

Ear Cleaners for your Dog

You can make your own and they work great.
It's easy to get the supplies and at reasonable prices!

1. **The Blue Stuff** - Used to treat yeast and bacterial infections in dogs' ears

- a. 16 oz. Alcohol
- b. ¼ cup Boric Acid in powder form (This is found at the pharmacy, in the first aid section, often with the eye and ear cleaning supplies. The vet says that she can get it in large amounts at Wal-Mart. Do NOT use the stuff for roaches as it has other ingredients.)
- c. 20 Drops Gentian Violet 1% Solution (ask your pharmacist to order this – they usually get this within a day and it's over-the-counter)

Mix together in the alcohol bottle. Shake well. It is easiest to use if you have a small squirt bottle to transfer it to, but you can use it directly from the alcohol bottle if needed. Fill the ear canal and massage at the base of the ear. (**Shake the ear cleaner well before using and between ears – the boric acid will settle**) Let the dog shake it's head then wipe out all excess that you see. Baby wipes work great or cotton balls. You can use your little finger with the baby wipe to get down deeper to wipe it out!

Use the cleaner twice daily for a current infection, then once daily for about a week, then every couple of weeks as needed. This cleaner may also be used in facial folds or toes if there is yeast dermatitis.

**** Warning: The Gentian Violet will stain, so use outdoors and give the dog plenty of time to shake.**

****Note:** Internet research revealed that many people use witch hazel instead of alcohol.

2. **Mixture of Alcohol and Vinegar**

Mix together two parts white vinegar and one part alcohol. Put plenty of liquid down the ear canal Massage for a bit then let dog shake out the excess. Wipe out with clean soft cloth, cotton balls, or baby wipes Use once a week if needed.

3. **Oti-Max** is great to pickup and put in ears if there is a buildup. Use once a day for a week. It is oil based and is one of the few things that will loosen up the oily black dirt! Leave it in, don't wipe it out.

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