



Parasite Name	What it looks like / How to Spot it	Indication that your dog has this parasite	Treatment
Flea (Ctenocephalides Canis) Live on animals where they inflict bites with their mouth parts in order to feed off the blood of the animal. They can bite humans too resulting in an itchy rash.	Blackish brown and shiny in appearance. Black dirt can be seen on fur or in dogs bedding – which is flea faeces. Often found in clusters behind the ears and other sparse haired areas.	Visible with human eye. Dog scratching and excess licking, obvious signs of distress and hair loss.	Go to your vet to receive appropriate medication. Use of preventative flea control / insecticide products. Tapeworm treatment should also be carried out as the flea is an intermediate host of the tapeworm. Treatment of the environment with suitable insecticide which should be continued on a regular basis as fleas can live up to 2 years.
Ticks (Ixodes Ricinus) These are usually parasites of flea’s sheep or cattle and commonly found in wooded and long grass areas. They latch onto the dog, bite into the skin and engorge with blood until the size of a pea (up to 2 weeks). They pass on Lyme disease.	Visible to the human eye - beige, grey or reddish colour and look like small warts. Often found around a dogs head and neck.	Skin irritation and redness. Sudden onset of lameness and pain To one or more joints. High temperature.	Go to your vet for treatment. Use of preventative flea control / insecticide products. Removal using tick picker (anti-clock wise direction) or application of parasiticide then removal.
Lice There are two types of Lice: - Biting Lice (Trichodectes canis) - Sucking Lice (Linognathus Setosus) They are slow moving and attach themselves to the animal’s skin where they feed on the blood (Sucking Lice, hair and dead skin (Biting Lice)).	Visibly seen with naked eye and found in the fur and / or sometimes in their ears. The dogs coat presentation is dry scruffy looking. Blood sucking Lice can lead to anaemia.	Skin irritations and inflammation, alopecia or scabs on skin.	Go to your vet to receive appropriate medication to prevent or treat fleas. Treatment of environment is not necessary although grooming equipment should be thoroughly cleaned and sterilised.
Mites Walking Dandruff (Cheyletiella) Known as walking dandruff because of its white appearance. These mites are usually transmitted from animal to animal through direct contact..	Visible with naked eye.	Skin irritation which is seen as excessive scurf or dandruff.	Isolation of dog away from other dogs. and seek veterinary attention for appropriate medication. Thoroughly disinfect areas where the dog has been. Ensure adequate PPE is worn and basic hygiene is carried out.
Sarcoptic Mange (Sarcoptes Scabies) Highly contagious skin disease where the mites burrow into the skin causing infection. Zoonotic and will affect humans by causing itchy red spots and crusts on human skin.	Not visible to naked eye—only can be seen through magnifying glass	Intense scratching, skin rash, hair loss and crust formation in the effected areas.	Isolation of dog away from other dogs. and seek veterinary attention for appropriate medication. Thoroughly disinfect areas where the dog has been. Ensure adequate PPE is worn and basic hygiene is carried out.
Harvest Mite (Trombicula Autumnalis) Usually a problem in late summer / Autumn. Itching is caused by your dogs reaction to the harvest mites digestive enzymes and irritation levels vary from dog to dog.	Visible with naked eye. Bright orange and round in shape, usually localised to face, muzzle, ears, feet and legs.	Inflammation and infection of the skin around the bite.	Treat for Mite and consult a vet for appropriate medication.
Ear Mite (Otodectes Cynotis) Most commonly contracted from outside environments or areas of poor hygiene and stress. They live on or just under the surface of the skin.	Not visible to naked eye. On examination of the ear canal, excessive brown- ish waxy secretion can be seen.	Head shaking and ear scratching. Hair loss on face particularly around eyes.	Owner to seek advice from vet for appropriate medication (do not clean ear out as the evidence will be removed and the vet will not be able to make an accurate diagnosis).
Demodex Mite A long cigar shaped mite, microscopic, usually seen on animals that are stressed or debilitated.	Not visible to the naked eye, where there is an overgrowth of mites this can lead to significant hair loss.	Skin thickens. Inflammation and discharge from the skin	Treat for Mite and consult a vet for appropriate medication