

Puppy Tips

*Each puppy assimilates differently. It may take them a few days to feel comfortable in their new environment. They may find a location tucked away to sit and watch your family. That's normal, it doesn't mean they don't love your family or pets. Let your other pet(s) and the new puppy get to know each other on their own terms and time frame. Have the puppy in a crate or playpen in a space that allows your other pet(s) and the puppy smell each other.

*Your puppy may cry the first few nights. You can put a blanket that smells like you and a toy in the crate with them so they don't feel lonely. You can even cover the crate with a blanket. We suggest not to share the bed with them until they are fully trained to avoid the puppy from going to the bathroom in the bed with you.

* Don't feed/water your puppy right before going in the car until they are used to riding. You can take your puppy in the car every chance you can. This will make traveling much more pleasant and easy if you have a dog that likes car rides.

* Avoid bringing your puppy to stores and dog parks until they have had all their vaccines.

* To keep your puppy from going through separation anxiety it is important not make a big deal when leaving or coming home. We know you love and miss your puppy. If you don't make a big deal, they won't. Separation anxiety can manifest into destructive behaviors. That is not fair for your dog or home.

*Toys are necessary to help your puppy to stay occupied. A bored puppy never has a good outcome. NEVER GIVE YOUR PUPPY OLD SHOES/ SLIPPERS/ STUFFED ANIMALS. Dogs can't distinguish old items from brand new. If you turn old stuffed animals or toys into dog toys, make sure to wash them before giving them to the puppy to remove any family scents.

*Stretch all four legs, look inside the ears, open their mouth and look them in the eyes. This will teach the puppy that you are the the boss. If the puppy has anything in their mouth that is not allowed, they will give it up without a fight. This is especially important for children. Everyone in the household should do this exercise daily for a few weeks and as a refresher when they are adults. Your vet and groomer will be thrilled to have such a well behaved dog. This exercise will make the vet and grooming visits easier on them and the dog.

*You and the family members are the alpha! If you don't correct bad habits now, it will become the normal. It will only get harder to correct later.

* You may bath your puppy as often as you needed using any puppy shampoo. You will want to fully dry them and use a slicker brush to remove any dead hair or mats. If you let them air dry without brushing it will cause mats and tangles to form. Which will not only hurt their skin but will cause them to have to be shaved. Every puppy will go through a stage where they will mat up. This usually happens around 5-6 months when the adult coat comes in. If you cut the dog down shorter during that time, the coat will grow in beautiful and easier to maintain.

*NEVER LIMIT FOOD while the puppy is growing. They will eat the amount their bodies require to properly develop. They need to eat at least 2x a day. 3x a day if your schedule allows. During meal time, let them eat and drink what they want. Once they walk away you can pick up the food/water. If they empty their bowl and seem to be searching for more food, give them a little more. We feed our puppies Kirkland brand Nature's Domain from Costco. It is turkey, sweet potato and grain free good for every stage of your puppy's life. We can give you a sample bag to take home to use for transition if you choose to feed them a different food.

* Your puppy may experience a loose stool due to the move to your home or food change. There are some options to try to help your puppy's belly settle down and firm up their stool. To avoid dehydration make sure to provide clean drinking water.

- Canned pumpkin
- Cooked rice with boiled chicken or hamburger meat
- Pepto (people) or Pectin liquid (animals)
- Oregano oil (food grade)
- Activated Charcoal (food grade) safe to ingest and external treatment
- Diatomaceous Earth (food grade) Safe to ingest and external treatment
- Powdered pumpkin, sprinkled on food daily
- coconut oil mixed in the food or applied directly on skin for healthy skin and a shiny coat.
- Brewers yeast sprinkled on food to help control fleas and ticks.

* We like to use some natural remedies for treatment and prevention. All of these are things we have used with success for our dogs and our family. Only take them as a suggestions since we are not in the medical field and can not diagnose your puppy. We suggest to research each of these before using.