

## Flea (Cats & Dogs) classification and details

Classification (cat only)

### Scientific classification

Kingdom:	Animalia	Common name:	Flea
Phylum:	Arthropoda	Scientific Name:	<i>Ctenocephalis felis</i>
Class:	Insecta	Order / Family:	(many families)
Order:	Siphonaptera	Length:	Adult about 3mm
Family:	Pulicidae		
Genus:	Ctenocephalides		
Species:	<i>C. felis</i>		

### Binomial name

*Ctenocephalides felis*

**Colour:** Brown to black

### Some other body features:

Winged and flattened from side to side. Possess long powerful jumping legs



### General

Fleas are pests carried on mammals and birds. These pest infest homes, bird cages and poultry houses. Both males and females bite and suck blood. Different kinds of fleas attack mammals and birds. The common dog and cat flea look very much alike, are widespread and the most troublesome household pests. Both species attack dogs and cats, at times on man. The adults are small, wingless insects with hard, dark-colored bodies. Rat, squirrel and human fleas are less common.

### Reproduction cycle

The egg of fleas is small, whitish and barely visible to the eye. Eggs are laid among the hairs of pets like cats and dogs. Eggs normally fall off to the carpet, furniture and pets beddings. About 2-20 eggs are laid at a time.

Ideally about 400 eggs are laid over a period of 6-7 months. Eggs hatch in to maggot-like larvae which are small whitish and have brown heads. The larvae spin a cocoon in which they pupate. Adults are about 3mm long.

**Food preference:**

They feed on organic matter and on the blood containing fecal droppings of the adult flea.

**Diseases transmission:**

When they bite, they leave an itchy, red spot. Some fleas transmit diseases such as bubonic plague, endemic typhus and tularemia to humans.

**Method of elimination:**

Moisture and temperature are controlled as well as chemical and insecticide treatment on dogs by professional Superior Pest Control (SPCP) Exterminator or Technician. Quality flea shampoo can be used on your pet.

SPCP has equipment and products specially formulated for the control of fleas. Extreme caution is required when applying treatments to animals. Flea control can be a difficult and time consuming work.

Please call SPC professional exterminators for control, we will be happy to help you!

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