

HALE VETERINARY CLINIC

 $F\,r\,a\,s\,e\,r\,$ $H\,a\,l\,e$, DVM, FAVD, DiplayDC BOARD-CERTIFIED VETERINARY DENTISTIM

DENTAL AND ORAL SURGERY FOR PETS SINCE 1991

Owners are Breaking Their Dog's Teeth or

The "Kneecap Rule"

At Hale Veterinary Clinic, we spend a lot of our time treating fractured teeth (root canal treatment or extraction). In many cases these teeth have been fractured by the dog's owners. Not on purpose, mind you. But it is the owners who have given their dogs hard things to chew on and these hard things break teeth! Hopefully they did not buy these hard things at your clinic!



Many dogs really love to chew and many owners falsely believe that giving their dog hard things to chew is good for them. Unfortunately, many of the things owners give their dogs to chew on are more than hard enough to cause painful damage to the teeth. So please, tell ALL of your dog owners that they should NOT allow their dogs to chew on:

Natural Bone (of any kind) (http://www.toothvet.ca/PDFfiles/no bones.pdf)

Nylon or hard plastic "bones" and toys

Antlers (which are actually bone)

Large raw-hide bones

Dried Cow Hooves

Dried Bull Penises (Bully Sticks)

Ice Cubes

Or they could just remember the Knee-Cap Rule. "If you would not want me to hit you in the kneecap with it, do not let your dog chew on it!" For very small dogs, I say "if your dog would not want me to hit them in the kneecap with it, do not let them chew on it."

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