

Tailbuds



EVERYTHING YOU NEED
TO KNOW
AS A PARENT

DOG CARE GUIDE



CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR NEW BUNDLE OF JOY!

This is a guide to help you understand the needs of your puppy! However, your Vet is your best friend. So, make sure to consult your Vet before making a big decision.

WHAT DOES YOUR PUPPY NEED?

- 🐾 Good nutritious food
- 🐾 A lot of attention!
- 🐾 Gentle training
- 🐾 Safe toys
- 🐾 Puppy socialization
- 🐾 Proper Veterinary care
- 🐾 A comfortable home

BASIC KIT CHECKLIST (SO YOU DON'T MISS OUT ON THE ESSENTIALS)

- ☐ Food Bowl
- ☐ Water Bowl
- ☐ Doggy Bed
- ☐ Leash for those walks
- ☐ A Collar (Do not use a collar on your puppy until he/she is at least 8 weeks old and should have a wiggle room of 2 fingers)
- ☐ A few toys
- ☐ Carrier/Crate to carry your pet (it should be roomy)
- ☐ A doggy water bottle



FOOD

- 🐾 A puppy that is younger than 8 weeks must only be fed softened food. (You can do this by using hot water to soften food and then cool it down before feeding your puppy)
- 🐾 Some dogs are lactose intolerant, so make sure you do not feed milk before discussing with your Vet if it is safe or not.
- 🐾 DO NOT feed your puppy human food as they have different nutritional needs. While occasionally in small quantities is okay, this shouldn't replace the balanced nutrition they need.
- 🐾 While fat puppies may look cute, a lean puppy going into adulthood can add up to 2 years to their life span! So, watch those calories.
- 🐾 Cooked or raw veggies can be great treats without adding too many calories to your pup. Avoid dips and sauces.
- 🐾 Remove any seeds or pits in fruits before feeding it to your dog as they can be toxic or cause blockages. Vitamin C in Oranges is excellent for their dental health.
- 🐾 DO NOT feed your puppy chocolate, grapes, raisins, macadamia nuts, avocado or sweet flavoured with artificial sweeteners as they are extremely harmful!
- 🐾 DO NOT feed your puppy food containing salt.



EXERCISE

Exercise is essential to avoid obesity and to release your puppy's energy positively. Add this to your schedule! Take them out for walks and play with them.

TRAINING

- 🐾 Teach your dog basic manners, obedience, commands and social skills. It's good to set some boundaries. You can do this by having a dedicated place for food, water, sleep, etc.
- 🐾 Use positive reinforcement!
- 🐾 Give your puppy a job to do every day, even if it's as simple as fetching your newspaper. It gives them a sense of purpose, and they're much happier when they get to do things for you!
- 🐾 Encourage socialization. Take them out with other dogs on playdates.
- 🐾 Do not call too many friends or family members when your pup just arrives. Let them get used to your home and your family initially. Also, do not take them outside until they've had their rabies vaccine even if it's in your hands.



BATHING

Bathe your pet once in two weeks, gently with clean water and a drop of shampoo. Lather gently and rinse off. Towel pat or let him/her dry thoroughly in the Sun.

1. Do not give baths longer than 10 minutes.
2. Dry completely and immediately after the bath to avoid any fungal growth due to moisture. (Use Sunlight)
3. Avoid letting water enter the ears. Use dry cotton buds to clean the ears.

DEWORMING

Puppies should be dewormed every 2 weeks until 12 weeks of age. Then, monthly until 6 months of age.

After 6 months, all dogs need to be wormed once every 3 months for effective protection.

DOG-PROOFING

- 🐾 Tuck away any loose cords as puppies may chew on them.
- 🐾 Put away any small objects that could cause any choking hazards
- 🐾 Many house plants are toxic to dogs. So, make sure they're not easily accessible to your puppy.



RECOMMENDED VACCINATION SCHEDULE

There is not just one puppy vaccination schedule for all dogs. Some dogs do not need every vaccine. This decision is between you and your veterinarian. Always discuss puppy vaccinations at your regularly scheduled appointments.

🐾 6 TO 7 WEEKS OLD: This is when your puppy should get his first combination injection.

🐾 9 WEEKS OLD: At this age, your puppy will probably be in your care. He needs his second combination vaccine. Make sure you have a record of his first injection to show your new Vet.

🐾 12 WEEKS OLD: At 12 weeks, your puppy will get his third combination injection.

🐾 12 TO 16 WEEKS OLD: Depending on state laws, your puppy is required to have a rabies vaccine somewhere between the ages of 12 and 16 weeks.

🐾 16 WEEKS OLD: This is when your pup will have his fourth and final combination injection. At this point, your Vet will advise you when your puppy can go out for his first walk.



HERE ARE 10 COMMON ILLNESSES YOU SHOULD BE AWARE OF

CANINE HEPATITIS

Hepatitis is a highly contagious viral infection that affects the liver, kidneys, spleen, lungs, and the eyes of the affected dog. Symptoms range from a slight fever and congestion of the mucous membranes to vomiting, jaundice, stomach enlargement, and pain around the liver.

Many dogs can overcome the mild form of the disease, but the severe form can kill. There is no cure, but doctors can treat the symptoms.

CORONA VIRUS

Usually affects dogs' gastrointestinal systems, though it can also cause respiratory infections. Signs include most GI symptoms, including loss of appetite, vomiting, and diarrhoea. Doctors can keep a dog hydrated, warm, and comfortable, and help alleviate nausea, but no known drug kills coronaviruses.

HEARTWORM

When your puppy is around 12-to-16 weeks, talk to your Vet about starting her on a heartworm preventive. Though there is no vaccine for this condition, it is preventable with regular medication.



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A new infection often causes no symptoms, though dogs in later stages of the disease may cough, become lethargic, lose their appetite or have difficulty breathing. Infected dogs may tire after mild exercise. Unlike most of the conditions listed here, which are passed by urine, faeces, and other body fluids, heartworms are transmitted by mosquitoes. Therefore, diagnosis is made via a blood test and not a faecal exam.

KENNEL COUGH

Usually, the disease is mild, causing bouts of harsh, dry coughing; sometimes it's severe enough to spur retching and gagging, along with a loss of appetite. In rare cases, it can be deadly. It is easily spread between dogs kept close together, which is why it passes quickly through kennels. Antibiotics are usually not necessary, except in severe, chronic cases. Cough suppressants can make a dog more comfortable.

RABIES

Rabies is a viral disease of mammals that invades the central nervous system, causing headache, anxiety, hallucinations, excessive drooling, fear of water, paralysis, and death. It is most often transmitted through the bite of a rabid animal. Treatment within hours of infection is essential. Otherwise, death is highly likely.



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Most states require a rabies vaccination.

LEPTOSPIROSIS

Bacteria cause leptospirosis, and some dogs may show no symptoms at all. It is a zoonotic disease, meaning that it can be spread from animals to people. When symptoms do appear, they can include fever, vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhoea, loss of appetite, severe weakness and lethargy, stiffness, jaundice, muscle pain, infertility, kidney failure (with or without liver failure). Antibiotics are useful, and the sooner they are given, the better.

PARVOVIRUS

Parvo is a highly contagious virus that affects all dogs, but unvaccinated dogs and puppies less than four months of age are at the most risk to contract it. The virus attacks the gastrointestinal system and creates a loss of appetite, vomiting, fever, and often severe, bloody diarrhoea. Extreme dehydration can come on rapidly and kill a dog within 48-to-72 hours, so prompt veterinary attention is crucial. There is no cure, so keeping the dog hydrated and controlling the secondary symptoms can keep him going until his immune system beats the illness.



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