

## How To Administer Medication To Your Pet

If you have any further queries regarding the welfare of your pet, please do not hesitate to ask a member of staff

We are happy to assist!

## INTRODUCTION

From time to time your dog, cat or other small pet may require medication such as a worming tablet or antibiotics. Giving medication can be a tricky business so here are a few tips that can help make medication time less stressful for you and your pet.

## ORAL ADMINISTRATION

Medication that is administered orally comes in forms of tablets, capsules, liquids, pastes, powders or granules.

## TABLETS AND CAPSULES

To administer tablets follow these steps:

1. Restrain your pet as gently as possible
2. Open your pet's mouth by placing one hand over the muzzle, while the other hand is used to hold the tablet and also pull down the lower jaw.
3. Place the tablet on the base of your pet's tongue.
4. Close your pet's mouth and stroke its neck to ensure she/he swallows.

## LIQUID MEDICATION

1. Restrain your pet as gently as possible, the liquid should be in a syringe for ease of administration.
2. Your pet's head should be tilted back slightly.
3. Place the syringe into the side of the mouth behind the canine teeth
4. Slowly administer the liquid to the back of the throat. (Administering too quickly may cause the liquid to enter the respiratory tract causing gagging and other potential complications).
5. Gently stroke the neck to ensure the liquid is swallowed.



## TOPICAL ADMINISTRATION

Topical administration refers to the application of medication to the external surfaces of the body including the skin, eyes, ears, nose and mucous membranes.

## THE EYES

When administering either drops or ointment to your pet's eyes, the head should be tilted back and the eye gently held open using your fingers. (When applying any eye medication it is important not to touch the surface of the eye). Whilst the eye is held open, administer the prescribed amount. Afterwards your pet should be allowed to blink to disperse the drug evenly over the eye.

## THE EARS

When applying ear medication the ear should ideally be free from wax, therefore you may need to clean the ear first. Your pet should be gently restrained and the top of the ear held firmly. Then introduce the nozzle of the applicator into the ear canal and administer the dose gently. Afterwards the base of the ear should be massaged to ensure maximum coverage.