

Your Puppy's First Days

A few tips from us, making the first days and weeks an easy transition...

It is an exciting day for your family, and for your new puppy. It won't be long before he/she will feel like a part of your family. Have patience, as it may take the puppy several days to adjust to new surroundings, schedules and activities.



1. Food & Feeding

Your puppy is now eating **dry** kibble (Life's Abundance Puppy Food for Small/Medium Breeds). **Use the feeding guide on the bag** to make sure you are using the correct amount as your puppy grows. Feed your puppy **three times each day** until the puppy is about a year old. If you work during the day, feed once in a.m., allowing the puppy to potty before you leave, and once when arriving home, and a final feeding later in the evening. **If s/he is not interested in the food, don't worry. Just remove it after about 15 minutes and feed again at the next mealtime.**

2. "The Runs"

Puppies stool should be solid, or the consistency of soft serve ice cream (Gross, I know) but when it is **WATERY**, there is a concern. Frequently, a bout with "the runs" will occur when a puppy moves to a new home. This can be due to the stress of traveling, adjusting to new surroundings and/or **new water**. If the puppy continues to eat, drink and play normally, don't worry too much, feed white rice then gradually add the puppy food back in. **Give bottled spring water such as Poland Springs for a few days, then gradually add in your own water.** If the diarrhea continues for more than two days, or puppy is not drinking or eating and is lethargic, you need to take action **quickly!** Take the puppy and a stool sample to the vet.

3. Night time

The first night is often the most difficult; if you're not using a Snuggle Puppy, you may want to place a hot water bottle filled with warm water, wrapped in a towel, in your puppy's crate. Get your puppy settled down by holding and petting (but **no** talking or eye contact). Place the relaxed puppy into the crate with a nice chew toy or bully stick, and a few small treats. Take off a piece of clothing you've been wearing, and place it next to the crate (where the puppy can smell it, but can't reach it), then turn off the lights and go to bed. If your puppy cries, ignore it. **Do not talk to the puppy, or tell him/her "quiet."** S/he will probably stop very soon. If, after 15 minutes or so (watch the clock), the puppy is still whining, try giving the crate a firm tap, to distract the puppy. It won't be long before your pup will be sleeping through the night on his/her own.