



Otterhound Ear Cleaning Solution

Many Otterhound owners swear by the following ear cleaning formula for dogs whose ears get "gunky" - but have your vet check the dog first, to make sure that there isn't a more serious problem.

Ingredients:

- 16 oz bottle of isopropyl (rubbing) alcohol
- 20 drops of 1% Gentian Violet
- 1/4 cup Boric Acid powder

Mix and Use Solution:

1. Mix boric acid, gentian violet, and alcohol together in a storage-safe container (the isopropyl alcohol bottle is sufficient).
2. Shake solution thoroughly
3. Draw solution into a bulb syringe and flood the first ear with solution.
4. Massage the ear filled with solution for 1 minute and wipe with cotton balls.
5. Shake solution thoroughly again and repeat for the second ear.

Some notes about the above instructions:

- The boric acid settles out very quickly, which is why you should shake thoroughly every time you use the solution, even between the first and second ears.
- The gentian violet will cause stains; we recommend you **perform this activity outdoors**.
- Recommended frequency of use is to use the solution monthly, in general. For treating blocked or "gunky" ears, treat the ears several times every three days.
- Most pharmacies will order boric acid and gentian violet if they do not regularly stock those materials. Most pharmacies and grocery stores carry bulb syringes, typically found in the baby/infant section.
- If you have tried cleaning your otterhound's ears and the odor and/or blockage persist, take your hound to your veterinarian, as there may be a more serious problem.