

Basic Information on Raising a Puppy

The next two weeks are very important in the adjustment and training of your new puppy. We would like to give you a few helpful hints to get you both through this adjustment period.

During the first two weeks it is important to minimize stress. We recommend you limit the amount of play time. Puppies, like children, can get over-stimulated very quickly. You have a "new baby"! It's important that he gets enough rest. Always monitor play time with children and other pets. Be sure children sit on the floor while handling the puppy, as even a short fall can be dangerous. Other pets may be too rough with the new puppy, so monitor short "get acquainted" sessions with plenty of rest afterwards. Be sure to give your other pets lots of love and attention so they don't feel left out.

It is important to feed your dog a premium-quality dry or canned dog food. Puppies 6 to 24 weeks old should be fed three times a day. An adult dog should be fed one large meal or two smaller meals each day. Feed specific meals and take away any uneaten food after 20 minutes. Do not make food available all the time; however, fresh, clean water must be available at all times. All bowls should be washed daily.



Housebreaking and training will go very smoothly if you use a wire exercise pen, kennel, or crate. Dogs are den animals by nature, and will feel more secure (especially in a new environment) if they have a place that's just for



them. Dogs do not like to dirty their area or home. Keeping him in a wire playpen and taking him outside on a regular schedule will teach him the proper place to "go" (See our "Housebreaking" Handout). Puppies have small bladders and it will take time for them to be able to "hold it" all day. Once he's gone outside and pottied, feel free to let him play in the house. Be sure to watch him. If he sniffs and circles, this means he has to go; direct him to the door and outside.

Remember, when training be **positive**. When he does something right, a simple pat on the head and a kind word is all he needs to know that he "did good". Never strike your puppy. If he does something wrong, a loud "no" is enough to get your point across. Puppies are sensitive and want more than anything to please. It's up to you to teach them the rules of the house. Above all, be consistent and give them plenty of love.

Be sure to see your veterinarian regarding vaccinations and spaying/neutering. If you have any further questions regarding your new puppy, please feel free to call us.

Please Note: The information in this handout is meant to provide basic information only. Please see a salesperson for more information.

© B&B Pet Stop, Inc. 2011

DO YOU HAVE EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO CARE FOR YOUR PUPPY?

FOOD

A high quality premium puppy food is important to ensure your puppy grows into a healthy adult dog. We carry special formulas for small and large breed puppies. (See our "Premium Pet Foods" Handout)

VITAMINS / SKIN SUPPLEMENTS

A good multi-vitamin will balance out his nutritional requirements; however, vitamins won't be necessary if he's on a premium dog food! Certain breeds are prone to skin problems. A skin supplement, added to the food, can help to alleviate dry, flaky skin, and excessive shedding.

WIRE EXERCISE PEN / CRATE / KENNEL

Crate training is by far the easiest way to housebreak and train your new puppy. This will also keep him from chewing things when you're not around. (See our "Crate Training" Handout)

LEASH & COLLAR

Getting them used to a collar and leash early will make them easier to handle later on. Puppies will be easier to housebreak by controlling where they go in the yard. Return them to the same spot each time. (See our "Housebreaking a Puppy" Handout)

IDENTIFICATION TAGS

Too many pets get lost! Your pet should wear an identification tag attached to the collar. You may also consider a microchip.

TOYS & CHEWS

These are important for mental stimulation during times you're not around. Also, when provided with his own toys to chew, he's less likely to go looking for yours. Some recommended toys are chew hooves, rubber or latex toys, rope toys, and rawhide treats.

BRUSH OR COMB

By using the right brush for your pup's hair texture, you can avoid mats and tangles. Even short-haired breeds should be brushed regularly to stimulate the natural oils in the coat.

SHAMPOOS & CONDITIONERS

Because the pH level in a dog's skin is different from ours, it is important to use shampoos and conditioners designed specifically for use on a puppy or dog.

FLEA & TICK PRODUCTS

These pests can make your dog's life miserable, as well as become a health risk. We'll be happy to recommend a flea and tick control plan. (See our "Flea Control" Handout)

FOOD & WATER BOWLS

We recommend sturdy, easy to clean bowls. It will be more economical to get a set large enough to accommodate him when he grows up.

DOG BEDS

Having your puppy sleep on a cold floor can cause health problems, like arthritis, later in life. A bed will not only provide him with warmth and security but will also encourage him to stay off your furniture.

STAIN REMOVER & DEODORIZER

Should your puppy make a mistake, it's important to not only remove the stain but also the odor. The odor is what will attract him back to that same spot. We recommend an enzyme formula that breaks down the bacteria which causes the odor.

BOOKS

A book will go into greater detail regarding breed standards and personalities as well as general care and training.

WORMER

We think it is a good idea to worm your puppy once a month to ensure a worm-free, healthy puppy.

