salt Powder

Many 'all-natural anti-flea powders' utilize sodium as a means of eliminating these annoying pests. In the most fundamental sense, salt works to kill off fleas by penetrating its shells and dehydrating the fleas from the inside-out. This is an effective, chemical-free, home remedy for fleas that is surprisingly easy and effective. To utilize this remedy, simply purchase finely ground sea salt. In order to work, the salt must be ground to a fine powder. If your salt crystals are too large, grind until it's a fine powder. The amount of salt you'll need depends on the size of your room. Once the salt is finely ground, sprinkle throughout every room in your home. Make sure there is an even layer on the carpet. Allow the salt to rest for 48 hours before vacuuming. Repeat until your flea infestation has been eradicated.

Diatomaceous Earth - one of the best natural home remedies for fleas

Remedy #4 | Diatomaceous Earth Powder

Diatomaceous Earth (DE) is actually comprised of ancient algae fossils. This finely ground powder works along the same lines as the previous home remedy for fleas. Upon contact, the microscopic fossils actually penetrate through the fleas outer shell, and are then soaked into their bodies. Due to the dehydrating effect of DE, fleas are dried out and ultimately destroyed. This remedy is so powerful, DE is often the primary ingredient in all-natural pest cleaners. To utilize this remedy, thoroughly vacuum every room in your home. After cleaned, sprinkle an even layer of DE
throughout every room of your home. Focus on areas where humans and pets congregate as this is typically where fleas rest. You may need to treat one room at a time as DE can be irritating to pets and human skin. After the DE powder has rested for 48 hours, vacuum clean. Repeat as many times as necessary to eliminate an entire flea colony. DE really is one of the most effective natural home remedies for fleas, but an added bonus around the home is it also kills ants, spider and cockroaches too!

**Remedy #5 | Herbal Flea Powder**

As you can see, the most effective home remedies for fleas call upon dry powders to penetrate flea shells for full eradication. If you wish to use the power of a flea powder, but without the use of irritating compounds, then you'll want to utilize this herbal flea powder recipe. Begin by placing all the following ingredients into a coffee grinder:

- 1/2 cup of dried rosemary
- 1/2 cup of dried rue
- 1/2 cup of dried wormwood
- 1/2 cup of dried fennel
- 1/2 cup of dried peppermint leaves

Once all these ingredients are in the coffee grinder, grind them together until a fine powder forms. Remove from the coffee grinder and place in a resealable container. Sprinkle the powder throughout your home. Focus on areas where fleas are often found, but also sprinkle in less-active areas. This is an excellent powder to sprinkle around openings of your home, which makes it act as a flea repellent.

Allow the herbal flea powder to rest for 48 hours before vacuuming and repeating. Consider using this home remedy for fleas as an everyday preventative treatment; especially during the warmer months when fleas are most active.

*(Dog & Cat image from: Roger H. Goun)*