

### Neutering Prices

Bitch Spey 0-10kg: £275.00	Dog Castration 0-10kg: £200.00
Bitch Spey 10.1-25kg: £325.00	Dog Castration 10.1-25kg: £230.00
Bitch Spey 25.1-40kg: £360.00	Dog Castration 25.1-40kg: £260.00
Bitch Spey 40.1kg+: £395.00	Dog Castration 40.1kg+: £295.00

### Healthy Pet Club

Small Dog: £17.50
Medium Dog: £19.95
Large Dog: £22.95
Giant Dog: £30.00



### Puppy Development Clinic

Initial: Free  
Once a month for 6 months: £24 each

At The Forest Vet we aim to keep the new addition to your family as healthy as possible, so they can enjoy a long good quality of life. Any questions at all give us a ring or pop in to visit.



## Puppy Information Pack



Here at The Forest Vet we offer free puppy nurse clinics to discuss all your puppies needs. This information pack provides some key facts to help give your puppy a good start in life. Please feel free to ask our nurses any questions at the puppy parties and puppy development clinics.



## Ear Disease - *otitis externa*

Recurrent ear disease can be extremely frustrating for your pet but also for yourself.

The main point of concern is that if it continues for long enough it can cause irreversible changes to the ear canal of your pet and therefore leaves surgery as the only management option. We must treat recurrent ear disease aggressively and thoroughly to prevent this.

Due to the slow progression of this disease, the associated discomfort which manifests as changes in behaviour and demeanour can often go unnoticed and is only seen retrospectively after treatment.

Ear disease is extremely painful and this is an important aspect to manage. Ideally, the progression to chronic treatment-unresponsive ear disease is prevented by early and successful management of the contributing factors.

### Recurrent Chronic Otitis Externa

Most commonly caused by allergic skin disease. Usually affects both ears though not always with the same severity. Complication by secondary Malassezia overgrowth (yeast) or bacterial infections is common and usually accounts for the differences in severity of signs between the two ears at any point in time.

Removal of discharge and identification and treatment of infection is ESSENTIAL.

Control of the atopic inflammation is key to prevent recurrence.



### Treatment Options

To avoid treatment failure and disappointment, it is essential to perform a thorough diagnostic investigation of all components involved in the disease. Medical treatment is very successful when an intense treatment plan is followed for three months as long as the patient is compliant and you as the owner are willing to put in the work!

Surgery is indicated for tumours, polyps or irreversible stenosis or if the ear disease has failed to respond to aggressive medical management.

## Puppy Healthcare Checklist

### What You Need

- Bed
- Bowls for food and water. Preferably heavy-bottomed ceramic or stainless steel food and water bowls as plastic bowls will probably end up as chew toys and are easy to knock over
- Car harness, travelling crate or dog guard
- Collar with identity tag showing puppies name, your details etc. and lead
- Grooming equipment including brushes, combs, towels, shampoo claw clippers and scissors
- Outdoor kennels if spending large amounts of time outside
- Puppy crates, play pens and child gates
- Toilet training pads
- Toys including chews and teething aids

## Puppy Socialisation

Puppies aren't born with the social skills they need for family life, both human and canine. Socialisation just means the learning process puppies go through developing key life skills to enable them to communicate within social groups, making for happy and confident dogs. It's not just the language of dogs they need to learn, but also understanding the human world. It's key to socialise puppies whilst they are still young enough to happily accept new things, as rescue centres are seeing increasing numbers of dogs with behavioural issues that could have been prevented with proper socialisation. We offer complimentary puppy parties on a Wednesday evening from 5-6pm, hosted by a local behaviourist Fiona. These have the added benefit of not only beginning to socialise your puppy and learn some basic training techniques, but it also gets them used to coming into the practice so they are comfortable whenever they need to come in for procedures or their annual check-ups.



## Puppy Packages

### Silver £60

Vaccination course of 2 vaccines  
4 weeks free insurance  
Free bag of Virbac puppy diet

### Gold £90

Vaccination course of 2 vaccines  
4 weeks free insurance  
Free 1.5kg Virbac veterinary food  
Kennel cough vaccine or microchip  
First month flea and worm treatment

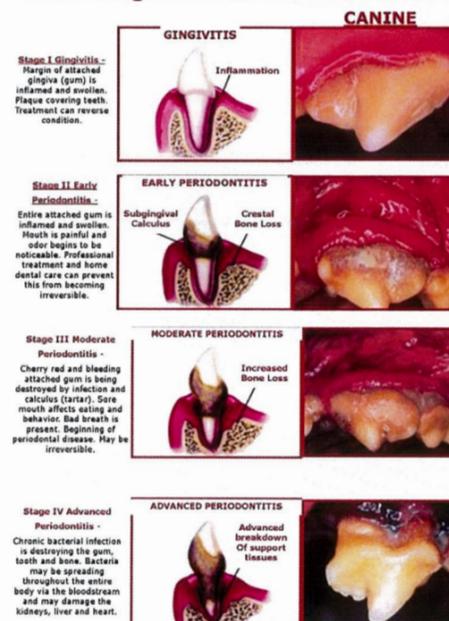
### Platinum £150

Vaccination course of 2 vaccines  
4 weeks free insurance  
Free 1.5kg Virbac veterinary food  
Kennel cough vaccine or microchip  
First month flea and worm treatment  
Rabies vaccination and pet passport

## Periodontal Disease

Periodontal disease is one of the most common problems in dogs and cats and increases in incidence and severity with age. It affects 87% of dogs and 70% of cats over 3 years of age.

### Four Stages of Periodontal Disease



### SIGNS OF PERIODONTAL DISEASE

Bad breath  
Blood tinged saliva  
Discomfort when eating  
Food falling from the mouth when eating

### PREVENTION IS KEY TO CONTROLLING THIS DISEASE

**TOOTH BRUSHING** – This is gold standard. Toothpastes and toothbrushes are available from our practice and the Vets and nurses will be happy to give you a demonstration as to the best technique. Daily

tooth brushing is very effective at removing plaque and preventing the worsening of periodontal disease.  
**DIET** – Hills t/d diet is a specially formulated biscuit designed to act as a natural toothbrush on the teeth. It is proven to reduce plaque build-up.  
**ORAL HYGIENE GELS AND RINSES** – These can be applied to the teeth and gums.  
**REGULAR CHECK UPS** - Their teeth should be checked every 6 months by the Vet and descaling and polishing performed when necessary to prevent the worsening of periodontal disease and therefore tooth loss.  
**PLEASE REMEMBER TOOTH DISEASE HURTS!!**



## Microchipping

A microchip is a permanent method of electronic identification. It allows identification of a lost dog so that it can be reunited with its owner.

The chip is made out of non-reactive material so doesn't cause your dog any problems throughout its life. It is very small, about the size of a grain of rice.

As of 6<sup>th</sup> April 2016, by the age of 9 weeks dogs need to be microchipped by law in England.

Legally, the microchip will be registered to the breeder and then you must contact the company to change your details. Please remember to update your pets microchip info if you change address or phone number.

A bland diet will be prescribed and we may give antibiotics, wormers and gut protectants.

## Avoidance

Never make an abrupt change to your puppies diet – if you are considering changing foods a gradual introduction to the food is needed over a one to two week period.

Avoid scavenging wherever possible.  
Avoid tidbits especially rich and fatty foods. Use own diet as treats.  
Keep up to date with worming treatments.

## Blockages

Puppies explore the world with their mouths, and can commonly swallow small items they pick up. Diarrhoea and straining to poo without passing anything can be an early sign of a blockage in your puppies stomach or gut. This is serious and its important to see a vet immediately as a blockage can be fatal. Quick treatment is essential. Other signs to look out for are vomiting, not wanting to eat/drink, weakness and stomach pains.



## Vomiting and Diarrhoea

Diarrhoea is a common occurrence for our pets, particularly dogs as it is often caused by "dietary indiscretion" ie eating any old rubbish they can find!

If your pet is otherwise bright and well and has a good appetite then remove all food and limit your pet to just water for twelve hours. Make sure he has plenty of water to drink, to avoid dehydration. If the diarrhoea quickly resolves then introduce small meals – a couple of mouthfuls – of a bland diet such as cooked chicken or white fish and rice. Once the faeces starts to become more formed, gradually reintroduce your pets normal diet. Monitor the frequency and timings of any vomiting/diarrhoea.

### When to contact us...

1. Motions contains blood or are black in appearance
2. You suspect your pet could have eaten something poisonous
3. Your pet is hot or unwell
4. Your pet has pale or yellow gums
5. Your pet is old or very young
6. There is also vomiting
7. Your pet is consecutively ill over a period of 2 days
8. Is much less energetic than usual and seems unwell
9. Is being sick as well as diarrhoea
10. Vomiting straight after eating
11. No motions after 2 days
12. Dehydration
13. Is off their food
14. Keeps having bouts of diarrhoea

## Treatment

Depending on the severity of the problem your pet may need blood tests and hospitalisation with IV fluids to treat dehydration.

We may require faecal samples, collected over the course of three days, to send to the laboratory for testing.

## Neutering

Castration in male dogs and spaying in female dogs. Stops unwanted litters joining the thousands of unwanted animals needing homes. Helps your dog live longer and enjoy a better quality of life.

### In females:

- it reduces the risk of developing some serious diseases such as breast cancer or pyometra which is a serious infection of the uterus
- Spaying is a major operation, even though its carried out routinely in veterinary practices, so it does carry risks of complications such as haemorrhage, wound infection, peritonitis, incontinence and anaesthetic complications
- we recommend spaying at 6 months, before their first season, as it eliminates the risk of breast cancer

### In males:

- it reduces the risk of testicular cancer, developing prostatic disease and can help to reduce some types of aggression, reduces risk of perineal hernias and anal adenomas.
- we recommend castrating at 6 months to prevent all of the above

## Insurance

It is important to insure your new puppy to help with unexpected veterinary treatments and bills.

The true cost of veterinary care can be a surprise to many people, and if your puppy suffers an illness or injury it can be expensive.

Not all pet insurance is the same so you need to choose your policy wisely. Pets can develop lifelong illness such as diabetes, just like people, so we recommend taking out a Life Time Cover Insurance.



## Ticks

Prevalent in areas of long vegetation, so if you walk your dog on the forest you should have protection against this. This can be prevented by a chewable tablet every month or by a tick collar.

Ticks carry dangerous diseases such as Ehrlichiosis and Lyme disease, so we now recommend the monthly tablet, especially if travelling abroad.

## Mites

Sarcoptes mites cause Scabies. They are burrowing mites that feed off the skin and can cause an intensely itchy contagious skin disease. Other mites that infect dogs are cheyletiella, ear mites and harvest mites. These can be prevented and treated by monthly spot ons or tablets.

**We recommend treating your pets with two monthly tablets, one to cover fleas and ticks, and one to cover worms.**



## Exercise

The amount of exercise a puppy needs is dependent on age, breed and health of that puppy. Puppies need much less exercise than fully-grown dogs. If you over-exercise a growing puppy you can overtire it and damage its developing joints, causing early arthritis.

**A good ratio recommended by The Kennel Club is five minutes of exercise per month of age, up to twice daily, until the puppy is fully grown.**

It is important that puppies go out for exercise every day in a safe and secure area or they may become frustrated. But never exercise your puppy on a full stomach as this can contribute to bloat.

## Training

A great way to keep your dog's mind active while helping you bond and understand each other.

The kindest and most effective method is called reward based training or positive reinforcement, whereby the dog is set up to succeed and then rewarded for performing the 'good' behaviour.



## Nutrition

Puppies are usually ready to eat solid food when they are about 5 weeks old. Initially they need 4 meals a day, reducing to 3 at about 12 weeks, and at 6 months they can have 2 meals a day which can continue for the rest of their life.

Stability in the diet will help maintain good digestion, and any change should be made very gradually to avoid upset.

Puppies so require a special diet to aid their physical development. They need extra nutrients to fuel their growth, so they can build bone and muscle. Large breed puppies should be fed a large breed puppy food to encourage slow growth to reduce joint problems.

Feeding a complete, commercial puppy dry food is preferable to a homemade diet as it isn't easy to achieve your own correct balance of nutrients.

**Dry complete foods:** there is a wide variety but choosing a food specially designed for your puppy makes sure he gets what he needs, and the 'premium' dry foods tend to have the highest quality ingredients so you can feed smaller amounts compared to larger amounts of the lower grade foods. Some puppies prefer their biscuits to be soaked in a bit of warm water to soften it to encourage them to eat.

**Semi-moist and tinned foods:** can also vary in quality, best to choose a good quality food with an easily digestible recipe and one that is nutritionally complete so you don't require additional foods to be added to it.

At The Forest Vet, we recommend and supply Virbac HPM complete dry diets. Dogs are adaptable carnivores, with their metabolic adaptations pointing towards a physiological preference for a carnivorous diet. In self-selection studies both wild and domestic dogs show a strong preference for a diet naturally high in protein and low in carbohydrate. Veterinary HPM is a new generation of hyper-premium food, designed to be closer to the nutritional needs of carnivores. This new and unique range is based upon a low-carb, high-protein formula. Each Veterinary HPM product has a different Preventative Profile, a profile of key focus areas for each diet adapted to neutering status, age and lifestyle.



## Pet Passports

You need a pet passport for your dog, cat or ferret if you want them to travel with you abroad. Pet passports list the different treatments your pet has had in order to meet the pet travel rules.

The passport stays valid as long as you continue to meet the entry requirements. The rabies vaccine used at The Forest Vet lasts for three years.

### Travel to the EU

- Rabies vaccination £49.91
- Pet Passport £60
- Microchip £20

On return to the UK a vet must treat your dog for tapeworm and record it in the pet passport 1-5 days before your return.

### Microchip

Your pet must be microchipped before they get a rabies vaccination or they'll need to be vaccinated again. If your microchip can't be read you will need to re-chip your pet, re-vaccinate and issue a new passport. You don't need a microchip if your pet has been tattooed before July 2011, it's clearly legible and was vaccinated against rabies after it was tattooed.



### Rabies Vaccination

Pets must be at least 12 weeks old when vaccinated. Your pet must be microchipped before they get a rabies vaccination or they'll need to be vaccinated again. You must wait 21 days after the vaccination before your pet can enter another EU or listed country – this is because your pet isn't protected against rabies until 21 days after its rabies vaccination.

## Preventative Health

At the Forest Vet, we are passionate about our motto that **prevention is better than cure**. The following is the gold standard that we recommend in preventing the common diseases in dogs.

### Vaccinations

Your dog should be vaccinated at the same time every year. The vaccine puppy course starts from 6 weeks of age as 2 vaccines 3/4 weeks apart and one every year thereafter. This covers them for the following diseases:

**Distemper Virus** A highly contagious viral disease which after inhalation affects the gastrointestinal tract, respiratory tract, brain and spinal cord. Common signs include watery discharge from the eyes and mouth, vomiting, diarrhoea, coughing, difficulty breathing, fever, seizures, paralysis.

**Parvovirus** A highly infectious virus spread via faeces. Infected dogs will show illness within 3-7 days. The vomiting and haemorrhagic diarrhoea can rapidly lead to dehydration, shock and death.

**Infectious canine hepatitis** An acute liver infection. The virus causes the eyes to go blue, vomiting, diarrhoea, and jaundice.

**Parainfluenza Virus** One of the causes of kennel cough. It causes a highly contagious upper respiratory tract infection which produces a harsh 'hacking cough'.

**Leptospirosis** A bacterial infection commonly contracted from stagnant water and mud. This can cause vomiting, shivering, jaundice, haemorrhages, difficulty breathing and diarrhoea with rapid progression to liver and kidney failure. This disease can affect humans too. We have the most up to date vaccines which covers four strains of Lepto as new European strains are now in the UK.

Please check before coming in for your first appointment if your puppy has had any vaccines already with the breeder.

**KENNEL COUGH** This is a separate intra nasal vaccine which is given yearly. This vaccine provides a higher immunity against the bacterial cause of kennel cough called bordetella bronchiseptica. Even if your dog does not go to kennels, we highly recommend this yearly vaccination as your dog can contract kennel cough walking where other infected dogs have been.

### Fleas

This is the most common ectoparasite in dogs. It is much easier to prevent a flea crisis than try to eliminate one therefore regular flea treatments are a necessary part of the preventative health plan. Fleas can cause severe dermatitis and distress to your dog.

Flea treatments can be given as a spot on every month or as a chewable tablet every month.

**95% of the Flea Population is in the environment.**

Always remember to spray your house for fleas on a yearly basis to treat all the eggs and larvae in the environment.

### Intestinal Parasites

Dogs are susceptible to intestinal parasites such as roundworms, hookworms, whipworms and tapeworms. These can be treated either every month or every 3 months with a tablet. Some monthly spot on treatments will also cover these.

To start with, your puppy will be given an initial worming course of a liquid over three consecutive days.

### Lungworm

This is carried by slugs and snails and can be treated by a monthly spot-on or a monthly tablet. Lungworm causes breathing problems, neurological problems, haemorrhage and death.