

Animal Dander Allergies

Animal Avoidance

There is no such thing as a “non-allergenic” dog or cat. People get allergic to proteins in the animal skin, not the fur.

Unfortunately, sometimes the best treatment for troublesome allergies is to find the pet a new home. Sometimes the symptoms caused by animal contact can last for days, so it may not be obvious that the pet is causing any of your problems. You might be more aware of the symptoms if you have been away from the pet for a longer period of time (for example, moving away from home to go to school). It can take as long as six months to get the animal proteins out of the house. Because of this, symptoms may disappear only gradually.

If you can't find a new home for the pet, you should at least:

- keep the pet out of the bedroom area
- reduce indoor carpets
- wash the animal more frequently

The proteins you are allergic to are water soluble, so even a plain water washing of the pet will help. This would have to be done at least every two weeks, and maybe even more often.

It will take at least six months before the animal dander is cleared from a household, even if the animal is completely removed—so be patient.