

# GUIDE TO ASSESSING/SCORING GREYHOUND DENTAL HEALTH

GRADE 0



**A healthy mouth with pink gums**

These teeth are healthy ---a young dog. Good dental hygiene through a dog's life helps to maintain this standard.

GRADE 1



**Gums are healthy but tartar (calculus) is accumulating on the teeth.**

This condition is easily dealt with by cleaning /scaling. Consult your veterinarian. Providing bones or hard chews regularly will also remove some tartar and limit future build up.

GRADE 2



**Note some inflammation along the 'gum line', and build up of tartar on teeth.**

There is a level of bacterial infection leading to bad breath. Consult your veterinarian as cleaning under a general anaesthetic may be the best option.

GRADE 3



**More severe inflammation and recession of the gums.**

There is a greater level of bacterial infection in the mouth/gums. Veterinary intervention is required to prevent the infection becoming systemic i.e. affecting liver or kidneys.

GRADE 4



**More severe damage to the gums, gums receded . Teeth are loosening and tartar build up is significant.**

Veterinary intervention is required to assess the dental health and probably advise re extracting some teeth, scaling the remainder and aggressive treatment with antibacterial medicines. All this is necessary to eliminate any dental pain and minimise the risk of other complications like liver, kidney and/or heart disease.