

How Worms affect Dogs and their Signs

There are many types of worms that can cause health issues in dogs. Depending on the age of the dog and the type of worm, the severity of their conditions will vary. Young dogs may experience stunted growth and development; adult dogs and senior dogs often face even worse dangers such as fatigue, weight loss, skin problems, and in some cases, even death. The symptoms listed below are the most common worms found in dogs:

Roundworms

Transmitted from dog to dog via infective eggs shed in the feces. Puppies often display a “pot belly” characteristic. The most common consequence of roundworms in puppies is stunted growth.

Hookworms

Transmitted by mouth or through the skin, particularly the feet. Hookworm larvae can cause severe anemia. Anemia is a reduction in the normal number of red blood cells, which are also called erythrocytes, or in the amount of hemoglobin in circulating blood.

Tapeworms

Transmitted through a host such as fleas or rodents. Tapeworm’s can cause digestive problems and stunted growth in puppies.

Heartworms

Transmitted by mosquitoes and potentially lethal to your dog. Signs of heartworm disease in dogs include, dry cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, or nervousness. Severely infected dogs have died suddenly from heart failure during exercise.