

# Robinson Veterinary Services

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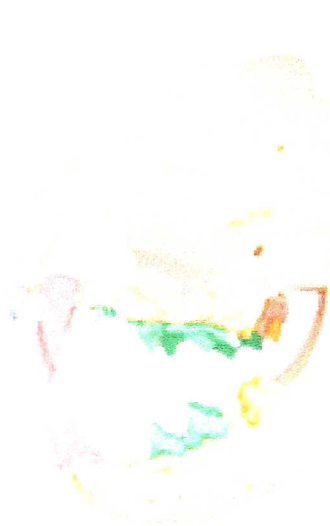
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Dentition - Cat: Skull of cat showing adult dentition.



30 Teeth: 16 Upper Teeth + 14 Lower Teeth



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The adult cat has a total of 28 teeth. Cats are true carnivores, meaning that they require meat in their diet. The structure and shape of the teeth are adapted to reflect this carnivorous diet. All of the cat's teeth are pointed, an adaptation for holding and tearing meat. The spaces between the cheek teeth allow the upper and lower jaw to mesh together for efficient holding and tearing of the food. The specialized molar teeth at the very back of the cat's mouth, also called "carnassial" teeth, lack a grinding surface, reflecting the fact that they work in conjunction with the other cheek teeth to tear food into chunks.