



## How Much Do You Know About Fleas and Ticks?

Answer these true-or-false questions to find out.

1. Cats and dogs become infested with the same type of fleas.
2. While on a host, fleas feed three times a day.
3. Left undisturbed, the female flea can survive on a host and continue reproducing for three to four days.
4. If removed from her host, the female flea will hibernate until the next host comes along.
5. Fleas fly from host to host.
6. Ticks are in the same class as spiders.
7. All ticks have six legs.
8. Ticks cause disease only in dogs and cats.
9. Veterinarians are concerned with soft ticks.
10. Ticks cannot survive for long in the environment when they do not have access to a blood meal.

### **BONUS QUESTION!**

It doesn't matter when a pet receives flea and tick control product as long as it gets a dose every month.

(See next page for answers.)

# Answers



1. TRUE -- *Ctenocephalides felis*, the cat flea, is the primary flea species that infests both dogs and cats in North America.
2. FALSE -- Fleas require a constant blood source from a suitable host to survive.
3. FALSE – The female flea can continue reproducing for much longer – up to three to four months.
4. FALSE-- Because she is deprived of her blood meals, the female flea will die within two days.
5. FALSE -- Fleas do not have wings, so they cannot fly. Instead they jump. However, they do not jump from host to host.
6. TRUE -- Ticks are arachnids like spiders.
7. FALSE -- All adult ticks have eight legs, which is one of the characteristics that make them arachnids. (Early in the life cycle, when they are larvae, ticks have six legs. But mature ticks have 8 legs.)
8. FALSE -- Ticks transmit diseases that are also infectious to people. One example is Lyme disease.
9. FALSE -- Most ticks of concern to veterinarians are hard ticks because they spread more diseases among pets and their families.
10. FALSE – Most ticks only “eat” a few times in a lifetime. Ticks are very hardy. They can survive for months or years waiting for a host.

## BONUS QUESTION!

FALSE – Flea and tick control products are tested and approved based on a dosing schedule of every 30 days. Flea and tick control products *must* be given every 30 days because the killing power wanes, leaving the pet unprotected against these disease-causing parasites.



Learn more about fleas and ticks at [Healthypet.com](https://www.healthypet.com)